



Community News

This Sunday's Counsel

THEME:

We prepare for the coming of Jesus, our Savior, when we pray and conduct ourselves in a manner pleasing to God.

PROMISE:

"All the paths of the Lord are kindness and constancy toward those who keep his covenants and his decrees." (Ps 25:10)

WORD:

Jer 33:14-16/ Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14/ 1 Thes 3:12-4:2/ Lk 21:25-28, 34-36



Don't Miss The Signs

REFLECTION:

Jesus, during his public ministry performed numerous signs: turning water into wine, calming the storm at sea and walking on water, multiplying seven loaves of bread in the wilderness to feed 5000 people, healing the blind and the lame, expelling demons, and raising the dead. While many believed in Jesus, many also questioned his signs and refused to believe his claim to be the Messiah sent by the heavenly Father to suffer and die for our sake and for our salvation on the cross of Calvary. Jesus' last and greatest sign during his earthly ministry was his rising from the tomb on the third day after his crucifixion.



the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory" (Lk 21:27).

The Jews of Jesus' day were looking for a Messiah King who would free them from the oppressive rule of pagan Rome. Many had hoped that Jesus would be their victorious conqueror. They missed, however, the

most important sign and reason for the Messiah's first coming - his death on the cross as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the world and his triumphant victory over death and Satan when he rose on the third day. The Lord Jesus is both the 'Son of David', the rightful heir and Messiah King of Israel whose reign will endure for all ages (Ps 89:3-4,29,36-37) - and the 'Son of Man', chosen by God as the anointed ruler who will come at the end of the age to establish a universal kingdom of peace, righteousness, and justice for all the nations and peoples of the earth.

Jesus' prophetic description of the end of time and the day of judgment was not new to the people of Israel. The prophets

Jesus told his disciples that his final great sign would be his return in glory at the end of the age. He would come this second time as Judge and Merciful Redeemer to vindicate those who accepted him as Lord and Savior and to punish those who rejected him. Jesus declared that this last sign at the end of the world would be unmistakable. All would recognize and "see

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A New World Is Coming

The gospel begins with dramatic expressions that lead us to think that God is informing us about what will happen at the end of the world. In reality, God may be telling us about the stars, the moon and the sun which will collide and wreak havoc to end the world. But, it is that of man's sin, evil, human wickedness that will bring about an unbearable condition. Hate, violence, feuding, make life impossible. But will things continue like this forever? No, says the gospel of today. When everything would seem to be in confusion, *"the Son of Man will appear with great power and glory and from the reigning chaos He will draw a new world,"* (Lk 21:27). While we wait, our Order for the month explicitly enjoins us to: *"Strengthen your hearts, to be blameless in holiness before our God and Father..."* (1 Thes 3:13).

The words of Jesus sound at first like threats of impending catastrophes, but are actually a proclamation of joy. We are being encouraged to be better persons today by ridding ourselves of all hindering characteristics which distances and separates us from having a deeper relationship with our Triune God. In our preparation for this Advent season, our thoughts, words and deeds should reflect the fruit of the Holy Spirit, motivated by our love of God and neighbor and exercising the gifts of the Holy Spirit in relation to our calling. Then we can claim our promise for the week: *"All the paths of the Lord are kindness and constancy toward those who keep his covenant and his decrees,"* (Ps 25:10). Consequently, we become what our community word for the month tells us: Children of the Father live in joyful hope, peace and love for the coming of Jesus, our Savior.

Adapted from www.bldworld.org

Online Giving

You can now send your tithes and love offerings via **Paypal**. Donate link can be found at www.bldtrenton.com

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

The Lord's Provision

November 19, 2021

Tithes : \$380.00
Love Offer : \$ 98.00

Thank you for your generosity!!!

God's Blessings

Birthday

Allan Pontipiedra	11/28	Yoly Japitana	11/30
Marissa Orienza	11/28	Andy Mantes	11/30
Raul Caragay	11/30	Charisse Bacalso	12/2
Agnes Raymundo	12/2		

Anniversary

Lenny & Brenda Palao	11/26
Mike & Anne Belonia	11/27
Romy & Clemen Durante	11/28
Manny & Florence Acosta	11/29

Tending the Flock

Incorruption

He says that they will see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Christ will not come secretly or obscurely but as God and Lord in glory suitable for deity. He will transform all things for the better. He will renew creation and refashion the nature of people to what it was at the beginning. He said, *"When these things come to pass, lift up your heads and look upward, for your redemption is near."* The dead will rise. This earthly and infirm body will put off corruption and will clothe itself with incorruption by Christ's gift. He grants those that believe in him to be conformed to the likeness of his glorious body.

~ Cyril of Alexandria, 376-444 AD

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

*Guide me in your truth and teach me,
for you are God my savior,
and for you I wait all the day.*

Worldly Kingdoms Are Destined To Fall

Friends, in today's Gospel, Jesus uses apocalyptic language from the prophet Daniel: *"On earth nations will be in dismay, perplexed by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will die of fright in anticipation of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory."*

I realize how strange and distant all of this can sound, but there is a spiritual point of enormous significance behind all of it: we should not trust in any of the powers of the world to give us security and peace. Such peace will come only with the arrival of God's kingdom.

One of the most enduring convictions of human beings—you can see it up and down the centuries and across the cultures—is that we can make things right if only we find the correct political, economic, or cultural configuration. But you should never put your ultimate faith in any of the kingdoms, social arrangements, or political programs of the world. They are all, in one way or another, attractive, and they are all destined to fall. They all lead to tribulations.

What you should look to is the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven. Now, is this meant in an ultimate sense? Yes, the second coming signals the end of the world as we know it. But the Son of Man is coming on the clouds of heaven even now in the life of the Church. Think of the clouds of incense that accompany the manifestations of Christ in the high liturgy. Even now the true king, the successor of David, is in our midst.

~ Bishop Barron, Daily Gospel Reflections

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had foretold these events many centuries before. Jesus speaks of the second coming as a known fact, a for certain event we can expect to take place. This coming will be marked by signs that all will recognize; signs which will strike terror in those unprepared and wonder in those who are ready to meet the Lord. When the Lord returns he will establish final justice and righteousness over the earth by overthrowing his enemies and by vindicating those who have been faithful to him. The anticipation of his final judgment is a sign of hope for all who trust in him.

What can keep us from recognizing

the signs of the Lord's presence and his action today? Indifference and the temptation to slacken off - to become passive and lethargic or to fall asleep spiritually. It is very easy to get caught up in the things of the present moment or to be weighed down with troubles. The Lord knows our shortcomings and struggles and he gives us the strength to bear our burdens and to walk in his way of holiness. But there is one thing he doesn't tolerate: an attitude of indifference, being passive, not caring, and doing nothing when we could be actively seeking God and his kingdom! God is ready to give us fresh vision, hope, and grace to walk in his

ways. He wants to work in and through us for his glory. That is why he expects more of us than we can do by ourselves. His grace enables us to actively watch for his action in our lives, and to actively pray for perseverance and endurance when we face trials and difficulties. The Lord gives us his strength to overcome temptation, especially from apostasy - the denial of the Lord Jesus out of fear or pride. God is ever ready to fill us with his strength and divine power. Is your heart hungry for God or is it weighed down by other things?

Adapted from www.dailyscripture.net