



BLD Trenton



## This Sunday's Counsel

# Community News

Volume 20, Issue 27

<http://bldtrenton.com>

July 3, 2020

### THEME:

We find rest in Jesus when we are meek and humble of heart.

### PROMISE:

*"The Lord lifts up all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down."* (Ps 145:14)

### WORD:

Zec 9:9-10/ Ps 145:1-2, 8-11, 13-14/ Rom 8:9, 11-13/ Mt 11:15-30

### ORDER:

- "Come to me." (Mt 11:28a)
- "Take my yoke upon you and learn from me." (Mt 11:29a)

### DIRECTIONS:

- Persevere in your prayers.
- Always be reconciled to the Lord.
- Trust in the Lord.
- Study and live the Word of God.
- Ease the burden of each other.

## Christian Humility

**REFLECTION:** The theme for this Sunday's readings is *"We find rest in Jesus when we are meek and humble of heart."* All the readings point to this trait, humility, namely Christian humility. But what is humility? The term "humility" comes from the Latin word *humilitas*, a noun related to the adjective *humilis* which may be translated as "humble", but also as "grounded", "from the earth", or "low", since it derives in turn from *humus* (earth).

Humility is something that is gained and practiced as we grow in wisdom and grace. It is a state of mind well pleasing to God; it preserves the soul in tranquility and makes us patient under trials. Among the Christian view of humility is recognizing virtues and talents that others possess, particularly those that surpass one's own, and giving due honor and, when required, obedience. The opposite of humility is pride and arrogance, having or revealing an exaggerated



sense of one's own importance or abilities.

Humility is prophesied or exhibited in Jesus in this Sunday's readings.

The first reading in Zechariah 9:9-10 is the prophecy for the coming of a just savior, a figure of humble demeanor but riding on a donkey like royalty in the ancient Near East. The announcement of such a king marks a departure from the view of a royal figure as

a conquering warrior for he will banish the warrior's bow and he will proclaim peace to the nations. New Testament authors Matthew and John apply this prophecy to Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem.

In the second reading, Romans 8:9, 11-13, St. Paul talks about a new life governed by the holy Spirit. Christians still retain the flesh, but it is alien to their new being, which is life in the spirit, namely the new self, governed by the Holy Spirit. The Spirit, who enlivens

*Humility- See Page 2*

## Know Your Saints

### Saint Christopher: Patron of Travelers

What is known about St. Christopher is whatever has been preserved by writers who documented the stories they heard after he lived. It is believed that his original name was either Reprobos or Offerus and that he lived in Canaan during the third century. He was a rather large man, about seven and a half feet tall, like a giant with a "fearsome face"; but he took on a gentle, more human appearance after his baptism. He was seeking for the most powerful person to serve when he met a hermit who baptized and taught him about Christ. His ministry as a Christian was to carry people across a very dangerous river where many people died attempting to reach the other side.

One stormy night, a small child appeared and asked to be carried across in the middle of rain and thunder. Reprobos/Offerus lifted the child on his shoulders and noticed that the weight of the child became increasingly heavier at each step he took. Upon reaching the opposite bank, the child revealed himself to be the Christ Child and the load Reprobos/Offerus felt was the weight of the entire world on his shoulders. The Christ Child gave him the name Christopher which in Greek means "Christ-Bearer". He was told to plant his staff in the ground, and a beautiful tree sprang up immediately. After this experience, Christopher went to the towns of Lycia and Antioch to comfort the Christians who were being martyred under the Roman emperor Decius. His zeal eventually caught the ire of the pagan authorities who then put him to death.

St. Christopher's feast day is no longer obligatory after Vatican II but he continues to be venerated as one of the Fourteen Holy Helpers. His intercession is often sought by motorists and drivers for safe travels.



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Or mail check to:  
BLD Trenton Foundation, Inc.  
P.O. Box 1367



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

For Blessed Mother's visit -Tess Corso 732-604-1914  
For Prayer Service - Morris Teves 732-597-2016

### 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*

*"God Our Father, we come to you in our need, to ask your protection against the 2019 N-coronavirus, that has claimed the lives and affected many.*

*We pray for your grace, for the people tasked with studying the nature and cause of this virus and its disease and of stemming the tide of its transmission. Guide the hands and minds of medical experts that they may minister to the sick with competence and compassion, and of those governments and private agencies that must find a cure and solution to this epidemic.*

*We pray for those afflicted, may they be restored to health soon.*

*Grant us the grace to work for the good of all and to help those in need. Grant this 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.*

*Mary, help of all Christians, pray for us.*

*St. Raphael the Archangel, pray for us.*

*St. Rock, pray for us.*

*St. Lorenzo Ruiz, pray for us.*

*St. Pedro Calungsod, pray for us."*

### God's Blessings

#### Birthday

Linda Mijares	7/4	Leo Duarte	7/8
Fr. Paul Lehman	7/5	Adam Felibrico	7/8
Ruby Brooks	7/6	Biboy Llave	7/8
Paul Hermesen	7/9		

#### Anniversary

Dada & Janette Alberto	7/3
Edwin & Marissa Orienza	7/5
Nestor & Ester Tambor	7/6
Ross & Jaye Jacinto	7/7

### Yoke

What does the yoke of Jesus refer to in the Gospel (Mt 11:29)?

The Jews used the image of a yoke to express submission to God. Jesus says his yoke is "easy". The Greek word for "easy" can also mean "well-fitting". Yokes were tailor-made to fit the oxen well. We are commanded to put on the "sweet yoke of Jesus" and to live the "heavenly way of life and happiness".

Jesus also says his "burden is light". There's a story of a man who once met a boy carrying a smaller crippled lad on his back. "That's a heavy load you are carrying there," exclaimed the man. "He ain't heavy; he's my brother!" responded the boy. No burden is too heavy when it's given in love and carried in love. Jesus offers us a new kingdom of righteousness, peace, and joy. In his kingdom sins are not only forgiven but removed, and eternal life is poured out for all its citizens.

The yoke of Christ's kingdom, his kingly rule and way of life, liberates us from the burden of guilt and from the oppression of sinful habits and hurtful desires. Only Jesus can lift the burden of sin and the weight of hopelessness from us - and give us a weight of love and glory in exchange. Jesus used the analogy of a yoke to explain how we can exchange the burden of sin and despair for a burden of glory and yoke of freedom from sin. The yoke which Jesus invites us to embrace is his way of grace and freedom from the power of sin. Do you trust in God's love and submit to his will and plan for your life?

Adapted from [www.dailyscripture.servantsoftheword.org](http://www.dailyscripture.servantsoftheword.org)



### Humility - Cont'd from Page 1

Christians for holiness will also resurrect their bodies on the last day. Christian life is the experience of a constant challenge to put to death the evil deeds of the body through life of the Spirit. Living in the Spirit is obedience to the Spirit of God.

In the Gospel reading, Matthew 11:25-30, Jesus praises the Father for hiding Jesus' deeds and preaching from the wise and the learned and revealing them to the childlike. The wise and the learned refers to the scribes and Pharisees, who have

rejected Jesus' preaching and the significance of his mighty deeds. Acceptance depends upon the father's revelation, but this is granted to those who are open to receive it and refused to the arrogant. Jesus can speak of all mysteries because he is the Son and there is perfect reciprocity of knowledge between him and the Father; what has been handed over to him is only revealed to those whom he wishes. Jesus calls those who labor and are burdened and he will give them rest. He calls those who are burdened by the law as expounded by the scribes and Pharisees. In place of the yoke

of law, complicated by scribal interpretation, Jesus invites the burdened to take the yoke of obedience to this word, under which they will find rest. Jesus' yoke is easy and his burden light.

Humility is the foundation of sanctity. Jesus invites us to imitate him with a humble heart. Without humility, growth to holiness will not happen. Proud people are not holy people. Only humble people are growing in holiness. Only by humbling ourselves to Him can we grow in holiness. The fertile ground to bear fruit in Christ is a humble heart.





*BLD Trenton*



## This Sunday's *Counsel*

# Community News

Volume 20, Issue 28

<http://bldtrenton.com>

July 10, 2020

### THEME:

We find rest in Jesus when we allow our heart to be a rich soil for God's word.

### PROMISE:

*"...my word shall not return to me void, but shall do my will achieving the end for which I sent it."* (Is 55:11)

### WORD:

Is 55:10-11/ Ps 65  
10-14/ Rom 8:18-  
23/ Mt 13:1-23

### ORDER:

- *"Whoever has ears ought to hear."* (Mt 13:9)
- *"Hear the Word and understand it."* (Mt 13:23b)

### DIRECTIONS:

- Soak yourself in the Word of God.
- Reflect, meditate and understand the Word of God.
- Bear fruits through your work.

## Sowing His Perfect Love In Us

### REFLECTION:

We are in communion with Jesus when we continue to keep our hearts to be rich soil for God's word, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Savior.

But we don't always keep our hearts as rich and fertile soils, do we? At times we find our hearts hard like the paths that are hard and rocky. We can also find our hearts filled with thorns choking the word of God with our worldly concerns and desires. None of us can ever claim to always have our hearts as rich and fertile soil, always ready for His seeds and continuously bear fruit. We all struggle with our own humanity, our own distractions, our worldly needs and desires. We are always in a state to repair, work in progress that never seems to finish.

*"But blessed are your eyes, because they see, and your ears, because they hear."* (Mt 13:16)



Brothers and sisters in Christ, let us not be dismayed or discouraged for we have a Generous Sower. This Generous Sower, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ loves us all in spite of our failures and transgressions. He will always love us with His pure and perfect love that only He can sow in our hearts no matter what. *"My word shall not return to me void, but shall do my will."* (Is 55:11)

Yes, the Word of God can never return void as it always fulfills its purpose. The Word of God has one purpose, it is Love, His will, His pure and everlasting love for all of us. It has one purpose and one objective, to sow His perfect love in each and every one of us who are broken and weak. His love alone will always rain and sow the seeds of His mercy in our hearts no matter what the condition our hearts are in.

## Tending the Flock

## God Always Respects Human Freedom

In this Sunday's Gospel (Mt 13:1-23), Jesus ... identifies himself with the sower who scatters the good seed of the Word of God and notes the different effects it obtains, in accordance with the way in which people hear the proclamation.

Some listen superficially to the Word but do not take it in; others accept it at the time but are unable to persevere and lose it all; there are those who are engrossed by worldly concerns and enticements; and those who listen receptively, like the good soil: here the word bears an abundance of fruit.

However this Gospel also puts the accent on Jesus' preaching "method", that is, on his use of parables. *"Why do you speak to them in parables?"*, his disciples ask (Mt 13:10). And Jesus answers distinguishing between them and the crowd: to his disciples — namely to those who have already decided for him — he can speak openly about the Kingdom of God, to others, instead, he must proclaim it in parables, precisely to encourage their decision, conversion of the heart; indeed, by their very nature parables demand the effort of interpretation, they not only challenge the mind but also freedom. St John Chrysostom explained: *"And this he [Jesus] says to draw them unto him, and to provoke them and to signify that if they would covert he would heal them"* (cf. Homily on the Gospel of Matthew, 45, 1-2).

Basically, God's true "Parable" is Jesus himself, his Person who, in the sign of humanity, hides and at the same time reveals his divinity. In this manner God does not force us to believe in him but attracts us to him with the truth and goodness of his incarnate Son: love, in fact, always respects freedom.



~ Pope Benedict XVI, Excerpt from Angelus Address, July 10, 2011

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*Grant us the grace to work for the good of all and to help those in need. Grant this 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.*

*Mary, help of all Christians, pray for us.*

*St. Raphael the Archangel, pray for us.*

*St. Rock, pray for us.*

*St. Lorenzo Ruiz, pray for us.*

*St. Pedro Calungsod, pray for us."*

## God's Blessings

### Birthday

Sandy Aparicio	7/10	Diane Gomez	7/14
Jing Bongalo	7/10	Patricia Gomez	7/14
Msgr. Paul Schetelick	7/10	Darryl Margallo	7/14
Lanie Fincalero	7/11	Tess Corso	7/15
Aissa Panganiban	7/13	Jerry Ramos	7/16

### Anniversary

Aris & Lilia Mejares	7/11
Charlie & Nora Dingerdisen	7/12
Rey & Baby Inid	7/14

### Online Giving

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### The Lord's Provision

**June 26, 2020**

Mail-in : \$1,050.00  
Paypal : \$125.02

**Thank you !!!**

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

For Blessed Mother's visit -Tess Corso 732-604-1914  
For Prayer Service - Morris Teves 732-597-2016

*The seed is the word of God.*

## Fruitful in Holiness

When seeds are sown, not all necessarily grow and develop into a blossoming plant. This is a reality that anyone, like farmers, knows through experience. Thus, those who do planting prepare the ground so that the seeds will grow with best result. If you were to plant seeds, for sure you will choose to plant them on a ground that you have prepared by much cultivation and fertilizing so that the harvest would become abundant.

Our hearts become "rich soil" when we allow the word of God to transform us, and we become who others will see what Jesus has done with our life. They will see that more and more, our life has been enriched because we have become fruitful in faithfulness and holiness. God's word declares, *"To anyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich; from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away,"* (Mt 13:12). Those who do not hear and act on what God's word commands will have difficulty in finding rest in Jesus. These are peo-

ple who do not understand the Kingdom of God; the evil one comes and steals away what has been sown. But those who listen to God's word, understand and allow it to minister their hearts, will bear much fruit as a reward.

In our Christian life, there is a continuous fight against worldly doctrines, ways and attachments which are not in accord with the word of God. We must never stop being nurtured and guided by the Truth that the Church and Holy Scriptures tell us. We need to align our heart, mind and spirit to Jesus, our true Sower, so that we will grow in our faith and in holiness. People who are not grounded in faith, because of their loose understanding of God's word, can easily be shaken; especially when anxiety comes, when there is lure of earthly enticements, when faced with trials and uncertainty.

Through the Parable of the Sower, Jesus invites us to change our way of life and be a rich soil for the glory of the Kingdom of God. As

disciples of Christ who have been enriched by God's word serving the Church and community, we have our own story to tell how we responded to the call to renew our life and become fruitful, not only as hearers, but also as doers and bearers of His word. As we grow in fruitfulness, we lead more and more people to open their heart to receive the Lord, and allow that little seed of faith grow as in rich harvest.

But God also assures us that even those who do not bear fruit will have their time of productiveness. Ultimately, they will find rest in the Lord. For all are created and called according to His purpose and plan. We are called to prosper God's kingdom and our role is to proclaim to others the word of Jesus calling us to find rest in Him. In Isaiah, God promised, *"...my word...shall not return to me void, but shall do my will, achieving the end for which I sent it,"* (Is 55:11). The word of God changes our perspective in life and frees us from worldliness, sinfulness, and other forms of anxiety brought about by the world.

Adapted from [www.bldworld.org](http://www.bldworld.org)





BLD Trenton



# Community News

## This Sunday's Counsel

### THEME:

We find rest in Jesus when we grow and bear fruit for the kingdom of God.

### PROMISE:

*"The righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father."* (Mt 13:43)

### WORD:

Wis 12:13, 16-19/  
Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15  
-16/ Rom 8:26-27/  
Mt 13:24-43

### ORDER:

- "Turn toward me." (Ps 86:16a)
- "Sow good seed in your field." (Mt 13:24b)
- "Shine like the sun in the kingdom." Mt 13:43a)

### DIRECTIONS:

- Persevere in your prayer life.
- Do small things with great love.
- Be a model of God's mercy and love.

Volume 20, Issue 29

<http://bldtrenton.com>

July 17, 2020

## Small Acts Of Love, Big God

### REFLECTION:

During this time of pandemic, how many felt that we are so confined in a tiny space that we are unable to accomplish what we are set to accomplish? How many felt inadequate and small?

With the limitations in our actions, it may be very tempting to give up and not do anything. Some may say, "we have food on the table, we eat, we sleep, so why bother do anything?". But more than ever, we are called to rely on our faith for us to keep on moving. Despite our circumstances, God wants us to be constantly growing in our spirituality. God wants us to seek Him more. God desires for us to eventually bear fruit for his kingdom.

Bearing fruit for the kingdom may sound difficult especially with the situation we are in. Does bearing fruit mean attending numerous masses virtually? Or does it mean giving huge amount of love offering to the church or to our community?

We could go technical on how we measure our fruitfulness especially during these times but ultimately, the an-



swer is - doing anything out of our love for Jesus, no matter how big or small, is a manifestation of us bearing fruit for his kingdom.

The Gospel says, *"The kingdom of heaven is a mustard seed that if a person took and sowed on the field, it is smallest of all the seeds but when full grown, it is the largest of plants"*.

Everything starts from small beginnings. Just as the mustard seed-the smallest of all seeds, everything or everyone has the potential to grow large and bear fruit.

While we are seeking answers for this pandemic, we are called to continue to pray to turn toward the sower, the Son of Man Jesus Christ.

One of the blessings for some of us is that during this time, we may have been given ample opportunities to pray. Some of those who used to be challenged with their prayer life may have found the time and the habit of praying, reflecting and meditating on the word.

We may begin small. As long as the

*Big God - See Page 2*

## Know Your Saints

## Saint Clare: Patroness of Television

She was born Chiara Offreduccio in 1193 to a wealthy Italian family in Assisi. She lived in a palace but would set aside food from her family table to give to the needy on the streets. After hearing St. Francis preach, she decided to give up her life of luxury and devote her life to God.

When her parents chose a rich young man for her to marry, she refused and fled her home and joined St. Francis, later establishing a religious order, the Order of Poor Ladies, based on the Franciscan Order. Known as Poor Clares, they traveled throughout Europe leading lives of work, prayer, penance and contemplation, as they helped the Franciscan brothers in their mission to the poor. They wore no shoes, ate no meat, lived in a simple home and stayed silent most of the time.

One day the army of Frederick II came to attack her convent and the nearby countryside. Clare stood at the front gate facing the enemy. She knelt and held the Blessed Sacrament, praying: *"Deliver not to beasts, O Lord, the souls of those who confess your Name!"* A voice from the Host replied: *"My protection will never fail you."* Hearing this, the attacking army was seized with terror and fled, sparing the convent.

Clare meditated on the Passion everyday. She said, *"Christ is the splendor of eternal glory, the brightness of eternal light, and the mirror without cloud."* Toward the end of her life, when she was too ill to attend Mass, an image of the service would display on the wall of her room. Because of this, St. Clare is regarded as the patron saint of television. Her feast day is celebrated on August 11. The Order of Saint Clare that she founded has today more than 20,000 sisters worldwide, with more than 70 countries represented.



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### Big God - Cont'd from Page 1

intent and the prayers are sincere, the Lord will surely listen and will be pleased. We just have to remember that we pray not because we feel obligated but instead really have that deep yearning to talk to him and to know him. We just desire to better our prayer life and little by little, we will be nourished by his wisdom, his tender love and care for us.

As a result of turning toward Jesus Christ our sower through prayer and listening to his word, we become more aware of his goodness and love. We gradually become what he desires us to be. We are then called to share that love to others, thus becoming sowers ourselves.

"Sow good seed in your field" (Mt 13:24b). There is a vast field where we can sow the seeds of God's goodness and bear fruit but we don't even have to look that far.

We may start small by sowing the seeds to our family, doing simple things yet with great love. Did you find yourself lovingly cooking more for your family? How about spending time to talk more to your children? Indeed, another blessing that we have during this time is the bond that we gained with our family.

How about slowly cultivating some sense of gratefulness? Have you

been more appreciative to your spouses who may be cleaning the house for you?

If you are not in the habit of reaching out to your relatives or friends who have helped you in the past, perhaps the Lord has given you the opportunity to reach out to them, to talk to them and thank them. Reaching out to others may seem like a small act but it means showing how much we care and that we are concerned of their well-being.

Interceding for others by praying the rosary or our community's intercessory prayers, being patient with our children, speaking gentle words to others, sharing our time and talents for our community and so on are just some of the small acts we can do.

Small acts can lead to great big things. Done with love, they nurture us and our spirituality. By doing small yet genuine acts of love, we reflect the seed that God has sown in us. We then hope to become inspiration to others in order to bear fruit for God's kingdom.

Yes, we may feel confined in a tiny space for now but there should be no reason to feel small because we know that we can still do great things for truly we have a big God.

## God's Blessings

### Birthday

Lilia Calves	7/17	Aurie Apostol	7/19
Camille Colon	7/17	Aris Mejares	7/19
James Nagbe	7/17	Serg Wong	7/19
Marlene Legaspi	7/17	Morris Teves	7/22
Jay Talag	7/18	Marc Mance	7/22
Vinnie Warnock	7/18	Grace Palencia	7/23

### Anniversary

Rene & Grace Gallofin	7/17
Tony & Tess Corso	7/18
Jojo & Vicma Cac	7/19
Morris & Emma Teves	7/22



Jesus' invitation to enter his kingdom comes in the form of *parables*, a characteristic feature of his teaching. Through his parables he invites people to the feast of the kingdom, but he also asks for a radical choice: to gain the kingdom, one must give everything. Words are not enough, deeds are required. The parables are like mirrors for man: will he be hard soil or good earth for the word? What use has he made of the talents he has received? Jesus and the presence of the kingdom in this world are secretly at the heart of the parables. One must enter the kingdom, that is, become a disciple of Christ, in order to "know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven". For those who stay "outside", everything remains enigmatic. ~ CCC, 546

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*St. Rock, pray for us.*

*St. Lorenzo Ruiz, pray for us.*

*St. Pedro Calungsod, pray for us."*





BLD Trenton



## This Sunday's Counsel

# Community News

Volume 20, Issue 30

<http://bldtrenton.com>

July 24, 2020

### THEME:

We find rest in Jesus when we treasure Him like a pearl of great price.

### PROMISE:

*"...all things work for the good for those who love God, who are called according to His purpose."* (Rom 8:28)

### WORD:

1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12/ Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130/ Rom 8:28-30/ Mt 13:44-52

### ORDER:

- *"Know what is right."* (1Kgs 3:11c)
- *"Go and sell what you have and buy the pearl of great price."* (Mt 13:46)
- *"K e e p m y word."* (Ps 119:57)

### DIRECTIONS:

- Soak yourself in the Word of God..
- Pray for God's wisdom.
- Surrender to God's will.
- Detach yourself from worldly things.

## A Treasure Beyond All Price

### REFLECTION:

Jesus used the example of a buried treasure or a pearl of great price to the kingdom of Heaven. This hidden treasure can only be seen through the eyes of faith, and when we find it, we ought to sell everything in order to buy it. Go and sell everything and buy the pearl of great price is the second order of our theme.

In our case, to sell everything would mean to give up our pride, our greed, our un-forgiveness and our sinful ways. Although many Saints throughout the ages in addition to the above have literally sold everything and gave it to the poor and served God. If God called you to do that then let it be, however that is not for everybody, for most of us, we just need to be detached from our worldly possessions or else they will possess us.

We also sell all that we have, when we sell our attitudes, our old selves and restore our broken relationships with one another and with God. There is nothing wrong with earthly possessions or enjoying the pleasures of this world as long as we are not attached to them. Money is not the root of all evil because the church and everyone else needs it. Nevertheless, the bible says it's the love of money as the root of all evil. However,



it could be anything in the world that you love more than Jesus can possess and control you.

So if your job or money controls you, you detach from it, even your own personal beliefs that you have accumulated over the years controls you, you detach from it, for you are a slave to whomever you obey.

Keep my "Word" is the third order for tonight. Our Psalm reading says, *"Lord, I love your commands. For I love your command more than gold, however fine. For in all your precepts I go forward; every false way I hate."*

In our First reading King Solomon

*Treasure - See Page 2*

## Tending the Flock

## Lose Everything For The Kingdom

The brief similes proposed in today's liturgy conclude the chapter of the Gospel of Matthew dedicated to the parables of the Kingdom of God (13:44-52). Among these are two small masterpieces: the parables of the treasure hidden in the field and of the pearl of great value. They tell us that the discovery of the Kingdom of God can happen suddenly like the farmer who, ploughing, finds an unexpected treasure; or after a long search, like the pearl merchant who eventually finds the most precious pearl, so long dreamt of. Yet, in each case the point is that the treasure and the pearl are worth more than all other possessions; and therefore when the farmer and the merchant discover them, they give up everything else in order to obtain them. They do not need to rationalize or think about it or reflect: they immediately perceive the incomparable value of what they've found and they are prepared to lose everything in order to have it.

This is how it is with the Kingdom of God: those who find it have no doubts, they sense that this is what they have been seeking and waiting for; and this is what fulfills their most authentic aspirations. And it really is like this: those who know Jesus, encounter Him personally, are captivated, attracted by so much goodness, so much truth, so much beauty, and all with great humility and simplicity. To seek Jesus, to find Jesus: this is the great treasure!

Many people, many saints, reading the Gospel with an open heart, have been so struck by Jesus they they convert to Him. Let us think of St Francis of Assisi: he was already a Christian, though a "rosewater" Christian. When he read the Gospel, in that decisive moment of his youth, he encountered Jesus and discovered the King-

*Lose Everything — See Page 2*

## Community Prayer Time

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*Prayer to Take Authority*

*Holy Rosary*

*Prayer: Oratio Imperata against the spread of coronavirus*

*"God Our Father, we come to you in our need, to ask your protection against the 2019 N-coronavirus, that has claimed the lives and affected many.*

*We pray for your grace, for the people tasked with studying the nature and cause of this virus and its disease and of stemming the tide of its transmission. Guide the hands and minds of medical experts that they may minister to the sick with competence and compassion, and of those governments and private agencies that must find a cure and solution to this epidemic.*

*We pray for those afflicted, may they be restored to health soon.*

*Grant us the grace to work for the good of all and to help those in need. Grant this 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.*

*Mary, help of all Christians, pray for us.*

*St. Raphael the Archangel, pray for us.*

*St. Rock, pray for us.*

*St. Lorenzo Ruiz, pray for us.*

*St. Pedro Calungsod, pray for us."*

## God's Blessings

### Birthday

Boyllly Arriola	7/24	MaryAnne Arias	7/26
Florence Acosta	7/25	Jojo Cac	7/29
Domenick Palumbo		7/30	

### Anniversary

Drin & Sandy Aparicio	7/24
Cesar & Luz Agustin	7/24
Bill & Lilia Calves	7/24
Eddie & Josie Rodriguez	7/24

### Online Giving

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### The Lord's Provision

**July 17, 2020**

Mail-in : \$420.00  
Paypal : \$243.00

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

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

For Blessed Mother's visit -Tess Corso 732-604-1914  
For Prayer Service - Morris Teves 732-597-2016

*Wonderful are your decrees;  
therefore I observe them.*

### Treasure - Cont'd from Page 1

did not ask for long life, riches or the death of his enemies; instead he asks God to give him an understanding heart, to distinguish right from wrong. The first order: Know what is right, we have the "BIBLE" which we call our "Basic Instruction Before Leaving Earth"; we have the Church to guide us and taught us that "love" is not a feeling but a choice, to do what is right, what is good, which reaffirms our first order: know what is right. We pray and reflect on God's Word and to the Holy Spirit for the gift of wisdom to help us make the right choice.

We surrender to God's will in whatever stage in life God has put us, whether we are still working or retired, sick, suffering or healthy. Let us make an act of faith, believing that all things will work out for good for those who love God. For it is then that we find rest in Jesus, the true treasure, "the pearl of great price."

## Dragnet

What can a story of a dragnet and a great catch of fish tell us about God's kingdom? The two most common ways of fishing in Jesus' time was with a casting-net (or hand-net) which was thrown from the shore and the drag-net or trawl which was let down or cast into the waters from a boat. As the boat moved through the waters the drag-net was drawn into the shape of a great cone which indiscriminately took in all kinds of fish and flotsam and jetsam swept in its path. It usually took several men to haul such a net to shore.

What is Jesus' point here? Just as a drag-net catches every kind of fish in the sea, so the church acts as God's

instrument for gathering in all who will come. Just as the drag-net does not or cannot discriminate, so the church does not discriminate between the good and the bad, the useless and the useful. God's kingdom is open to all who will accept and believe. But there will come a time of separation, at the *close of the age*, when the angels will send the good and the bad to their respective destinations. Our task is to gather in all who will come. God, in the end, will give the good (those who accept and follow Christ) and the bad (those who refuse Christ) the reward they deserve. God offers the treasure of his kingdom to all who believe in Christ. Do you hunger for God and for his kingdom of righteousness, peace, and joy?

Adapted from [www.dailyscripture.servantsoftheword.org](http://www.dailyscripture.servantsoftheword.org)

### Lose Everything —Cont'd from Page 1

dom of God; with this, all his dreams of worldly glory vanished. The Gospel allows you to know the real Jesus, it lets you know the living Jesus; it speaks to your heart and changes your life. And then yes, you leave it all. You can effectively change lifestyles, or continue to do what you did before but you are someone else, you are reborn: you have found what gives meaning, what gives flavour, what gives light to all things, even to toil, even to suffering, and even to death.

*~ Pope Francis, Excerpt From Angelus Message, July 27, 2014*





BLD Trenton



# Community News

## This Sunday's *Counsel*

### THEME:

We heed Jesus when we are compassionate and generous in sharing our blessings to others.

### PROMISE:

*"Heed me, and you shall eat well, you shall delight in rich fare."* (Rom 8:28)

### WORD:

Is 55:1-3/ Ps 145:8-9, 15-16, 17-18/ Rom 8:35, 37-39/ Mt 14:13-21

### ORDER:

- *"Come to me heedfully, listen, that you may have life."* (Is 55:3a)
- *"Give them food yourselves."* (Mt 14:16b)

### DIRECTIONS:

- Prayerfully reflect and meditate on the Word of God.
- Faithfully attend Eucharistic celebration and Praise and Worship.
- Be generous with your time, talent and treasure.
- Do corporal and spiritual works of mercy.

Volume 20, Issue 31

<http://bldtrenton.com>

July 31, 2020

## Unlimited Bread Of Life

### REFLECTION:

With the escalation in modernity and technology, we can say that we live in individualistic times. We find it easy to fight for our rights, to earn our own keep, to live in-

dependently and to think for ourselves. This nonconformist culture focuses more on the needs of the individual over the needs of the community as a whole. Most often seen in a positive light, being independent and autonomous though tend to be dictated by the attitudes and preferences of individuals. This paved way for the sins of selfishness, pride and conceit.

Jesus Christ is our example of humility, generosity and compassion towards each other. We often do not know how to navigate our way in troubled waters like in our situation now, but He is our Leader. He shows us the way. He models how to do it and enables us to do it. Our role is to obey and follow him. And there is no coming to the Father but by him, *"I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through me."* (Jn 14:6) These words of



Jesus give us assurance and encouragement that the way He has paved is the right way.

This pandemic has brought ei-

ther the worst or best in us. We have gone our own way forgetting Jesus' example of prayer and ministry to the poor. In isolation, the farther we have moved into the recesses of our own selves. But we have the assurance that the Holy One of Israel is true to his promises. Psalm 145:8-9 gives us confidence that *"The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in mercy. The Lord is good to all, and compassionate toward all your work."* This is his example. This is where he is leading us.

We ask for forgiveness and repent of the sins of selfishness, pride and conceit. We need to go back to following him and obeying him. And he is gracious and rich in mercy. *"What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will anguish or distress, or persecution, or famine, or naked-*

*Bread- See Page 2*

## Know Your Saints

## Saint Dominic: Patron of Astronomers

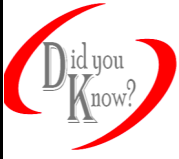
Dominic was born into a noble Spanish family in 1170. While carrying him in her womb, his mother had a vision of her son as a dog that would set the world on fire with a torch in its mouth. At his baptism, his mother saw a bright star from his chest. These visions convinced her that her son would do great things.

At an early age Dominic himself heard God calling him to serve humankind. During a famine in 1191, he sold his books to feed the poor, telling his professors, *"Would you have me study from these dead skins when people are dying of hunger?"* Twice he tried to sell himself into slavery to the Moors to secure the freedom of others. One day, he met a beggar, of whom he had dreamt the night before, in the street. He told him: *"You are my companion and must walk with me. If we hold on together, no earthly power can withstand us."* The beggar was none other than St. Francis of Assisi.

In 1215, while based in southern France, Dominic founded the Order of Preachers dedicated to promoting morality and the expulsion of heresy. The group that became known as the Dominicans followed a Rule of Life that featured a strict routine of discipline, including prayer and penance. They also established a system of education and traveled throughout Spain and France preaching and fighting against heretics. He received a vision from the Blessed Virgin who showed him a wreath of roses. She told him to say the rosary daily and teach it to all who would listen.

St. Dominic died in 1221, culminating a life of humility and charity. His feast day falls on August 8.





## Loaves and Water

The miracles of the multiplication of the loaves, when the Lord says the blessing, breaks and distributes the loaves through his disciples to feed the multitude, prefigure the superabundance of this unique bread of his Eucharist. The sign of water turned into wine at Cana already announces the Hour of Jesus' glorification. It makes manifest the fulfillment of the wedding feast in the Father's kingdom, where the faithful will drink the new wine that has become the Blood of Christ.

The first announcement of the Eucharist divided the disciples, just as the announcement of the Passion scandalized them: *"This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?"* The Eucharist and the Cross are stumbling blocks. It is the same mystery and it never ceases to be an occasion of division. *"Will you also go away?"*: the Lord's question echoes through the ages, as a loving invitation to discover that only he has *"the words of eternal life"* and that to receive in faith the gift of his Eucharist is to receive the Lord himself.

~ CCC, 1335-1336

### Bread - Cont'd from Page 1

*ness, or peril, or sword?  
No, in all these things we  
are more than conquerors  
through him who loved us.  
For I am sure that neither  
death, nor life, nor angels,  
nor principalities, nor  
things present, nor things  
to come, nor powers, nor  
height, nor depth, nor any-  
thing else in all creation,  
will be able to separate us  
from the love of God in  
Christ Jesus our  
Lord."* (Rom 8:35, 37-39)

The presence of Christ and his gospel makes a desert not only tolerable but desirable. The story on how the little supply of bread was increased by Christ's miraculous power until everyone was satisfied focuses us back to trusting him and relying on him. As we seek the welfare of our neighbors' souls, we should also have compassion on their bodies. As we share the word of God, we also need to share His love by looking after their basic needs like food, shelter and clothing. This is what Jesus is asking. *"Amen I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me."* (Mt

25:40)

Just as Jesus Christ generously provided, we can pray to make this our goal. As His followers, we are called to share our time, talents and resources. Let us always remember to pray for eyes and hearts that are open to the needs of those around us. Let us look at this miracle, the symbol of the Bread of Life who came down from heaven to sustain our dying souls, as our example of how Christ gave himself up as the sacrificial provision. The cost of Christ's gospel message satisfy all who are in him both spiritually and physically. This generous example of Jesus is ours to follow.

Just like how the soul that is in Christ cleaves to Christ when all is lost, so must we. We go back to him. We heed him. He abounds in forgiveness and love. Let us trust him. We will never lack. He is faithful to what He has promised, *"Heed me, and you shall eat well, you shall delight in rich fare."* (Is 55:2b)

## God's Blessings

### Birthday

Inday Jalamana	8/1	Dritz Mance	8/3
Art Butulan	8/1	Gina Ramos	8/3
Grace Antona	8/2	Eric Mance	8/4
Krisnan Delacruz	8/2	Connie Mendoza	8/6

### Anniversary

Herman & Letty Butay	8/1
Edie & Dulce Danieleles	8/6

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Toms River, NJ 08754

### The Lord's Provision

**July 24, 2020**

Mail-in : \$500.00  
Paypal : \$0.00

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

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*The hand of the Lord feeds us;  
He answers all our needs.*

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