



Community News

This Sunday's Counsel

THEME:

We witness to God's love and saving grace when we courageously proclaim His mighty deeds.

PROMISE:

"God...comes with vindication, with divine recompense, he comes to save you." (Is 35:4b)

WORD:

Is 35:4-7a/ Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10/ Jas 2:1-5/ Mk 7:31-37

ORDER:

- Ephphatha...Be opened! (Mk 7:34)

DIRECTIONS:

- Have a deeper understanding of the word of God and become the person He wants you to be.
- Actively participate in community building and mission work.

Power To Heal And Save

REFLECTION: Our community word for the month of September exhorts us to take God's love to heart as the foundation of our life, as the pattern for directing and guiding our life's faith journey, and in the observance of His commandments. The theme this week emphasizes good witnessing, openness to Jesus' saving grace, and courage to obey God's word in the way we serve Him in and out of community and the greater Church.

We are aware that life is filled with difficulties and challenges, including serious illness, absence of peace and harmony in family relationship, financial deprivation, and other pressing concerns, most especially during this pandemic, that can keep us anxious and distraught. Furthermore, our spiritual blindness and deafness are caused by our sinfulness, arrogance, pride, confusion and partiality (Ps 146) in dealing with our brothers and sisters, especially the lowly (Jas 2:1, 5). These negative attitudes hinder us from hearing the voice of God and in being able to speak the language of love and to communicate with God and our fellowmen.

What lessons can we learn from Jesus when he healed the deaf and the mute, made the blind see and the lame walk? How did He respond to the needs presented



to him? First, Jesus approached the situation with compassion and solicitude, making the healing process something of a ritual, a

holy exercise that His actions may be better appreciated and remembered. Secondly, based on our personal experience before our baptism in the Spirit, were we not like the deaf who did not hear or fully believe in God's word, or who turned a deaf ear to the cry of the needy in our midst? Were we not like the mute, unable to proclaim the Good News of our salvation? Were we not like the blind who did not see the plight of our brethren who were hungry and sick? Were we not like the lame who could not walk a distance to reach out to the broken-hearted?

Definitely, our baptism opened our eyes and ears to the truth of the Gospel that Jesus indeed is the Son of God. Our hearts and minds were opened to accept and be-

Power - See Page 2



Blame Game

We often think that evil comes mainly from the outside: from other people's conduct, from those who think badly of us, from society. How often we blame others, society, the world, for everything that happens to us! It is always the fault of "others": it is the fault of people, of those who govern, of misfortune, and so on... And we spend time assigning blame; but spending time blaming others is wasting time. We become angry, bitter and keep God away from our heart... One cannot be truly religious in complaining: complaining poisons, it leads you to anger, to resentment and to sadness, that of the heart, which closes the door to God.

~ Pope Francis

Last Week's Prophecies

1. *Forgiveness is the ultimate manifestation of love for it comes from a heart that is hurt, from a heart that is broken.*
2. *Beloved women, heaven rejoices with your gift of charity. A part of you was taken to make a part of a new life. We will bless you and your people till the end of time.*
3. *My children, it is I who gave you these commandments, and it is my will that you observe and obey them. For the time will come that you will be judged according to them. So live a righteous life and rejoice in the holy comfort that I am with you always.*
4. *My children, guard your hearts and actions. It is not what goes in, but what comes out from you that makes you unclean.*
5. *Follow what I have commanded you to do. Do the corporal acts of mercy. Feed the hungry, help the sick, visit the prisoners, love the unlovable, but most of all love one another.*

Online Giving

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

August 27, 2021

In-Person: \$312.00
 Paypal: \$ - -

Thank you for your generosity!!!

God's Blessings

Birthday

Roy Rubiato	9/3	Sette Lemon	9/6
Janella Llave	9/4	Nestor Conde	9/7
Sherr Ann Arabit	9/5	Raquel Arriola	9/8
Aaron Cruz		9/9	

Anniversary

Roy & Chinky Rubiato	9/3
Jay & Cathy Talag	9/4
David & Liberty Baliscao	9/8

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

*Praise the Lord, my soul;
 For He gives sight to the blind and
 raises up those who were bowed down.*

Community Prayer Time

Every Friday, starting at exactly 8:30 pm, all members are urged to pray together as one community the following:

Prayer to Take Authority

Holy Rosary

Prayer: Oratio Imperata against the spread of Coronavirus

Merciful and compassionate Father, we come to you in our need to seek your protection against the Covid-19 virus that has disturbed and even claimed lives.

We ask you now to look upon us with love and by your healing hand, dispel the fear of sickness and death, restore our hope, and strengthen our faith.

We pray that you guide the people tasked to find cures for this disease and to stem its transmission.

We thank you for the vaccines developed made possible by your guiding hands. Bless our efforts to use these vaccines to end the pandemic.

We pray for our health workers that they may minister to the sick with competence and compassion. Grant them health in mind and body, strength in their commitment, protection from the disease.

We pray for those afflicted. May they be restored to health. Protect those who care for them. Grant eternal rest to those who have died.

Give us the grace in these trying times to work for the good of all and to help those in need. May our concern and compassion for each other see us through this crisis and lead us to conversion and holiness.

Grant all these through our Lord Jesus Christ your son who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the holy spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.

We fly to your protection, o holy Mother of God. Do not despise our petition in our necessities, but deliver us always from all dangers, O Glorious and Blessed Virgin. Amen.

Our Lady, health of the sick, pray for us.

St. Joseph, pray for us.

St. Raphael the Archangel, pray for us.

San Roque, pray for us.

San Lorenzo Ruiz, pray for us.

San Pedro Calungsod, pray for us.

FUN IN THE... SAND

SKATEPLEX at Seven Presidents Ocean Front Park Long Branch NJ
September 11, 2021, Saturday, 11:30 - 3:00 pm

TO BENEFIT the BLD TRENTON GAWAD KALINGA MISSION

Power - Cont'd from Page 1

lieve that Jesus is truly alive in us through His Holy Spirit. It is a promise fulfilled by Jesus for one who has accepted Him, to be separated from pagans and unbelievers, to live a new and transformed life of hope, peace and love, with much rejoicing in our Risen Christ. It is a life of victory over man's inability to respond with love and faith in his relationship with other human beings.

How, then, do we open ourselves to the Lord in order to develop an intimate relationship with Him, that we may courageously proclaim His mighty deeds, notwithstanding the challenging conditions we face? Two

lessons may be derived from the readings: openness and compassion, driven by our core values of prudence, forbearance, fortitude and humility.

The Lord is indeed exhorting us to be open to Him, to place our complete trust in Him and to have a deep faith in His power to heal and to save. This is a gift He is willing to share with disciples who hear God's word clearly in their hearts and are inspired to respond to the call of the needy. In so doing, we can receive this promise, not only for ourselves, but also for those whom we help: "God...comes with vindication, with divine recompense, he comes to save you," (Is 35:4b).

Adapted from www.bldworld.org



This Sunday's Counsel

THEME:

We witness to God's love and saving grace when we serve others in humility.

PROMISE:

"God is my helper; the Lord sustains my life." (Ps 54:6)

WORD:

Wis 2:12, 17-20/ Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6, 8/ Jas 3:16—4:3/ Mk 9:30-37

ORDER:

- *Be the last and servant of all.* (Mk 9:35b)
- *Receive one child...in my name.* (Mk 9:37)
- *Cultivate peace.* (Jas 3:18)

DIRECTIONS:

- Put other's needs first before oneself.
- Give praise and offer sacrifices to the Lord.
- Love unconditionally.
- Be gentle, compliant and full of mercy.

Humility To Receive Each Other

REFLECTION: In the time of Jesus, children didn't have any power or rights. Children were not viewed as having much worth, hence viewed as most vulnerable, needy and the lowest members of the society. So when Jesus elevates a child and said whoever receives, and cares for this child, receives Him as well, He was in essence illustrating and saying to his disciples that one can only be great in the Kingdom of God when they humbly serve the least among his people.



There are so many things that can be learned about humility from being a parent. From the moment we learn that a baby starts growing inside a mother's womb, we become ecstatic and humbled. We learn the humility to be grateful as we acknowledge that there is a God who made this wonderful creation possible. From the early years of their childhood, we also learn about the humility to care. Looking with excitement at this new creation coming into life is the easiest part.

But doing the daily things to keep the infant growing is much more challenging. Do you recall the sleepless nights, the countless diaper changing? How about the endless cleanup when they throw-up? Parents agree that we put all our children's needs first before ourselves.

As the children grow older, they come to a point when it seems second nature for them to reason out and do things their own way. Being a parent, we can't sometimes help but be stringent. We set rules and insist that they cannot be bent. When children disagree with our rules, we feel that our they are being disrespectful. Our patience is being tested and as a result, there is a lot of disagreements. It is humility to understand that things are being resolved and peace is attained within the family.

As parents, instead of always being angry, we should pause and seek God's wisdom of understanding to truly listen to

Humility - See Page 2

Denying Oneself

A writer once wrote: there are times when God sends thunder to stir us, there are times when God sends blessings to lure us, but there are times when God sends nothing but silence. At those times He gives us the freedom to choose between staying put or following Him and His commands. It's our choice!

Now, here is the challenge in the Gospel. *"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross and follow me, for whoever wishes to save his life, will lose it and whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the Gospel, will save it."* (Mk 8:34-35)

Denying oneself? Is it about not having what we want? Or not to want and enjoy the luxury of life? No, not even close. Spiritually it's about giving the control of our life to God. When we give or offer our lives to Jesus. It is when we ask God to guide us in everything we do. Jesus gave us His example when He said *"not my will but yours"* on His way to saving us all. Let us follow Him everyday! In everything. Yes, it's hard, but with God's grace and love, it's worth it. We are invited to follow Him. Will you?



Deaf Heart

We all have ears, but very often we are not able to hear. Why is this? Brothers and sisters, there is an interior deafness that we can ask Jesus to touch and heal today. It is interior deafness, which is worse than physical deafness, because it is the deafness of the heart. Taken up with haste, by so many things to say and do, we do not find time to stop and listen to those who speak to us... I am thinking about children, young people, the elderly, the many who do not really need words and sermons, but to be heard. Let us ask ourselves: how is my capacity to listen going? Do I let myself be touched by people's lives? Do I know how to spend time with those who are close to me in order to listen?

~ Pope Francis

Online Giving

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BLD Trenton Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 1367
Toms River, NJ 08754

The Lord's Provision

September 10, 2021

Tithes : \$533.00
Afghan Rel: \$200.00

Thank you for your generosity!!!

God's Blessings

Birthday

Alan San Rafael	9/18	Jan Fune	9/20
Bong Saria	9/19	Det Quiapo	9/20
Jessica Matthews	9/19	Caryn Monta	9/21
TJ San Miguel	9/19	Cesar Angeles	9/22
Arlene Roldan	9/19	Jaye Jacinto	9/22
Sylvia Lingat	9/23		

Anniversary

Yoyoy & Det Quiapo	9/20
Pris & Nin Brendia	9/23
Edd & Marilyn Roy	9/23

Last Week's Prophecies

1. *Who I am to you and who you are to ME are inseparable in any situation; therefore I ask you to represent me not only in BLD, but also in your work and in your school.*
2. *Tonight, I have spoken to you; you have heard. Now, go home, and ponder, and do what I have told you.*
3. *Time changes; situations change. But I am still your God who have loved you when the world began and till the end of time.*
4. *My children, trust in Me with all your heart and all your soul. I will give you the strength to deny yourself and to follow Me.*

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Humility - Cont'd from Page 1

our children. We are not asked to stop being firm but with understanding, matters can be handled with gentleness. When we are dealing with our children, we have to admit that we are sometimes wrong, so we also have to learn the humility to ask for forgiveness. And when our children are ready to say sorry, we have to be humble to forgive. When we truly love our children, we have to take away our pride. We have to humble ourselves to be patient with them, to love them selflessly.

In our community alone, the Lord is always teaching us the virtue of humility as we serve one another. Just like parents nurturing a child, we are called to set aside our self-interest and, instead, understand the needs of our brothers and sisters, and do sacrifices for each other's sake. We have to be sincerely there for each other and lift each other up. Just like parents understanding and accepting

the uniqueness of each child, we are called to embrace each one with love regardless of who we are and what we can offer. Each one of us has different phases of transformation in our walk with the Lord, so we have to be patient with one another. We have to appreciate one another. Just like parents openly admitting that they could be at fault sometimes, we too have to readily admit our mistakes when we know we are at fault. On the other hand, we have to forgive our brothers and sisters who may have hurt us. We have to love unconditionally.

At the end of the day, we are all God's beloved children. No matter how old we get, we will still have our needs that each one of us will have to fill. God lovingly placed each one of us before each other so that we receive each other in his name. It is only by serving one another that we can truly be great before God's eyes.

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San Pedro Calungsod, pray for us.



Community News

This Sunday's *Counsel*

THEME:

We witness to God's love and saving grace when we are pure of heart and charitable in our ways.

PROMISE:

"...because you belong to Christ...you will surely not lose his reward." (Mk 9:41b)

WORD:

Nm 11:25-29/ Ps 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14/ Jas 5:1-6/ Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

ORDER:

- *Be very diligent in keeping the precepts of the Lord.* (Ps 19:12)
- *Do not prevent...who performs a mighty deed in my name.* (Mk 9:39)
- *Give a cup of water to drink.* (Mk 9:41)

DIRECTIONS:

- Invoke the Holy Spirit to purify our hearts.
- Be kind, loving and forgiving to one another.
- Always rejoice in other people's accomplishments.

Purity And Charity

REFLECTION:

Throughout the Bible, Jesus repeatedly calls us to a life of purity and charity. He saved us from our sins and He wills for us a life without sin. But what does it mean to be pure of heart and to be charitable in our ways?



God, losing purity of heart and becoming an obstacle to the growth of God's kingdom.

Envy extends to our own day in our dealings with our family, community and workplaces. It is subtle and can be easily overlooked.

To be pure of heart is to be single hearted, to have a single goal of accomplishing God's will for His glory. It is undivided, with no hypocrisy, no hidden motives, and marked by transparency and unwavering desire to please God in all things. It means that our heart has to be emptied of all self-seeking, emptied of all sin. In Mark 9:43-47, Jesus said that if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out; if your hand and foot cause you to sin, cut it off. He didn't really mean to cut off body parts but to detach from our sinful behavior.

The first reading and the Gospel talk about the disciples being jealous, who stop another believer from doing a good deed. Asking God to prevent the other disciple from casting evil spirits in His Name fits the definition of envy, which is a sin. Sin ruins our relationship with

Jealousy towards those who seem to shine more than us, engaging in conversations that tarnishes the image of others, or consciously failing to compliment or encourage others in their good accomplishments are forms of (passive) envy. In our community, it can negatively affect the closeness of a relationship, and can also decrease willingness to help members. Jesus said, *"Do not prevent him. There is no one who performs a mighty deed in My Name who can at the same time speak ill of me."* (Mk 9:39). Therefore, we should not strangle the Spirit of God at work in others but encourage everyone to use their gifts.

As humans, pursuing purity is a daily struggle because of sins. We can't become pure in heart on our own. God cleanses us and makes us pure in Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit. We need to examine our conscience regularly and

Purity - See Page 2



Charity and Fraternity

Dear friends, the family is alive if it is united in prayer. The family is strong, if it rediscovers the Word of God and the providential value of all its promises. The family is generous and builds history if it remains open to life, if it does not discriminate and serves the weakest and most in need, if it does not stop offering the world the bread of charity and the wine of fraternity.

I would like to reiterate that if we want to preserve fraternity on Earth, "we cannot lose sight of Heaven."... Yes, true religiosity consists in adoring God and loving one's neighbor. And we believers cannot exempt ourselves from these essential religious choices: rather than demonstrating something, we are called to show the paternal presence of the God of heaven through our harmony on earth.

~ Pope Francis

Last Week's Prophecies

1. *My child, just as you approach the altar with humility, I ask you to approach your daily ministry at home, at work, and at school with obedience and humility.*
2. *Seek God's love and you will be humbled. Seek God's love and you will be able to serve.*
3. *My children, since you are grateful to Me, I will give you grace, I will give peace, and I will give you my strength. Remain in Me as I remain in you.*

Online Giving

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The Lord's Provision

September 17, 2021

Tithes : \$510.00

Thank you for your generosity!!!

God's Blessings

Birthday

Leleng Del Carmen	9/24	Mildred Lumapas	9/26
Mary Mainque	9/24	Tony Bartocillo	9/28
Vic Mabunay	9/24	Daday Young	9/28
Delia Cuasay	9/25	Kris Taguiam	9/28
Adam Tomczyk	9/25	Bert Velez	9/28
Chat Conde	9/26	Bong Dizon	9/29
Kimberly Ciocon	9/30		

Anniversary

Melo & Linda Mabutas	9/24
Butch & Gel Chioco	9/26
John & Weng Alberto	9/27
Leo & Norms Llave	9/29
Toti & Inna Lukban	9/29

Who Are You Gonna Call (or Text)?

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 For Prayer Service - Bert & Cora Velez 732-688-1541

Cleanse me from my unknown faults, O Lord.

Father Tito Retires

After 47 years of ministering to the faithful, including being the Spiritual Director of BLD-Trenton, Father Roberto 'Tito' Ignacio has retired and a party to send him off was held on September 11 at Clarion Hotel in Toms River. Aside from the customary food and line dancing, the night featured tributes and well-wishes from his friends and relatives all over the world given in person and through video, including from stars of his favorite "teleserye". Everyone had fun but came away a little sad. Father Tito has been a beloved figure in the Filipino-American religious and medical communities in the area and we will miss him as he moves out-of-state to join his family in Virginia. God bless you, Fr. Tito. Enjoy your retirement.



Purity - Cont'd from Page 1

ask God to create in us a clean heart. We need to invoke the Holy Spirit always to purify our hearts. His presence in us, not only motivates us to be pure and charitable in words and deeds, but we also become the "Christ" who is kind, loving and forgiving. In addition, His presence in us inspires us to know God's word. Studying the word of God and obeying them diligently guard us from sin. No human being with a fallen nature can possibly love God.

The second reading warns us against seeking the riches of this world. Rather than oppress and suppress others and their gifts, we should do everything possible to uplift their human dignity. This exhortation is very timely now that we have completed the discernment of our Community leaders and ministry members. In order for our community to thrive and grow, we need to pastor and build each other up, to compliment and rejoice in the accomplishments of others.

We praise and thank God for blessing our community with ALL of YOU, who are so talented and gifted. We thank you all for sharing these generously to our community.

God promised a reward for the generous, He said, "Anyone who gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ, amen, I say to you, will surely not lose his reward." (Mk 9 : 41b)

Yes brothers and sisters, Jesus doesn't require us to do extraordinary things. It can be by just giving a cup of water. It stands for the simplest act we can perform on a daily basis, something that almost anyone can give. A cup of water is a promise of blessing, directed to us, to help others who are "Christ". We can be this "Anyone" giving the needy, acting not primarily for reward but because it is the right thing to do. So, being witnesses to God's love and saving grace, in all that we say or do, let it be from our pure and generous hearts - with LOVE; and let it be for the true good of our neighbors and for the greater glory of our God.