



# COVENANT NEWS

BUKÁS-LOÓB SA DIYÓS COVENANT COMMUNITY • ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK

Volume 15 Issue 32

Bulletin Edition

Aug. 14, 2009

## "Pick Up and Embrace Your Cross"

BLD Spiritual Director Archbishop Angel Lagdameo's visit to BLD Newark was graced by our DCS and DSL's fellowship in the afternoon and concluded with the Eucharistic Celebration held at St. Helen's Church in Westfield on August 7, 2009. Several Priests and Deacons concelebrated with Archbishop Lagdameo. The Archbishop's homily encouraged the congregation to **"pick up & embrace your cross and follow our Lord Jesus Christ"**. There were approximately 600 attendees from BLD Newark, Long Island, Rockland, North Carolina, Trenton and Rockville, family and guests.

The community was doubly blessed with the anointing of:

### Newly committed disciples from ME 30:

Elmer & Weng Agupito, Cy & Mavil Loreto, Frank & Tess Mercado, Del & Rey Munsod, Divina & Ronald Pangilinan, Danny & Mary Anne Sta Ana, Teddy & Sharon Acero, Ellen & Geraldo Mendoza, Ray & Esther Labong, Ramon & Zita Lopez.

### Appointed Ministry Coordinators who were anointed as new DLC members of Newark:

|                           |                      |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Bong & Blandie Montemayor | - Discipling         |
| Joey & Jemma Reyes        | - Life in the Spirit |
|                           | Apostolate           |
| Nelson & Noemi Ilagan     | - Mark 10            |
| Frank & Malou Venadas     | - Parish Service     |
| Bebot & Grace Baquilod    | - Praise             |
| Fil & Hum Flores          | - Secretariat        |
| Chito & Aileen Ciocon     | - Witness / Coach    |
|                           | Development          |
| Carlito & Arlene Claricia | - Word               |

*"Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful, and enkindle in them the fire of Your love. Send forth Your Spirit, and they shall be created, and You shall renew the face of the earth."*

For Mass & Adoration schedule within the U.S.A.

[www.masstimes.org](http://www.masstimes.org)

## COUNSELS

### Life in Piety

**Word:** Prv 9:1-6; Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Eph 5:15-20; Jn 6:51-58

**Theme:** Jesus leads us to eternal life when we are one with Him in the Eucharist.


**Order:** 1. ***"Do not continue in ignorance but try to understand what is the will of the Lord."*** (Eph. 5:17)

2. ***"Be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in Psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and playing to the Lord in your hearts."*** (Eph. 5:18)

### Reflection:

Piety is a life in total connection and communion with God. It is a ground work for an evolving process where Christ becomes alive in us and prepares us to become His partners in ministry, where everything that comes from us reveals that Christ lives in and empowers us!

The aim of piety is not only to become pious but to enjoy a full and open relationship with God such that His blessings flow freely and are evident in our lives and in the decisions that we make. It is a natural consequence of doing His will and living as He has instructed. It is trusting God and placing ourselves at His disposal. A life in piety is what we live when we choose a relationship with God as being our life's priority; when we say Jesus is our Lord and Savior; when we are nourished and strengthened by the Body and Blood of Jesus; when our hearts remain united with His in the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist.

St Paul's exhortation to the Ephesians, ***"do not continue in ignorance but try to understand what is the will of the Lord"***, should be meaningful (continued on page 2) 

### God's Promise for the Week

***"...the one who feeds on Me will have life because of Me."*** (Jn 6:57b)

## Counsels (from page 1)

to all as most of the problems we encounter emanate from our erroneous understanding of God's will. Our Lord is asking us not to persist in our ignorance, in our lack of courage and our inability to truly pursue His will. When we do not stand for what is right in His eyes and allow His will to be defiled by human structures and hardened hearts, we continue to be in ignorance.

It is our responsibility to be discerning and obedient to God's will. 1 Thessalonians 5:21-22 orders: ***"Examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good; abstain from every form of evil."***

Our task is to understand God's will, accept it and stand by it. The process to arrive at God's will is not by use of power, influence, reasoned discourse, and carefully plotted strategies; not even by sweet talk and moral suasion that soothes one's heart. It is not a tug-of-war within a community but authentic prayerful discernment where everyone eventually comes to a peaceful rest on a course of action. It is where everyone's wisdom and gifts of humility, reason, intuition, tradition, and religious practice are called forth until God's divine presence breaks in and lights the right path, offering guidance to all. Seeking God's will is to the light which guides our path. Seeking and understanding God's will is life-giving and helps our dreams to grow deeper roots. It guides us through delicate and contentious issues and fills our work with the persevering power and imagination of the Holy Spirit.

The greatest gift of understanding God's will leads us to the vision and mission to which we have been called. The voices we experience when we seek God and His will are quite subtle and sometimes we may never recognize the voice of God with absolute clarity. We must be careful of anyone who claims to hear God clearly and insists on it with certainty or tries to sweet talk God's people, because that person may be drunk with the spirit of pride and arrogance as St. Paul said, ***"And do not get drunk on wine, in which lies debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit"***.

Building relationships with God while seeking to understand His will can be best achieved when we allow prayer, scripture, meditation, worship, communion and spiritual direction to bring us to God. God emphasizes the importance of spiritual communion and the Holy Eucharist for it is a celebration which restores us to Him and makes us one Body with Him and His people.

Holy Communion is the truest form of Christian worship. It unites us with God as our spirit and His Spirit bear joint witness that we belong to Him as God's beloved children. Living in communion with God's Spirit will cause one to be a witness because wherever one goes and whomever one meets, God's Spirit will manifest Itself.

Moving forward let us lead prayerful lives, meditate on God's Word and take up Scripture's call to sing psalms and hymns from our hearts. Let us seek to become wise as we welcome Jesus into our hearts, becoming one with God as we come into His Presence and accept the Eucharist as our only source of holiness, wisdom and a life in piety!

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**August 15 – 8:30am -6:00pm**

**BLD Newark 17<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary Celebration**

**Community Day @ Johnson Park, Piscataway NJ**

Contact: Manny/Nette Manguiat 201-355-0439

**August 21 – 8:30– 10:30 P.M**

**BLD 17<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary Eucharistic Celebration**

St. Mary's Auditorium/Gym, Rahway, NJ

## MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### MISSION

Soup Kitchen @ Missionary of Sisters of Charity  
60 Jay Street, Newark. NJ 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month

**August 22 - ME 20**

Contacts: Roger/Pina Coquia

Mosty/Ling Garcia 908-222-0550

## TEACHINGS

**Aug. 28 Intercessory Immersion Teaching**

ME 30 & Solo Parents

**Aug. 29 Allan Cruz' Body Talk Retreat (St. Mary's)**

1-5 pm Audiences: 13 yrs and up, Singles & Adults

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Reasons to Believe -Dr. Scott Hahn Conference**

**Sept.12 - Kellenbergh H.S. Auditorium**

Admission - \$15 advance | \$20 at the door

Contact: Toti Conforti 516-385-8963 [toticon@aol.com](mailto:toticon@aol.com)

**DCS-DLC Recollection - by Fr. Paul Lehman**

**Save the Date - Sept. 19, 2009**

One heart, one mind, one body of loving service in His Vineyard

**Life Issues Seminar 2009 - Oct 3, 2009**

Queen of Peace Church, North Arlington, NJ

General Admission - \$10 | Students - \$5

Contact: Frank/Malou Venadas 973-562-0055

## Lord's Provision

Week Ending Aug. 7, 2009

|                          |                |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Weekly Budget</b>     | <b>6,121</b>   |
| <b>Expenses</b>          | <b>6,920</b>   |
| <b>Friday Collection</b> | <b>4,554*</b>  |
| <b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b> | <b>(2,366)</b> |

\* Weekly collections remain lower than the projected weekly budget and continue to be a **major concern**.

**Thank you for your continued support!**