



# Community News

## This Sunday's Counsel

### THEME:

We serve God in love when we follow Jesus, our Good Shepherd.

### PROMISE:

*"I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish."* (Jn 10:28)

### WORD:

Acts 13:14, 43-52/ Ps 100:1-2, 3, 5/ Rev 7:9, 14b-17/ Jn 10:27-30

### ORDERS:

- *Remain faithful to the grace of God .* (Acts 13:43)
- *Serve the Lord with gladness.* (Ps 100:2)
- *Lead them to springs of life-giving water.* (Rev 7:17)

### DIRECTIONS:

- Be vigilant with our prayer life and in receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Holy Eucharist.
- Keep our eyes fixed on Jesus in everything that we do.
- Serve your ministries with love and obedience.
- Shepherd one another.

## Hearing God's Voice

### REFLECTION:

*"My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me."*

Do we really hear God's voice? Is it really God's voice or your own voice?

In our daily life, we encounter different circumstances that will test our faith. And each time we are in that situation, our dear shepherd calls us to come to Him. But do we hear Him? There are many different voices, and these voices can affect us in our daily basis of life. Ideally, we follow His voice by praying, meditating on the word of God to build a habit of hearing Him speaking to us. We surely make time to value unnecessary things in life, but do we make time to value God's voice? God comes on a prepared atmosphere. We need to set an appointment to dialogue with Him.

The bible describes Jesus as our great Shepherd. Those of us who have



surrendered our lives to Him are like sheep in His flock. The Shepherd spends his entire waking hours caring and tending to the flock. Jesus is our caring Shepherd who guards and guides us, who

feeds us and tends us, who protects us and loves us and who intimately knows each of His own by name.

We are all His sheep, and we are called to be his disciples. And we all know that serving Him brings inner joy in our inmost being. But why then we repeatedly fail to follow Him? Why do we fail to work in the ministry we are called for? Why do we easily give up when things go against our way? Why do we easily say "no" when the ministry work becomes inconvenient to us?

Imperfect children that we are, He is always there for us. Our shepherd knows everything about us. We have offended Him many times, but He con-

*Hearing - See Page 2*

## We Are Called To Shepherd

As members of the Church or a community, we are given the opportunity to be shepherds as we are entrusted with people under our spiritual and moral care, especially new lambs. Shepherding is a demanding role and requires commitment, dedication, sacrifice, and attention. We become good lay under-shepherds by loving those entrusted to us, praying for them, spending our time for their welfare, and guarding them from physical and spiritual dangers. It is important that we accompany them in their spiritual journey until they are able to firmly establish a stable relationship with the Lord. We glorify the Lord and find great joy and fulfillment in being able to respond and perform His call to shepherd His lambs.

We also aspire to be good sheep in the fold of the Good Shepherd. We recognize Jesus as the High Priest and the Church leaders as our shepherds. Hence, as the good sheep of the Church, we hear and follow the voice of our shepherds through their homilies, counsel and advice. We partake of the spiritual food they give through regular and active participation in the Holy Mass and by frequenting the Sacraments, prayer services, and renewal programs. We likewise cooperate in the activities of various councils, ministries and parish associations. As members of the community we submit and conform to the anointed leaders as our shepherds in the various evangelization, formation, pastoral, mission programs. Our active participation, commitment to serve, and cooperation to the many apostolate activities are blessings and opportunities to become good followers of our Good Shepherd and be worthy of His promise: *"I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish,"* (Jn 10:28).

### Online Giving

You can now send your tithes and love offerings via **Paypal**. Donate link can be found at [www.bldtrenton.com](http://www.bldtrenton.com)

Or mail check to:  
BLD Trenton Foundation, Inc.  
P.O. Box 1367  
Toms River, NJ 08754

### The Lord's Provision

**April 29, 2022**

Tithe : \$ 480.00  
Love Offer : \$ 48.00

*Thank you for your generosity!!!*

### God's Blessings

#### Birthday

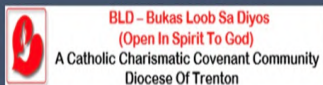
German Butay	5/2	Glenn Ramos	5/9
Luz Bunoan	5/6	Sheryll Dela Cruz	5/10
Tina King	5/9	RJ Gallofin	5/11
George Pe	5/9	Tottie Felibrico	5/12

#### Anniversary

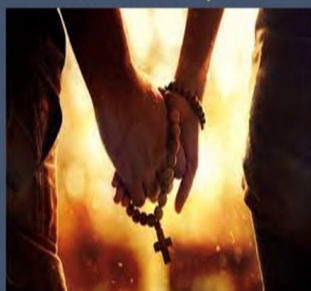
Erwin & Grace Bustamante 5/9

### Who Are You Gonna Call (or Text)?

For Mama Mary's visit - Beth Felibrico 732-995-7407  
For Prayer Service - Bert & Cora Velez 732-688-1541



*What is God's plan in our married life?*



*An Invitation to a*  
**MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND**  
Ave Maria Retreat House  
The National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa  
654 Ferry Road Doylestown, PA 18901

\$300/couple  
includes meals & accommodation

May 20-22, 2022

Registration starts at 8pm Friday

Deadline of Application: May 1, 2022

Contact:  
German/Letty Butay 732 887 5298  
[lbutay@yahoo.com](mailto:lbutay@yahoo.com)

Ed/Olyn Bautista 732 233 9611  
[ed.olynt211@verizon.net](mailto:ed.olynt211@verizon.net)

*O Lord, you are God,  
you made me and I am yours;  
We are your people,  
the flock that you tend.*

### Tending the Flock

### Mark Of The Sheep

The mark of Christ's sheep is their willingness to hear and obey, just as disobedience is the mark of those who are not his. We take the word hear to imply obedience to what has been said. People who hear God are known by him. No one is entirely unknown by God, but to be known in this way is to become part of his family. Therefore, when Christ says, *'I know mine,'* he means I will receive them and give them a permanent mystical relationship with myself. It might be said that inasmuch as he has become man, he has made all human beings his relatives, since all are members of the same race. We are all united to Christ in a mystical relationship because of his incarnation. Yet those who do not preserve the likeness of his holiness are alienated from him... *"My sheep follow me,"* says Christ. By a certain God-given grace, believers follow in the footsteps of Christ. No longer subject to the shadows of the law, they obey the commands of Christ and guided by his words rise through grace to his own dignity, for they are called *'children of God'* (Mt 5:9). When Christ ascends into heaven, they also follow him. (excerpt from the Commentary On The Gospel Of John 7.1)

*~ Cyril of Alexandria (376-444 AD)*

### Forget and Neglect

This can happen to us, out of tiredness, disappointment, perhaps out of laziness, to forget the Lord and to neglect the great choices we have made, to content ourselves with something else. For example, not to dedicate time to talking together in the family, preferring personal pastimes; we forget prayer, letting ourselves get wrapped up in our own needs; we neglect charity, with the excuse of daily urgencies. But, in doing so, we find ourselves disappointed...

*~ Pope Francis*

### Hearing - Cont'd from Page 1

tinues to embrace us. He continues to fill up every empty spot of our lives with His overflowing grace.

The Lord said in His scripture today, *"remain faithful to the grace of God."* Let us all cling to Him, hold the hands of the people who don't know Him. Let us pray and shepherd each other as our True Shepherd does to us.

### Prayer:

Lord, you are our True Shepherd, who knows us. Give us the grace to be more prayerful and set time to dialogue with you. Like a sheep who maybe astray, show us the way when we lose our directions, or we lose our focus on you.

Give us the courage and strength to be obedient when we hear your voice. Teach us to trust You that You will equip us to fulfill our mission for your glory. May you always grant us

the joy of serving you in any ministry we are discerned to serve. May you give us the wisdom to shepherd our people in the community, people we meet outside, our family and friends. Teach us to fully rely on you. Lord, we acknowledge that You are our True Shepherd, and we are your sheep, we are here waiting to hear your voice, and to follow you. AMEN