



BLD Trenton



Community News

This Sunday's Counsel

THEME:

We are joint heirs with Jesus Christ when we respond to His call to mission.

PROMISE:

"I shall see the bounty of the Lord in the land of the living." (Ps 27: 3)

WORD:

Is 8: 23 - 9:3/ Ps 27: 1, 4, 13-14/ 1 Cor 1: 10-13, 17/ Mt 4: 12-23

ORDERS:

- Come after me and I will make you fishers of men. (Mt 4: 19)
- Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. (Mt 4: 17)
- Be united in the same mind and the same purpose. (1 Cor 1: 10)

DIRECTIONS:

- Make God and only Him the priority.
- Spread the Good News to others.
- Always be reconciled with God and with your brethren.
- Serve enthusiastically in your ministries and community.

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January 20, 2023

Strive To Do God's Will

REFLECTION:

REPENT! *"Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand"*.

We cannot come after Him and be fishers of men if we do not first repent. We cannot be united with our brothers and sisters if we do not change our ways and repent. The kingdom of heaven has been at hand for over 2000 years now and have we changed our ways? Repentance, my brothers and sisters, is a full conversion of our hearts and minds. A 180 degree course change from being self-centered, to focusing on only our Lord and Savior. Changing our judgmental and condemning ways, to love all our brothers and sisters, not only the ones we like. Changing our priorities from this secular world to focusing only on our Lord, Jesus Christ. Admittedly this is extremely difficult to accomplish, some of us would even say impossible. Yes, none of us have really repented and changed our ways fully, we have failed miserably time and again.



"Blessed is the man who perseveres in temptation, for when he has been proved he will receive the crown of life that he promised to those who love Him." (Jas 1:12) But in the infinite kindness and love of our Lord, He continuously waits for us to get up and strive to do His will, to repent. We all fall down and disappoint our Lord, St. Peter even denied Him three times, but our Lord never waivers in His pure love and patience for all of us. I pray and believe

that while I may fail, He sees and appreciates my getting up and striving towards Him after every fall. This determination and will to get up to follow Him is what our good Lord sees and not our failures. Our good Lord never counts our sins but our getting up and striving towards Him. This world will always be full of temptations and challenges to erode on our faith. It is up to us to continue the fight to overcome these distractions, these temptations that pull us away from our Lord and Sav-

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Tending the Flack

The Light That Reveals The Invisible

The Evangelist commemorated in this passage the prophet's words: *"Beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles: the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light"* (Mt 4:15-16). In what darkness? Certainly in the profound error of ignorance. What great light did they see? The light concerning which it is written: *"He was the true light that illumines everyone who comes into this world"* (Jn 1:9). This was the light about which the just man Simeon in the Gospel declared, *"A light of revelation to the Gentiles and a glory for your people Israel"* (Lk 2:32). That light had arisen according to what David had announced, saying, *"A light has arisen in the darkness to the upright of heart"* (Ps 112:4).

Also, Isaiah demonstrated that light about to come for the enlightenment of the church when he said, *"Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you"* (Is 60:1). Concerning that light also Daniel noted, *"It reveals the profound and hidden things, knowing those things which are in darkness and the light is with it"* (Dn 2:22), that is, the Son with the Father, for even as the Father is light, so too is the Son light. And David also speaks in the psalm: *"In your light shall we see light"* (Ps 36:9), for the Father is seen in the Son, as the Lord tells us in the Gospel: *"Who sees me, sees the Father"* (Jn 14:9) From the true light, indeed, the true light proceeded, and from the invisible the visible. *"He is the image of the invisible God,"* as the apostle notes (Col 1:15).

~ St. Chromatius of Aquileia (died 406 A.D.),
Tractate on Matthew 15.1



Send your prayer
requests to:

[https://
www.bldtrenton.com/
intercessory](https://www.bldtrenton.com/intercessory)

WRITERS NEEDED

Please contribute to our Community News. We welcome spiritual articles, testimonies, and reflections of 300 words or less. Submit your manuscripts by e-mail to:
bldword@gmail.com

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

January 13, 2023

Tithe :\$570.00
Love Offering :\$293.00

Thank you for your generosity!!!

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

Broken To Grow

Reflection on the Singles Encounter Weekend (SE #11)

In December 2022, I was invited by my colleague, Ate Ellen, to participate in Singles Encounter (SE) Weekend. I confidently said yes but was hesitant in my mind. So far that's the one yes I never regretted. At the beginning of this journey, I was dubious on showing up, but there was just something in me telling me that I should go. Perhaps it might be God telling me "you should go, my son, I'll be here waiting for you".

During my stay I realized a lot of things which helped me conquer the situation I was in. I was comforted and saved from all the unbearable memories and shattered relationships that kept me awake for quite some time. But the most important thing that opened my eyes is that I felt I was not alone in this long-lasting battle. I was not the only broken person who was in need of



God's healing. And I am forever grateful for that. God allows obstacles to occur in our life so that we learn and grow from it and to become a better person.

I really enjoyed SE weekend, and came walking out with many new friends. I'm so happy I was able to re-awaken and strengthen my relationship with God here.

God's Blessings

Birthday

Ino Dominguez	1/20 Aileen Ciocon	1/25
Fe Odon	1/20 Patrick Calugay	1/25
Jing Nieveras	1/21 Grace Padolina	1/25
Rissa Gomez	1/24 Jillian Zulueta	1/26

Anniversary

Eugene & Malou Yosuco	1/20
Toto & Sette Lemon	1/20
Roy & Arlene Roldan	1/21
Jun & Gay Anito	1/22
Gerald & Rosalinda Mirandilla	1/26

*Let me dwell in your house, O Lord,
that I may gaze on your loveliness
and contemplate your temple
all the days of my life.*

Kind Words



Kindness is an antidote against several pathologies of our societies: an antidote against cruelty, which can unfortunately creep in like poison seeps into the heart, intoxicating relationships; an antidote against anxiety and distracted frenzy that makes us focus on ourselves, closing others off. These "illnesses" of our everyday lives make us aggressive, make us incapable of asking "may I", or even saying "sorry", or of simply saying "thank you". These three extremely human words for living together: may I, sorry, thank you. With these three words, we move forward in peace, in human friendship. They are the words of kindness: may I, sorry, thank you.

It will do us good to think about whether we use them often in our lives: may I, sorry, thank you. And so, when we meet a kind person on the street, or in a store, or in the office, we are amazed, it seems to be a small miracle because, unfortunately, kindness is no longer common. But thanks be to God, there are still kind people who know how to put their own concerns aside to pay attention to others, to offer the gift of a smile, to give an encouraging word, to listen to someone who needs to confide something, and to vent.

~ Pope Francis

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ior. We all need to persevere, to fight for our faith, to fight for our redemption. None of us can ever be like Jesus, who is perfect in every way, but we should always try to be like Him, always mindful of our shortcomings and weaknesses.

"Let us not grow tired of doing good, for in due time we shall reap our harvest, if we do not give up." (Gal 6:9) What is the choice, my brothers and sisters, get up after we fall or just accept that we are all sinners and stop trying to change our

ways? I choose the former, I will never give up on following our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ because He has not given up on me or anyone. He never will and He never has. Redemption is His promise for us all, but we are not entitled to it, it is not a given, if we do not do the work. Eagerness to do the work of His true disciples, works of charity, spreading the good news and consistently seeking our Lord's guidance.

"We earnestly desire each of you to

demonstrate the same eagerness for the fulfillment of hope until the end, so that you may not become sluggish, but imitators of those who, through faith and patience, are inheriting the promises." (Heb 6:11-12) Perseverance in our faith and striving towards Him will ultimately bring us to the land of the living, for this is His Promise in Psalm 27:3: *"I shall see the bounty of the Lord in the land of the living."*

