

## This Sunday's Counsel

### THEME:

We respond to live according to God's Holy Will by honoring His invitation to fellowship with Him.

### PROMISE:

"God will fully supply whatever you need, in accord with his glorious riches in Christ Jesus." (Phil 4: 19)

### WORD:

Is 25: 6-10a/ Ps 23: 1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/ Phil 4: 12-14, 19-20/ Mt 22: 1-14

### ORDERS:

- Come to the feast; everything is ready. (Mt 22: 4b)
- Go out and invite to the feast whomever you find. (Mt 22: 9b)

### DIRECTIONS:

- Respond to God's invitation with gratitude and enthusiasm acknowledging that this invitation is salvation for all.
- Clothe yourself with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.
- Receive the Sacraments and its graces.
- Be the vessel of love and share the gospel of salvation to all.



BLD Trenton



# Community News

Volume 23, Issue 40

<http://bldtrenton.com>

October 13, 2023

## An Invitation Open To All

### REFLECTION:

The parable of the wedding feast in this Sunday's gospel illustrates the point that the wedding feast is about the universal salvation and the eternal life that God has prepared for all of us. So regardless of who we are, we are all welcome to come to the feast. Salvation is not based on one's social status, nationality, educational achievements, or popularity. It is simply open to all. So instead of refusing the invitation, like what some did in the parable, we must honor God's invitation with gratitude and enthusiasm.

According to this gospel, as the king welcomed his guests, he noticed one who was not wearing a proper wedding garment. According to tradition, it would be a dishonor to the king to refuse to wear the garment provided to the guests. Therefore, the man who was caught wearing improper clothing learned what an offense it was as he was removed from the celebration.

Just as the king provided wedding garments for his guests, God similarly provides a special garment for all of us. Our wedding



garment is the righteousness of Christ. As invited guests, we are given the choice to put them on or not. But if our intent is to honor the invitation and to really fellowship with Him in eternity, then it is our responsibility to clothe ourselves with the provided garment of righteousness.

"Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience" (Col 3:12), as one of our directions states.

Clothing ourselves with the garment of righteousness is not as easy as it may sound. It means living a life that is pleasing to Him. It means constant purification by dying from our old selves and turning away from our sins. It means making the Lord first in everything that we do. It means following and obeying his will.

Think of ourselves, for example, who have been part of this community for a long time. Can we honestly say that we have always worn the garments provided to us?

We started in the community, enjoying the fun and fellowship with our brothers and sisters, but the moment we were invited

*Invitation - See Page 2*

BLD TRENTON  
SINGLES



American  
Cancer  
Society

MAKING  
STRIDES  
TOGETHER

Point Pleasant Beach  
Breast Cancer Walk

WHAT  
IGNITES  
US.  
UNITES  
US.

10/15/23  
8:00 AM -  
12 Noon

110 ARNOLD AVENUE  
POINT PLEASANT  
BEACH, NJ

[HTTP://MAIN.ACSEVENTS.ORG/GOTO/BLDTRENTON](http://main.acsevents.org/goto/blDtrenton)

BLD Trenton

Community Night



Theme:  
"International Cultural Night"

OCTOBER 14, 2023 | SATURDAY | 6pm - 10 pm

Waterview Pavillion, Grand Ballroom, Belmar New Jersey

ATTIRE:  
Semi-Formal/Depiction of any ethnic origin and other countries

TICKETS: Adults (\$60) | Students (\$50) | Kids 12 years old and below (\$20)

CONTACT PERSONS:

Bong and Faye Dixon (ME -14)  
Ramon and Lady Cooney (ME -13)



## Prisoner

Jesus reminds us what happens when a person deceives him/herself into thinking that he or she does things on their own, and they forget to be grateful, they forget the real basis of life: that good comes from the grace of God, that good comes from his free gift.

When someone forgets this gratitude to God, he or she ends up no longer facing their own situation and their own limits with the joy of feeling loved and saved, but with the sad illusion of needing neither love nor salvation. That person stops letting him/herself be loved and finds him/herself a prisoner of their own greed, a prisoner to the need to have more than others, of the desire to stand out over others.

*~ Pope Francis*



### 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

**October 6, 2023**

Tithe :\$390.00  
Love Offering :\$182.00

**Thank you for your generosity!!!**

### God's Blessings

#### Birthday

Clint Oquendo	10/13	Julie Saria	10/15
Evelyn Palacios	10/13	Weddy Balmaceda	10/18
Rene Perez	10/13	Beth Felibrico	10/18
Ayana Perez	10/14	Jomar Janolo	10/18
Edd Roy	10/14	Sionee Abalos	10/18
Neri Roldan	10/15	Marsha Supapo	10/19

#### Anniversary

Jim & Irma McCracken	10/14
Ricky & Rissa Gomez	10/15
Marlon & Sionee Abalos	10/18
Arwin & Sona David	10/18

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

For Mama Mary's visit - Beth Felibrico 732-995-7407  
For Prayer Service - Mary Anne Arias 732-688-3962

 **Bukas Loob Sa Diyos**  
Diocese of Trenton  
*invites you to*

### "Life In The Spirit Seminar"

October 27-29, 2023  
St. Veronica Church, Howell New Jersey

FREE REGISTRATION

For all inquiries and registration,  
Contact: Toy and Malen Juarez (609-954-2300) | Bong and Faye Dizon (732-604-7690)  
Email: [bldtrenton.iss@gmail.com](mailto:bldtrenton.iss@gmail.com)

*"Behold,  
I make all  
things new."*



*Come... Holy Spirit... Come...*

*Even though I walk  
in the dark valley I fear no evil;  
for you, O Lord, are at my side.*

*"Let the children come to me; do not prevent them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." - Mk 10:14*

### Solo Parent Encounter Weekend




Mature Singles  
Unmarried Guardians  
Separated Divorced  
Married to physically Handicapped Spouse  
Widows & Widowers  
**ARE ALL WELCOME!**

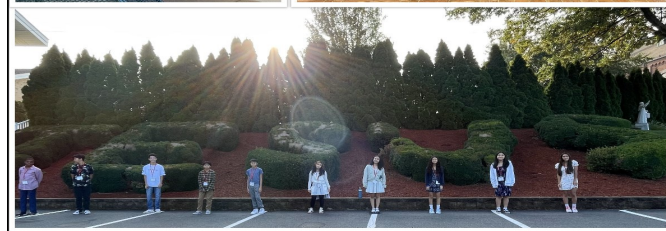


**SOLO PARENT ENCOUNTER WEEKEND**  
November 11 & 12, 2023 at 7am  
St Veronica Church  
4219 US 9 Howell Township NJ 07731  
Contacts: SP Ministry  
Joel/Estela Bermado 732.766.0988  
[projoe1223@gmail.com](mailto:projoe1223@gmail.com)  
Michelle Tecarro 732.456.0285  
Evelyn Balondo 646.3463989

*"Though the mountains leave their place and the hills be shaken, My love shall never leave you nor my covenant of peace be shaken, says the Lord, who has mercy on you"*

*Isaiah 54:10*

 **BLD - BUKAS LOOB SA DIYOS**  
(OPEN IN SPIRIT TO GOD)  
DIOCESE OF TRENTON



Thank you, BLD Community, for all your support in making our John 6 Crossing Retreat a great success.  
To God be the glory!

### Invitation - Cont'd from Page 1

to do something for our community, we refuse, just like some of the guests in the parable. Some of us may probably think it will just cause stress or conflict with others, so we would rather do things that are more relaxing and enjoyable. As we often hear, fellowship is easy, but 'fellowship' is tough.

Or how about the idea that we have been coming to Praise and Worship on Fridays here at St. William, singing and praising His name, celebrating God's Good News of love and salvation for all that can be achieved by obeying his will, by being righteous. Yet, the moment that we walk out the door, our idea of righteousness in Christ is blurred by the realities of anxiety and stress from the many things that we

have to do or the conflict, anger, and the temptations that we see or face outside.

And yes, before we know it, we're again being challenged about whether we want ourselves to be clothed in the ways of the world instead of the righteousness of God.

The Good News, however, is that God also provides the things that we need to have for the life that He intends for us. Through his grace, we are given a free gift through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. That's why, we are being asked to receive His sacraments and the grace that comes with them.

Through God's grace, we are given the strength through his Holy Spirit to put on the garment of righteousness.

*"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me".*

Through God's grace and Him being our shepherd, we are being guided to the right paths, so that even though we walk in the dark valley, we will be fearing no evil, for He is at our side.

While we live, all God desires for us is to clothe ourselves with the provided garment of righteousness and, by faith, we acknowledge that He will be helping us.

In the end, we must realize that our true happiness comes from knowing that God's love and grace for us are abundant and that He will always prepare a heavenly feast for us when we meet him face-to-face in his eternal kingdom. So, we have to be glad and rejoice. Amen?