



BLD Trenton



# Community News

Volume 23, Issue 12

<http://bldtrenton.com>

March 24, 2023

## This Sunday's Counsel

### THEME:

We live a life of holiness when we believe in the resurrection on the last day.

### PROMISE:

*"I will put my spirit in you that you may live...I have promised, and I will do it..."* (Ez 37: 14)

### WORD:

Ez 37: 12-14/ Ps 130: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/ Rom 8: 8-11/ Jn 11: 1-45

### ORDERS:

- *Believe in me and you will live.* (Jn 11: 25b)
- *Take away the stone.* (Jn 11: 39)
- *Untie him.* (Jn 11: 44b)

### DIRECTIONS:

- Witness to the Resurrection of Christ by sharing the victory of God and the transforming power of the Holy Spirit in our lives.
- Receive the sacrament of Reconciliation as a celebration of returning back to God and restoring our relationship with Him.
- Alleviate the suffering of others by serving in our mission works.

## Living Resurrection Lives

### REFLECTION:

Jesus said, *"I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die,"* and then he asked, *"do you believe this?"*

Martha responded, *"Yes, Lord, I believe in the resurrection and that You are the Son of God, the one who gives us everlasting life."* But then she had doubt, questions, and uncertainty when she said, *"Lord, he's been dead for four days and by now there will be stench."*

Often, it is the same with us. we too believe in the resurrection, and we know in our hearts that God has given us everlasting life. And yet, we are trapped, and still could not move on with our sadness and pains; we could not overcome our trials and suffering and, most of all, we still fear death. Why is that? Why can't we pass through and realize the victory of resurrection in our lives? This week's orders may help us answer these questions.



***"Believe in me and you will live"***

Jesus' demonstration of power by raising Lazarus from death proved that he is really the resurrection and life. There is no resurrection and eternal life apart from Christ. Therefore, we need Christ in our lives. We need to reach out for His presence

during our pain, trials, and sufferings. We need to rely on His power to overcome our fears, doubts and unbelief and proclaim Christ's resurrection in our lives. In short, we need to have a deeper relationship with Jesus and be a part of the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his suffering and becoming like him in his death; we are to pattern our lives to his passion, death, and resurrection. God calls us to endure sufferings because Christ suffered for us through his passion on the cross. When hope is lost, Christ died for us; he is with us in every step of the way.

***"Take away the stone"***

For us to experience resurrection in our

*Resurrection - See Page 2*

## Tending the Flock

## A Hope Of Life Beyond Life

This lordship over death does not impede Jesus from feeling sincere "com-passion" for the sorrow of detachment. Seeing Martha and Mary and those who had come to console them weeping, Jesus *"was deeply moved in spirit and troubled"*, and lastly, *"wept"* (Jn 11: 33, 35). Christ's heart is divine-human: in him God and man meet perfectly, without separation and without confusion. He is the image, or rather, the incarnation of God who is love, mercy, paternal and maternal tenderness, of God who is Life. Therefore, he solemnly declared to Martha: *"I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die"*. And he adds, *"Do you believe this?"* (Jn 11: 25-26). It is a question that Jesus addresses to each one of us: a question that certainly rises above us, rises above our capacity to understand, and it asks us to entrust ourselves to him as he entrusted himself to the Father. Martha's response is exemplary: *"Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, he who is coming into the world"* (Jn 11: 27). Yes, O Lord! We also believe, notwithstanding our doubts and darkness; we believe in you because you have the words of eternal life. We want to believe in you, who give us a trustworthy hope of life beyond life, of authentic and full life in your Kingdom of light and peace.

*~ Pope Benedict XVI, Angelus Message, March 9, 2008*



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



*An Invitation*

**MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND  
APRIL 14-16, 2023**

Ave Maria Retreat House  
The National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa  
654 Ferry Road Doylestown, PA 18901

Cost per couple: \$300  
(Meals and Accommodation)

For all inquiries:  
German/Letty Butay (732) 887-5298 or lbutay@yahoo.com  
Nestor/Cecille Vasquez (908) 578-9138 | Toy/Malen Juarez (609) 954-2300

### 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

**March 17, 2023**

Tithe :\$430.00  
Love Offering :\$250.00

*Thank you for your generosity!!!*

### God's Blessings

#### Birthday

Fr. Pete Literal	3/25	Maria San Rafael	3/28
Janette Alberto	3/26	Pris Brendaia	3/29
Alex Santos	3/26	Nin Brendaia	3/30
Emma Teves	3/26	Jamie Fune	3/30
Ling Navarro	3/27	Jho-Jho Alabastro	3/30

#### Anniversary

Fr. Vic Coronado (ordination) 3/27

### 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

*Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord,  
and my soul trusts in your word;  
That with you there is  
mercy and fullness of redemption.*



Bukas Loob Sa Diyos  
Diocese of Trenton

*proudly presents*

### the Philippine Madrigal Singers

Mark Anthony A. Carpio, choirmaster



**MAY 13, 2023 | SATURDAY | 7PM**

CO-CATHEDRAL OF ST. ROBERT BELLARMINE  
61 GEORGIA RD, FREEHOLD, NJ 07728

GENERAL ADMISSION: \$40 | VIP MEET AND GREET: \$75  
Proceeds will benefit Bukas Loob Sa Diyos mission activities.

FOR TICKET RESERVATIONS AND INQUIRIES:  
EMAIL: BLDTRENTON.MAD2023@GMAIL.COM | CONTACT: TM (609) 954-2300

Send your prayer requests to:

<https://www.bldtrenton.com/intercessory>

### Last Week's Prophecy

• Follow only My light for it's only My light which brings you to holiness, faithfulness to my laws, forgiveness for those you offended and who offended you, and true service to Me and your fellowmen.



### Festal Encounter



Brothers and sisters, today let each of us make an examination of conscience. Let us not hide behind the hypocrisy of appearances, but entrust to the Lord's mercy our darkness, our mistakes. Let us think about our wretchedness, our mistakes, even those that we feel unable to share because of shame, which is alright, but with God, they must show themselves. When we go to confession, we stand "far off", at the back, like the tax collector, in order to acknowledge the distance between God's dream for our lives and the reality of who we are each day: poor sinners. At that moment, the Lord draws near to us; he bridges the distance and sets us back on our feet. At that moment, when we realize that we are naked, he clothes us with the festal garment. That is, and that must be, the meaning of the sacrament of Reconciliation: a festal encounter that heals the heart and leaves us with inner peace.

~ Pope Francis

### Resurrection - Cont'd from Page 1

lives, we need to "take away the stone". Only through Christ do we experience the freedom, peace, forgiveness, and the grace of the stones of sin and strongholds in our lives being rolled away. There are many issues that we must be delivered from and yokes of bondage that must be destroyed so that we can operate in the freedom that God wants for our lives. This Lenten season let our life be perfected with the Holy Spirit and the grace of God through asking forgiveness of our sins to God and from our brothers and sisters and receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation as a celebration of returning back to God and restoring our relationship to Him. Confession is an invitation to restore our relationship with God, where fear and shame are replaced with an awesome feeling of joy and being loved.

#### "Untie him"

These words should be our motiva-

tion everyday as we deal with our brethren -- to unbind somebody. It is our task as a Christian community to assist our brothers and sisters to live resurrection lives. We need each other to untie or help alleviate us from difficulties. God meant for us to carry each other's burdens, pains, and sufferings. He commanded us to love and serve one another, to build up each other's life. In our community, we can alleviate the sufferings of others by serving in our mission works like our soup kitchen, the GK and yearly medical mission. Even a smile, your "hi", and any simple act of kindness can touch lives. Take every opportunity to participate in word sharing circles, because in one way or another, our Lord will use each and every one of us to make a difference in someone's life at any given moment. We can "untie" anyone from their predicament as we share God's word during our WSC, P&W, teachings, shepherding, disci-

pling sessions, reunions, retreats, and seminars. Even in funeral services, our prayers and presence will alleviate the pain of those who are grieving. We should also support our community's fund-raising events because when our community thrives, we can hold more retreats and activities that will "untie" the burdens of the members or those in need.

In whatever situation we are in, let us continue to believe in Jesus. Jesus did not come to take away our pain. Jesus came to go through pain himself. Jesus came so that all of us could live through pain to resurrection. God's expression of love towards us His children is hope in the Resurrection and the Life. Yes, Jesus is our hope as exemplified in tonight's promise, "I will put my spirit in you that you may live... I have promised, and I will do it..." And He will always lead us to victory and resurrection of our glorious bodies on the last day of judgment.