



COVENANT NEWS

BUKÁS-LOÓB SA DIYÓS COVENANT COMMUNITY • ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK

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NEWS

March for Life: Protecting God's Future Kingdom

January 18, 2019 • BLD Newark Youth Ministry • Issa Somera

“You formed my inmost being; you knit me in my mother’s womb. I praise You, because I am wonderfully made; wonderful are your works! My very self you know.” - Ps 139:13-14

On January 18, 2019, BLD members, adults as well as those from the Youth, Singles, and Solo Parents ministries, had the opportunity to attend the March for Life, a demonstration against abortion and a movement which emphasizes dignified humanity for all life. Early in the morning, 35 volunteers from our BLD Community, some of whom were first time marchers, headed to Washington D.C. There, despite the storm warnings earlier in the week, they were met with warm 40+degree weather instead.

Once we arrived at the March, we were greeted by many other participants who walked, chanted, and stood tall for one mission: to protect God’s future Kingdom. The streets were flooded with people, who had messages and prayers for the unborn. These pro-life advocates were seeking social and legal change, most especially, a repeal of the 1973 Supreme Court ruling, Roe vs. Wade, which allowed women legal access to abortion. March for Life differs from other marches and rallies because each person who was present was not representing themselves; rather, they were speaking for those without a voice - the unborn.

We witnessed not only our BLD members, but many others from ministries and communities of all different backgrounds, burning with zeal in defense of life from the moment of conception. Joined with our brothers and sisters, Catholic and non-Catholic alike, we established a stance based on a hope for future generations. This powerful experience reminded all of us that being pro-life is not just a about participating in a march, but that it is actually an important mission. *...Continued on page 2*

COUNSELS

On the Path to the Glory of God

THEME: God’s glory is revealed when we live our faith as one body of Christ.

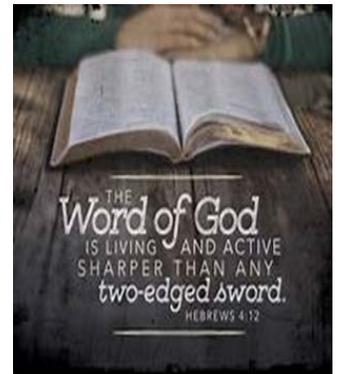
WORD : Neh 8:2-4a,5-6,8-10 ~ Ps 19:8,9,10,15
1 Cor 12:12-30 ~ Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

ORDER: *“... give greater honor to a part that is without it... have the same concern for one another.” (1 Cor 12:24,25)*

REFLECTION:

The readings for the Third Sunday of Ordinary Time are about the fulfillment of the promise. For most of us, we are aware of Jesus as the Promise. However, do we really know Him or do we just know about him? In other words, do we have a personal relationship with our beloved Jesus?

The Word of God has so much power; this power is described in Hebrews 4:12, *“Indeed, the word of God is living and effective, sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating even between soul and spirit, joints and marrow, and able to discern*



reflections and thoughts of the heart.” Salvation history took years to unfold, marked many times by our lack of understanding of the Word of God.

In our current era, there are so many ways and so many tools available to help us move forward on our journey toward holiness, so that we can have a meaningful, intimate relationship with the Lord. Our BLD Community is one of them. *...Continued on page 3*

Promise of the Week

“The decree of the Lord is trustworthy, giving wisdom to the simple.” - Ps 19:8b

March for Life: Protecting God's Future Kingdom

(from page 1)

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE, ADVOCATE AND MOTHER OF THE UNBORN, PRAY FOR US!



COUNSELS

(from page 1)

For the majority of us, if not all of us, this place has provided a safe haven, where we are enveloped by the love of God. Here, we forge ahead by earnestly making our lives part of God's glory.

But oftentimes, as we live the daily grind, our love of material possessions and our attraction to the various lures of the world tend to dampen our faith. The world teases us with a very appealing kind of happiness, but in it is a deceitful promise that ultimately does not fulfill us and eventually cracks, leading many of us into despondency. There is a need to tame our tongues, restrain our eyes and pattern our actions to resist the world's false hopes. For his part, the prince of darkness never sleeps, promoting a false perception that we are not loved by God; that due to our sins, we are not worthy of God's grace.

On the contrary, there's an assurance for us from God in the book of Nehemiah, chapter 8:9, when the people were weeping as they heard the words of the law, ***"Today is holy to the LORD your God. Do not lament, do not weep!"*** He further said: ***"Go, eat rich foods and drink sweet drinks, and allot portions to those who had nothing prepared"*** (Neh 8:10). In addition to that, the Gospel of Luke provides a straightforward and easy to comprehend passage about how Jesus fulfilled the promise written in the book of Isaiah, ***"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free."*** (Lk 4:18)

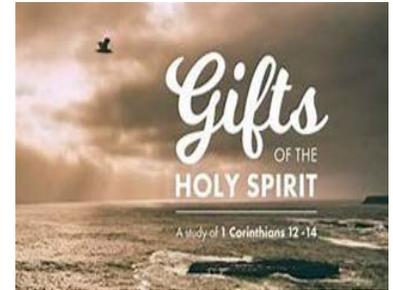


The love of God is real; so real that despite our shortcomings and our lack of awareness of the presence of God in our lives, He continues to call us to pursue the path to His Glory. In essence, the Bible speaks of God's love story, with an invitation to all of us to be part of His glory. The summit of this story is about life, eternal joy and peace, and a concrete declaration of heaven that starts here on earth. As part of the body of Christ, we ought to share the same hope and be willing to sacrifice for that hope.

The Second Reading for this Sunday provides a summary of what UNITY is all about. →→

→ It emphasizes the four pillars of the Church, that the body of Christ is ONE, HOLY, CATHOLIC and APOSTOLIC. We are all different and yet, it is through our differences that we become complete as ONE BODY. By clinging to the love of God, we become HOLY; and so despite our condition as sinners, our God offers forgiveness for us all. We partake of the Living Bread in the CATHOLIC celebration of the Eucharist, and empowered by Christ's Body, we are able to proclaim and witness to the love of God; thus we become APOSTOLIC.

The reading reminds us that we are given gifts, harmonized by the greatest gift of God - the Holy Spirit. The first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians tells us in simple terms, that no



one member of the body of Christ is better than the others based on the gifts each one has received. Gifts are given to each one of us to wholly achieve God's purpose - that of completing the mission of Christ. With open arms and thanksgiving, we carry on with the gifts that He has bestowed upon each of us, following what He intended, ***"...God has so constructed the body as to give greater honor to a part that is without it, so that there may be no division in the body, but that the parts may have the same concern for one another."*** (1 Cor 12:24-26)

In Matthew 5:13-14, Jesus said that we are ***"the salt of the earth"*** and ***"the light of the world."*** We all must preserve these Christian characteristics so that our light can shine before others, so that they would see our good deeds and join us in glorifying our heavenly Father. Jesus promised us an Advocate, the Paraclete, the Holy Spirit, so that we may be fully equipped to fully embrace the Word of God. As we pursue a Christian life, let us not forget to conduct ourselves with a fear of the Lord. Let us accept our nothingness so that we can humbly run to Him and His Word, because His Word is Spirit and Life. Let us embark upon the path that ultimately leads us onward to the glory of God.

Directions:

1. Celebrate each other's joy and bear one another's burdens.
2. Express appreciation for the services offered by brethren in the Community.
3. Exercise fraternal correction in a loving manner.

MY UNBORN FRIEND

God bless you, my little unborn friend
 Whose helpless spirit we've sought to defend.
 Your coming was meant to be a Godsend
 But your going has caused us
 to be saddened.

I pray...
 That every mother's heart be softened
 for on them babies have to depend;
 That every baby's cry be heard and tended;
 That mothers cherish life
 and not seek their babies' end.

I pray...
 That doctors' hearts be unhardened
 because these tiniest of hearts
 belong to my precious friends.
 Always best to preserve life
 just as how it is that God intends;
 Mother's and baby's lives are there
 for doctors to care for and tend.

I pray...
 That childless couples' arms extend
 to open doors for my helpless friends,
 Who are priceless dividends
 seeking warm nests to bless and enliven.

My unborn friend,
 Your God-given life was not meant to end
 Forgive those who could have barred
 and those who have caused
 your bitter end.
 Pray for the squandered lives
 that we carelessly expend.
 Pray for innocent souls
 whose lives have now been stolen.
 Pray for the fulfillment of what God did intend
 before your precious life came to an end
 For what you might have become,
 my little unborn friend
 Now, can only be imagined.

LORD'S PROVISION PREVIOUS WEEK'S

Collections:	Last Week	YTD
Tithes	\$ 1,409	\$5,274
Love Offerings	\$ 390	\$2,100
E-Giving	\$ -	\$260
Mission	\$ 1,305	\$1,790

Financial details are available to all members through treasury@bldnewark.com
 Thank you for your continued support!

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Teaching Calendar

Teachings for Saturday, Feb 16, 1-6 pm DMP School Building

- Basic Bible Seminar (LSS 1-50 / ME 47,49,50 / SPE 20)
 CMP II, Part II (LSS 1-48 / ME 48 / SPE 19)

2000 Hail Mary's for the Med Mission – 8 am to 5 pm, Saturday, Jan 26, DMP Rm 204

BLD NEWARK MEDICAL MISSION

JOSE PANGANIBAN, CAMARINES NORTE

FEBRUARY 11 - 14, 2019

YLSS #24
 Youth Life in the Spirit Seminar
 March 1-3, 2019
 Divine Mercy Auditorium

Co-organizers:
 Mario and Carmen Orzo (732-951-2189)
 William and Maria Sumandal (732-600-3988)
 Archie and Lelet Quevada (732-910-7085)
 Email address: dyc@bldnewark.com

UNLOCKING THE MYSTERY OF THE BIBLE
 An Engaging 8-Part Study Featuring Jeff Cavins

8 Part Session starting
 Jan 28, 2019 and every Monday
 night @ 7:15 pm
 (Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25, Mar. 4, 11 & Mar 18)
 DIVINE MERCY PARISH
 232 Central Avenue, Rahway NJ 07065
 Bible study will be in the 1st Floor bldg.
 Room 104

For More Information
 Please register before Jan. 25 and
 Email: susie@divinemercuryahway.church
 or call Rectory @ 732-388-0082
 Study Facilitator: Ray and Susie Atienza
 Text or call: 908-463-0449

Marshaling	Date	Apostolate
	Feb 1	Mission
	Feb 8	Pastoral
	Feb 15	Evangelization
	Feb 22	Formation