

This Sunday's *Counsel*

THEME: Our lives are transformed when we use the spiritual gifts to serve the body of Christ.

PROMISE:
"The Holy Spirit... will teach you everything that I told you." (Jn 14:26)

WORD: Acts 2:1-11/
Ps 104:1, 24, 29,
30, 31,34/ 1Cor
12:3B-7, 12-13/ Jn
20:19-23

ORDER:
• "Receive the Holy Spirit." (John 20:22)

DIRECTIONS:

- Invoke the Holy Spirit in everything that you do.
- Be a good steward of the gifts given to you by the Holy Spirit.
- Share your gifts with one another to build up the community and the church.
- Be active and be fruitful in serving God through your ministries.



BLD Trenton



Community News

Volume 19, Issue 23

<http://bldtrenton.com>

June 7, 2019

Open In Spirit To God

REFLECTION: As we celebrate Pentecost, we are again reminded of the fulfillment of Jesus' promise of an advocate when the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles. Just like the Apostles, we went through our own individual experiences of the same life-changing encounter and were blessed, and continue to be blessed, with spiritual gifts. We, in the BLD community, are encouraged to live and lead a life in the Holy Spirit. Its presence in our lives enables and empowers us to use our spiritual gifts in serving the body of Christ towards our own transformation.

This Sunday's readings speak to us about what the Holy Spirit brings. It gives us the opportunity to reflect on what we need to do to make Pentecost a reality in our lives: receive the Holy Spirit. Yes, as simple as that. Receiving the Holy Spirit is allowing God to reside in us, to be one with Him, to be in union with Him. Being one with Him is to be aligned with Him in heart, mind, body and spirit; all in one accord. In our community, the Holy Spirit bonds our differences and holds us together. It fills us with wisdom to understand each other, patience to forgive each other and love to be kind to one another. Though we have different ideas or ways of doing things, different roles and different ministries, the Holy Spirit guides each one of us to be united in our goal – to serve and give glory to God. Receiving the Holy



Spirit is opening ourselves to the spiritual gifts and possessing selfless humility and service in sharing these gifts with one another, with our family, with our ministries to build up our community. We should remain in the Holy Spirit and never tire in our prayers for these spiritual gifts. Receiving the Holy Spirit is claiming God's peace. Trusting Him in everything that we do. That He will be the One facing our challenges and difficulties. That He will bind all divisions. That He will quiet all our anxieties and fears. That He will be present in us, will equip us, and continue to bless the work of our hands as we serve in our community.

We, as individuals in our community, need to have a renewed demeanor and discipline to exercise total reliance in the Holy Spirit, in Jesus, in God. We should be

Open Spirit—See Page 2

Know Your Saints

Saint Anthony: Finder of the Lost

A native of Lisbon, Portugal, Anthony was just a child when he decided to devote his life to serving God. At age fifteen he became an Augustinian brother, giving up a future of wealth and power, and later entered the Franciscan Order to preach to the Moors but was prevented by an illness.

The call of God came again at an ordination where no one was prepared to speak. The years of searching for Jesus in prayer, of reading sacred Scripture and of serving him in poverty, chastity, and obedience had prepared Anthony to allow the Spirit to use his talents. Anthony's sermon was astounding to those who expected an unprepared speech and knew not the Spirit's power to give people words.

Recognized as a great man of prayer and a great Scripture and theology scholar, he became the first friar to teach theology to the other friars based in the city of Padua, Italy. In the spring of 1231 Anthony withdrew to a friary at Camposampiero where he had a sort of treehouse built as a hermitage. There he prayed and prepared for death. He died young at the age of 35 and was canonized less than a year later.

Saint Anthony is credited with many miracles involving lost people, lost things and even lost spiritual goods. He was named a Doctor of the Church in 1946 and his feast day falls on June 13th.



Teaching Schedule

Jun 8 - ME 19 - Christian Service & Christian Discernment
Jun 22 - ME 20 - Making of the Gospels, Matthew & Mark

Save the Date

Jun 29 : "Summer to Remember"
 Venue : Jumping Brook Country Club Neptune, NJ
Jul 5-7 : Family Encounter
 Venue : Executive Suites Carteret, NJ
Aug 10-11 : Marriage Encounter
 Venue : Murray Grove Center Lanoka Harbor, NJ

Marshalls

Jun 7 - Roy Rubiato & George Pe
Jun 14 - Eric Bustamante & Eric Mecenas

Give thanks with a grateful heart!
BLD-Trenton Anniversary
Thanksgiving Mass

God's Blessings Birthday

Cece Ortiz	6/9	Liño Alcasid	6/11
Luz Agustin	6/10	Lani Fincalero	6/11
Annabel Poblete	6/10	Aida Odejar	6/11
Arlene Tan	6/10	Joseph Ortiz	6/11
Liberty Baliscao	6/12		

Anniversary

Mark & Lila Senter	6/8
Dennis & Jasmin Zulueta	6/8
Jean & Patricia DeJean	6/12
Rolly & Lota Salomia	6/12

Doubt and Faith

Excerpt from the book, *"Anna and the Exodus Moon & Other Stories"*
 by: Gene P. Del Carmen

Conclusion

I continue to remain puzzled as to why it took so long for the clergy abuse scandal to come to light. Blame falls squarely on the church superiors who allowed it to go on by reassigning offenders to other locations where they continued to abuse other children. The important concern is that this dark chapter of church history is now being watched vigilantly. I commend the courageous, tenacious journalists who were determined to expose it. The children victims have endured very early trauma. My term paper research gathered that some who were unable to bear the shame and mental conflicts committed suicide. Some tried to cope with substance abuse. Some who became parents had abused their children. The abuse continues, and we don't know for how long. I request that we pray for them. May they receive just restitution in whatever form.

I chose to write this subject mainly for those of us who are currently questioning. I don't think I can write enough choice words for those who are set in their views and prefer to live as nonbelievers. Just the same, I wish nonbelievers all the best. But if per-

sonal pain and doubt were the reasons you left your faith, I believe I have attempted to cover this subject. As you can see, you are not alone in your fence-sitting quandary. Your God knows it. I know God is patient enough to wait, like the forty years that God waited for Mother Teresa's prolonged period of doubt. God knows that whenever you come back into your faith again, yours will be of a much higher, finer grade. I suggest that you constantly count your blessings and your tragedies as well. There is usually a lovely rainbow behind the darkest of clouds, if we can just allow ourselves to learn and keep the precious, cherished lessons they bring. You will then agree with the Reverend Paul Tillich that, truly, "doubt is one element of faith."

Note: On August 14, 2018, a grand jury in the state of Pennsylvania reported allegations of sexual abuse by three hundred Catholic priests who victimized about a thousand children in six dioceses for over seventy years. This abuse period is even longer than what I had reported based on Australian data. This Pennsylvania clergy abuse report prompted other states to launch their own investigations.

The Lord's Provision May 31, 2019

Tithes: \$1,025.00
Love Offering: \$273.00

Thank You
For Your Generosity

Open Spirit - Cont'd from Page 1

more prayerful and call on the Holy Spirit in everything that we do. We should be good stewards of the gifts given to us by the Holy Spirit. We should be active and be fruitful in serving God through our ministries. We should be what our community is called – Open in Spirit to God.

This Sunday's Counsel

THEME: Our lives are transformed when we allow the Spirit to lead us to Jesus, the Truth of the Father's love.

PROMISE: *"He will not speak on his own, but he will speak what he hears, and will declare to you the things that are coming."* (Jn 16:13b)

WORD: Prv 8:22-31/Ps 8:4-9/ Rom 5:1-5/ Jn 16:12-15

ORDER: *"Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you to all truth."* (Jn 16:13a)

DIRECTIONS:

- Invoke the Holy Spirit in all that you do.
- Allow the Holy Spirit to work in us.
- Share the gifts of the Holy Spirit through serving one another and the larger community.



BLD Trenton



Community News

Volume 19, Issue 24

<http://bldtrenton.com>

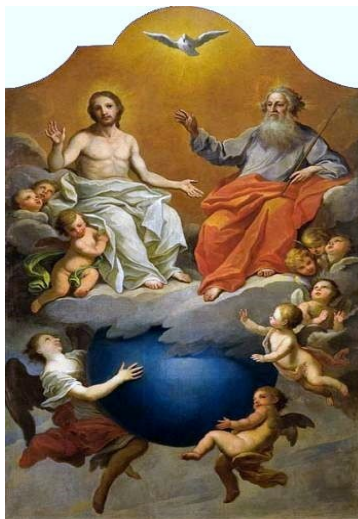
June 14, 2019

Responding To The Trinity

REFLECTION: The mystery of the Trinity teaches us that God is love. It is a love triangle like no other. It is the perfect love triangle between God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. The Holy Trinity is an infinite love that calls us to be transformed, to be like Christ and become heirs of His Kingdom in all eternity. How do we respond to this mystery?

In life we have good things and challenges. We have hurdles. But through this affliction, through our trials, we build endurance. This endurance builds character and discipline within us. Underlying all of this is hope, that God's Spirit will be with us to remind us of His truth and love. We have hope in God's promise, that the Holy Spirit, God's Spirit that has been poured out into our hearts, will lead to transform and save us.

As followers of Christ, we are called to be transformed so as to be worthy of our calling. Our mission is to love and serve our one true God with all our heart, mind and soul; to proclaim the Gospel and bring more souls to God. But we will not be able to accomplish this without the help of the



Holy Spirit. We need to allow and let the Holy Spirit lead us. We are to pray and soak ourselves with the Word of God. We are to open our hearts and let the Holy Spirit teach us how to listen to the Father, as He imparts to us the Truth in a way we can receive. We are to obey when He shows us to apply biblical principles in our lives. St. Paul instructs us to *"live by the Spirit, and you will certainly not gratify the desire of the flesh,"* (Gal 5:16).

The Holy Spirit empowers us to resist sin and obey God. He also helps us understand Scripture and enable us to fellowship with the Lord. His advice will never contradict the Word of God. We need to trust Him, He sees the depths of our difficulties. He will comfort us and will give us the wisdom that we need. He also guarantees that our tribulations are not in vain but will build us up in faith if we respond to Him in obedience. The Holy Spirit will never lead us astray and will lead us to the path ahead much better than we do. He will be our guide in every decision we make for our community, or in the different ministries where we serve.

Trinity—See Page 2

Tending the Flock

Human Life: A Trinitarian Gift

In his general audience address on June 7, 2000, Pope John Paul II discussed the presence of the Holy Trinity at the beginning of human life.

The effective presence of God, the **Father**, the Pope said, is already revealed at the beginning of every person's life and then expands throughout his days. In support of this reality, he cited Psalm 139 in this way: *"Truly you have formed my inmost being; you knit me in my mother's womb... Nor was my frame unknown to you when I was made in secret, when I was fashioned in the depths of the earth. Your eyes beheld my unformed substance (golmi); in your book they are all written; my days were limited before one of them existed"* (vv. 13, 15-16).

Further, the Pontiff explained: "The **Son** is also present at the Father's side as we come into existence, he who took on our own flesh (cf. Jn 1:14) to the point that he could be touched by our hands, be heard with our ears and be seen and looked upon with our eyes (cf. 1 Jn 1:1). Indeed, Paul reminds us that *'there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist'* (1 Cor 8:6). Every living creature, then, is also entrusted to the breath of God's **Spirit**, as the Psalmist sings: *'When you send forth your Spirit, they are created'* (Ps 104:30). In the light of the New Testament, we can read these words as foretelling the Third Person of the Most Holy Trinity. Therefore, at the source of our life there is a Trinitarian intervention of love and blessing."



Teaching Schedule

Aug 10 - Shepherds Training 2
for Discipling Candidates

Save the Date

Jun 29 : "Summer to Remember"
Venue : Jumping Brook Country Club
Neptune, NJ

Jul 5-7 : Family Encounter
Venue : Executive Suites
Carteret, NJ

Aug 10-11 : Marriage Encounter
Venue : Murray Grove Center
Lanoka Harbor, NJ

Rosary Leaders, Prayer Warriors & Proclaimers

Art & Cherry Butulan, Alfred & Aissa Panganiban

Marshalls

Jun 14 - Eric Bustamante & Eric Mecenas
Jun 21 - Art Monta & Raul Caragay

The Lord's Provision June 7, 2019

Tithes: \$900.00 Love Offering: \$392.00

Thank You For Your Generosity

God's Blessings Birthday

Erwin Bustamante 6/14 Jo Perez 6/19
Kiko Torralba 6/14 Aldrene Butulan 6/19
Teena Janolo 6/17 Chie Del Pilar 6/19

Anniversary

Eric & Jedy Bustamante 6/8
Jho-Jho & Mey Alabastro 6/14
Bill & Camille Colon 6/15
Jun & Lani Fincalero 6/15
Sonny & Raquel Adame 6/17
George & Argie Pe 6/17
Oliver & Delia Cuasay 6/18
Drew & Melba Allen 6/20
Art & Cherry Butulan 6/20



Trinity - Continued from Page 1

We need to allow the Spirit to work in us and through us, for we cannot do anything and we are nothing apart from Him. *"I have the strength for everything through Him who empowers me"* (Phil 4:13).

Brothers and sisters, if we rely on His guidance and empowerment, rather than our own ability, He will enable us to be TRANSFORMED, and have a life that is pleasing to Christ. We become the BEST version of ourselves. We will see changes in the way we see and act on things. We will reflect God's character in every way: in spirit, in our approach, in our nature, our attitude towards life and in how we express our love for others. And as we allow the Spirit to control our lives, we will manifest observable behaviors which are its fruits. As St. Paul said: *"the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such there is no law,"* (Gal 5:22-23).

We Need This To Know God

How can we know God personally and grow in our understanding of his wisdom, truth, and love for us? Jesus made a claim which only God can make - he knows all things - the present and the past, as well as the future. Jesus not only claims to speak the truth, he calls himself the very source of truth when he proclaims that *he is the way, the truth and the life* (Jn 14:6). Now Jesus promises to send his disciples the Spirit of truth who will guide them in understanding all that Jesus came to say and do! Jesus tells his disciples that it is the role of the Holy Spirit to reveal what is true. It is through the gift and working of the Holy Spirit, who enlightens our hearts and minds, that we come to understand that the Godhead is a trinity of persons - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

The mission of Jesus and of the Holy Spirit is the same - to reveal the glory of God and to share that glory with us by uniting us in a community of love with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. That is why Jesus tells his disciples that the Spirit will reveal the glory of the Father and the Son and will speak what is true. Before his Passover, Jesus revealed the Holy Spirit as the 'Paraclete' and Helper who will be with Jesus' disciples to teach and guide them *"into all the truth"* (Jn 14:17,26; 16:13). The ultimate end, the purpose for which God created us, is the entry of God's creatures into the perfect unity of the blessed Trinity. In baptism we are called to share in the life of the Holy Trinity here on earth in faith and after death in eternal light.

How can we personally know the Father and his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ? It is the Holy Spirit who reveals the Father and the Son to us and who gives us the gift of faith to know and understand the truth of God's word. Through the Holy Spirit, we proclaim our ancient faith in the saving death and resurrection of Jesus Christ until he comes again. The Lord gives us his Holy Spirit as our divine Teacher and Helper that we may grow in the knowledge and wisdom of God. Do you seek the wisdom that comes from above and do you eagerly listen to God's word and obey it?

Adapted from dailyscripture.servantsoftheword.org

This Sunday's Counsel

THEME: Our lives are transformed when we partake of the Eucharist and share Christ with one another.

PROMISE: *"They ate and were satisfied."* (Lk 9:17a)

WORD: Gn 14:18-20/ Ps 110:1-4/ 1Cor 11:23-26/Lk 9:11-17

ORDER: "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." (1 Cor 11:24)

DIRECTIONS:

- Partake of the Holy Eucharist regularly.
- Make sacrifices for the Lord through ministry work.
- Make changes to be Christ-like.



BLD Trenton



Community News

Volume 19, Issue 25

<http://bldtrenton.com>

June 21, 2019

Our Wonder Bread

REFLECTION:

This Sunday we celebrate the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. It is a reminder of the sacrifices Jesus made for our sake. The Holy Eucharist does not merely represent or symbolize Christ but it is Christ and we Catholics have a firm belief in the real and permanent presence of Christ in the Eucharist. So it is no ordinary bread, rather it is a wonder bread.

The Bread of Life, as the Eucharist is called does wonders for us. It gives us eternal life, cleanses our soul, makes us one with Christ. It transforms us and gives us a new life. Our transformation in the Eucharist is not an instant happening. It's not like we receive the Eucharist and we are immediately transformed. For the Eucharist to effectively nourish our soul, body, and spirit we must have a desire to change and be ready to fulfill our part of the covenant. This requires our faith, commitment, and loyalty. Without faith the



new covenant will fail and will not produce fruit.

In a covenant, sacrifice is not a one way street. As Jesus shed his blood for us, we too must shed our own blood in sacrifice to continue to bring about changes. To truly be transformed we must make every effort to sacrifice for Christ, like serving in the different Min-

istries in a community or in a parish. This must not be done sort of casually but we should serve wholeheartedly, with complete dedication to our cause, and with total commitment.

Nourishment by the Eucharist does not happen by frequently eating the body and drinking the blood of Jesus alone. The effectiveness of the Eucharist does not depend on the number of times we receive it but it depends on how we allow our lives to be changed by it. It may be difficult to see Christ in the bread that we eat at the communion table, but what matters is that people see Christ in us after communion.

Know Your Saints

Saint Thomas More: Patron of Lawyers

Sir Thomas More was an English poet, writer and lawyer who held many political positions in the early 1500s. At the peak of his career, he was appointed Lord Chancellor of England by King Henry VIII, a position that was second in power only to the king. Twice married, and a widower, he was a father to a son and three daughters, and a devoted family man.

The novel *Utopia*, a socio-political satire that theorized about how things should be in a fictional new island, is his most famous work. He was also known as "a man for all seasons" due to his wide scholarship and depth of knowledge.

In 1532, King Henry VIII wanted to divorce his queen. Sir Thomas More warned that the Church forbade such an act but the king did not listen and instead declared himself head of his own church, the Church of England. In disagreement, the future saint resigned as Lord Chancellor and despite compulsion refused to swear the Oath of Supremacy to the new church. A furious Henry had Thomas thrown into prison.

On July 6, 1535, Sir Thomas More was beheaded because he would not bend his religious beliefs to the king's political needs. As he awaited his death, he said: *"I am the king's good servant, but God's first."* His head was parboiled and exposed on London Bridge for a month as a warning to other "traitors".

Saint Thomas More was canonized in 1935 by Pope Pius XI and his feast day is celebrated every 22nd of June. He is widely known as a patron of lawyers, civil servants, and politicians.



Teaching Schedule

Aug 10 - Shepherd's Training 2
for Discipling Candidates

Save the Date

Jun 29 : "Summer to Remember"
Venue : Jumping Brook Country Club
Neptune, NJ

Jul 5-7 : Family Encounter
Venue : Executive Suites
Carteret, NJ

Aug 10-11 : Marriage Encounter
Venue : Murray Grove Center
Lanoka Harbor, NJ

Rosary Leaders, Prayer Warriors & Proclaimers

Marshalls

Jun 21 - Art Monta & Raul Caragay
Jun 28 - Toti Lukban & Al Guerrero
Jul 5 - Cesar Angeles & Jomar Janolo

The Lord's Provision June 14, 2019

Tithes: Love Offering:
Thank You For Your Generosity

When God gives, He gives abundantly. He knows our needs and gives us more than what we need so that we may share with others, especially to the poor and the needy. In community, we are encouraged to share our time, talent and treasure so that we may be able to fulfill our mission work. But, how are we behaving with regards to sharing? How often do we have to make excuses, like - 'I don't even earn enough to feed my family, how can I be expected to give?' 'I am busy with work, how can I offer my services in community?' 'Being a leader is burdensome, it is just taking a lot of my time and energy!' Are we like the apostles who did not care about the welfare of others?

In the story of the multiplication of the loaves, the miracle happened because everyone shared the little of what they had. Our financial resources, talents and even our holiness are clearly inadequate to meet the needs of our district. But the word of God tells us to offer our very

ourselves, our resources, our time and talent in promoting God's kingdom, and our Lord, will take care in multiplying them. Many times in our LSS and Encounter Programs we are anxious about meeting all the provisions needed, only to find out later that everything was covered and even had unexpected surplus. Actually, the only requirement that



God asks us is to share whatever we have with love and put our complete trust in His generosity and provisions. Indeed, all undertakings in the district communities will be carried through with success if each member of the community unselfishly offer their part and share their blessings for the greater glory of God. For sure, we will always witness a miracle of multiplication and transformation.

This is also the miracle story of the Holy Eucharist. In the Eucharist, we bring the ordinary work of our hands and join this offering

God's Blessings Birthday

Jojo Dominguez	6/21	Mary Henney	6/23
Cherry Butulan	6/22	Janis Carvajal	6/24
Robert Raymundo	6/22	Arlene Carvajal	6/24
Jocelyn Rodriguez	6/22	Keith Rodriguez	6/25
Lilia Senter	6/22	Kimberly Quiambao	6/25
Joel Bermudo	6/23	Elizabeth Cintron	6/26
Mey Alabastro	6/23	Ariel Mazo	6/26
Tina Quiambao	6/26		

Anniversary

Ernie & Nelia Doropan	6/24
Alex & Dette Santos	6/24
Archie & Kagot Arigator	6/25
Popong & Mary Anne Arias	6/26



What is God's plan in our married life?

An Invitation to a
Marriage Encounter Weekend
August 10-11, 2019
Murray Grove Retreat & Renewal Center
431 Route 9 at Church Lane
Lanoka Harbor, NJ 08734



Sharing Christ In The Eucharist

with our very ordinary lives. In the invocation of the Spirit and Word of God by the priest, bread and wine are transubstantiated into the Body and Blood of Christ, the Bread of Life and Cup of Salvation. We offer to God the works of our hands and our broken humanity and He transforms them into perfect humanity and life, giving us the Divine.

Receiving the Eucharist means letting oneself be transformed by what is received. Pope Francis has emphasized this - "Every time we take Communion, we resemble Jesus more, increasingly being transformed in Jesus and stripping away ones selfishness by uniting oneself closer with Christ." Just as the bread and wine are turned into the real Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, so too are we who received the gift; our lives are transformed as we partake the Eucharist and be able to share Christ with one another. As Jesus feeds us with His own flesh and blood, we are empowered and are assured of this promise - "They ate and were satisfied," (Lk 9:17a).

Adapted from www.bldworld.org

This Sunday's *Counsel*

THEME: Our lives are transformed when we commit wholeheartedly to follow Christ.

PROMISE: "You will show me the path of life, fullness of joy in your presence, the delights at your right hand forever." (Ps 16:11)

WORD: 1Kgs 19:16, 19-21/ Ps 16:1, 2, 5, 7-11/ Gal 5:1, 13-18/ Lk 9:51-62

ORDER:

- "Follow me." (Lk 9:59a)
- "Live by the Spirit." (Gal 5:16a)

DIRECTIONS:

- Serve one another through the love of Christ.
- Humbly offer to serve the Community without counting the cost.
- Allow the Holy Spirit to guide and lead you in all your works.



BLD Trenton



Community News

Volume 19, Issue 26

<http://bldtrenton.com>

June 28, 2019

A Call To Self-Surrender

REFLECTION: Our Lord Jesus has a way of letting us in and He let us know right away. On His way to Jerusalem someone said to Him "I will follow you wherever, you go." Jesus answered him, "Foxes have dens and birds of the sky have nest, but the Son of Man has nowhere to rest His head."



Our zeal to be in the winning side of Jesus has led us to this Community. In spite of all our imperfections Jesus has accepted us. He accepted each one of us and spells out very clearly what is involved in following Him. He made known to us the difficulties of following Him. The fact that Jesus has 'nowhere to rest His head' does not mean that each of us is called to live a life of poverty or forsake family and friends. But we should be willing to forsake all, to give up everything that stands in the way of following Christ wholeheartedly. Jesus wants us to understand the cost of following Him. He knows the sacrifices we have to make in our work, family and social obligations. But He challenges us to trust Him and understand His way just as He has sacrificed His life for all of us!

Each one of us knows how difficult it is to say goodbye or detach ourselves from the

things of this world. But in the end, the heart that loves Christ, will dispose of that competing love, despite the very real pain and anguish of doing so. We are like "the merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, He goes and sells all he has and buys it," (Mt 13:45-46).

And to another Jesus said, "Follow me"...and he replied "I will follow you...but..." How often do we find ourselves in the same scenario. We might have shown at one point or another when called upon, we held back, and a light flickers in our mind with conditions...and hesitated to accept and serve because of work, social and family concerns. Our thoughts wonder how can I serve God and at the same time serve my family? And a battle of priorities comes into mind and now we are confronted with a choice, either to serve for earthly glory or to serve and follow God for eternal glory! A very difficult choice when we are constantly bombarded with the 'stream of materialism'. It would seem that the Lord is asking for too much. Not so...but the evil that is presented makes it difficult to 'follow'. But Christ has taught us the cost of following

Self-Surrender —See Page 2

FUN FACTS OF OUR FAITH

The Sign of the Cross

Since the founding of the Church, this has been the most common type of prayer. It was the favorite devotion among the early Christians as it required no special knowledge or skill—only one working finger is needed. Martyrs made the Sign on their way to their death. But why do we do it and what does it mean?

St. Francis de Sales explained the practice thus: "We raise the hand first to the forehead, saying, 'In the name of the Father,' to signify that the Father is the first person of the Most Holy Trinity, of whom the Son is begotten and from whom the Holy Spirit proceeds. Then saying, 'And the Son,' the hand is lowered to the breast, to express that the Son proceeds from the Father, who sent him down to the womb of the Virgin. Then the hand is moved from the left shoulder or side to the right, while saying, 'and of the Holy Spirit,' thereby signifying that the Holy Spirit, as the third person of the Holy Trinity, proceeds from the Father and the Son, that he is the love that unites both, and that we, through his grace, partake of the fruits of the passion. Accordingly the Sign of the Cross is a brief declaration of our faith in the three great mysteries: of our faith in the Blessed Trinity, in the passion of Christ, and in the forgiveness of sin, by which we pass from the left side of curse to the right side of blessing."



Teaching Schedule

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Save the Date

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Rosary Leaders, Prayer Warriors & Proclaimers

Marshalls

Jun 28 - Toti Lukban & Al Guerrero
Jul 5 - Cesar Angeles & Jomar Janolo

The Lord's Provision June 21, 2019

Tithes: \$.00 Love Offering: \$.00

Thank You For Your Generosity

Self-Surrender - *Cont'd from Page 1*

Him. Let us not take our focus from our great provider. Let us not look back and equate the sacrifices we made. Let us instead move forward with Jesus. He has done far greater sacrifices we could ever imagine! Look at the Cross! So stand firm and submit not to the 'yoke of slavery'. For by His grace God give us the freedom 'to serve one another through the love of Christ.'

Following Christ calls for a radical self-surrender, we are called to surrender our life to the control of Christ, a total submission that draw us into a deeper relationship with Him and a greater measure of freedom. It is a call to surrender our life to the control of the Holy Spirit, to be guided and led by the Spirit, that the only impulses in our life will be those of love given by the Holy Spirit. It is a call to surrender our life to the guidance of the Gospel, to soak ourselves in the Word of God to which the knowledge of God's love will bring us even closer and bring forth a deeper commitment to serve Him and above all put God before everything else, *"for surely God will show us the path of life, abounding in joy in His presence!"*

Jesus' heart of love and compassion is most clearly revealed in the way he sought out sinners and outcasts of society. No one was excluded from his gracious presence unless they chose to stay away out of jealousy or mistrust. The scribes and Pharisees took great offense at Jesus because he freely associated with sinners and treated them graciously. The Pharisees had strict regulations about how they were to keep away from sinners, lest they incur defilement. They were not to entrust money to them or have any business dealings with them, nor trust them with a secret, nor entrust orphans to their care, nor accompany them on a journey, nor give their daughter in marriage to any of their sons, nor invite them as guests or be their guests. They were shocked with the way in which Jesus freely received sinners and ate with them. Sinners, nonetheless, were drawn to Jesus to hear him speak about the mercy of God. Jesus characteristically answered the Pharisees' charge with a parable or lesson drawn from everyday life.

What does Jesus' story about a lost sheep tell us about God and his

God's Blessings **Birthday**

Estela Bermudo	6/28	Agnes Palecki	7/1
Ashley Valeriano	6/29	Amor Japitana	7/2
Dominic Balcon	7/1	Linda Mijares	7/4

Anniversary

Patrick & Glenda Calugay	6/28
Andre & Andrea Apostol	6/29
Jaime & Loring Pascua	6/30
Allan & Maria Diaz	7/2
Dennis & Jaine Buenafe	7/2
Dada & Janette Alberto	7/3



What is God's plan in our married life?

An Invitation to a
Marriage
Encounter
Weekend

August 10-11, 2019

Murray Grove Retreat & Renewal Center

431 Route 9 at Church Lane
Lanoka Harbor, NJ 08734



Help Wanted: Sinners

kingdom? Shepherds normally counted their sheep at the end of the day to make sure all were accounted for. Since sheep by their very nature are very social, an isolated sheep can quickly become bewildered and even neurotic. The shepherd's grief and anxiety is turned to joy when he finds the lost sheep and restores it to the fold. The shepherd searches until what he has lost is found. His persistence pays off. He instinctively shares his joy with the whole community. The poor are particularly good at sharing in one another's sorrows and joys. What was new in Jesus' teaching was the insistence that sinners must be sought out and not merely mourned for. God does not rejoice in the loss of anyone, but desires that all be saved and restored to fellowship with him. That is why the whole community of heaven rejoices when one sinner is found and restored to fellowship with God. Seekers of the lost are much needed today. Do you persistently pray and seek after those you know who have lost their way to God?

Adapted from www.dailyscripture.servantsoftheword.org