



# COVENANT NEWS

BUKÁS-LOÓB SA DIYÓS COVENANT COMMUNITY • ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK

Volume 24 Issue 25

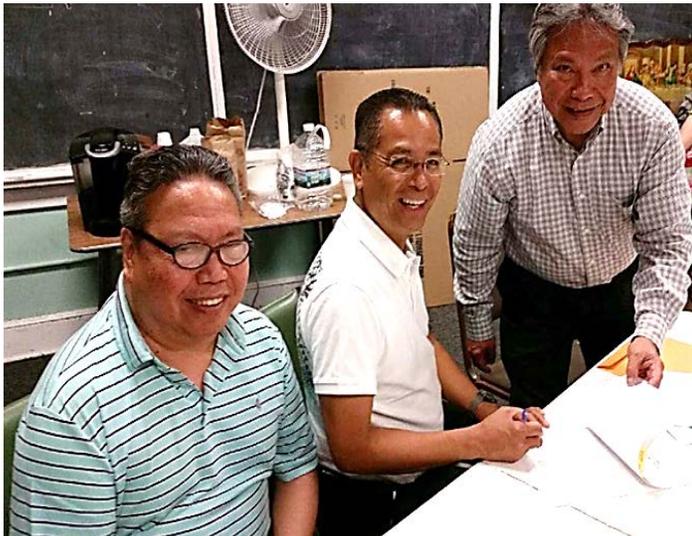
Bulletin Edition

June 29, 2018

## NEWS

### BLD Newark, Divine Mercy Parish and the Newark Archdiocese sign 10-year lease

For more than a dozen years already, BLD Newark has called Divine Mercy Parish in Rahway (formerly known as St. Mary's), as its spiritual home. Now, thanks in large part to the outgoing Apostolate Stewards (DCS), DMP Administrator, Fr. Alex Cruz and Newark Archdiocese Real Estate Manager, Boyie Huelgas, we will now continue to call DMP as our spiritual home for the next ten years.



Pictured above at the signing of the lease agreement are, from left to right, Management Steward Gerry Canlas, Fr. Alex Cruz and ME 1's Boyie Huelgas.

Prior to DMP, BLD Newark seemed to be moving the venue for its many activities, including Friday night worships, just about every two years. The reasons that prompted the relocations are varied; but since the time that the Community came to Rahway, the relationship with the Parish has proven to be mutually, very beneficial. Everyone is now exhorted even more strongly than before to please take care of this special sacred space, so that we could truly find God every time that we are there.

## COUNSELS

### Reflection for July 2018

- THEME: Unshakeable faith brings life through the spoken word of Jesus.
- WORD: Wis 1:13-15;2:23-24 ~ Ps 30:2,4,5-6,11,12,13  
2 Cor 8:7,9,13-15~ Mk 5:21-43
- ORDER: ***“Do not be afraid; just have faith.”***  
(Mk 5:36b)
- REFLECTION:

*The* Community Word for the month is: **Faith anchored on Jesus Christ is unshakeable.** This central message draws our attention to contemplate and assess the strength and steadfastness of our faith. It is our faith in God that moves His hands to do wondrous deeds. We should never take our faith for granted; rather, we must take advantage of the time given to us each day to grow spiritually. Deepening faith opens the door to the stream of blessings God wants to impart to His people. But closed hearts limit the possibilities of the magnanimous heart of God, our God Who is involved in the most intimate events of our lives. We are indeed blessed that despite our unworthiness, God grants us the gift of faith; and we must accept this gift wholeheartedly above anything else in this world. We are to defend it and make sure it is nurtured through prayer and the study of God's Word. Most importantly, God expects us to share our faith with others, and as we do, our faith becomes even stronger.

What are some effects of unshakeable faith?

On the 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time, our theme tells us: Unshakeable faith brings life through the spoken word of Jesus. The healing power of Jesus flows into the lives of people

...Continued on page 3

### *Promise of the Week*

***“...your faith has saved you. Go in peace and be cured of your affliction.”*** (Mk 5:34)

## Manila 33<sup>rd</sup> Foundation Message of Abp Angel Lagdameo

By BLD World Login / June 20, 2018 at 3:00 am



**BUKAS LOOB SA DIYOS**  
Manila District and Global Community

BUKAS LOOB SA DIYOS in its continuing journey of Faith, Hope and Love has travelled throughout the whole world, in fulfillment of the Lord's command, *"Go into the whole world and preach the Gospel."* (Mark 16:15)

33 Years! Meaningful years reminding us that our Lord redeemed the world with His sacrifice on the cross at the age of 33.

We thank the past Community Servant Leaders of BLD for the many good things they have done for the good of the Church as well as for the families of BLD. Everything starts with PRAYER: the Family that prays together stays together.

BLD has maintained unity ... through Faith, Hope and Charity. Let us keep it that way, nationally and internationally, faithful to the Community, to the Bishops and to the Holy Father Pope Francis.

**For the Greater Glory of God!**

MOST REV. ANGEL N. LAGDAMEO, D.D.

Archbishop-Emeritus of Jaro

## Solo Parents' Encounter # 20

*"And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection. And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body."* Col 3:14-15

28 single parents responded to God's call for a spiritual retreat during the latest SPE weekend, which was held June 23 – 24 at a local hotel venue. Many came with high expectations, and they were not disappointed, as for each of them, unlike any retreat they had attended before, this one became a truly personal one-on-one encounter with our Lord Jesus Christ. The themes discussed gave them a new dimension and perspective, and greater resolve in pursuing their personal relationship with Jesus.

The members of SPE 20 are (BLD Newark unless otherwise indicated):

Flor Guerzon (BLD Rockland), Jess Tomelden (BLD Rockland), Chinnu Varkey-Andrews (BLD Rockland), Steven Hines (St. Antoninus), Pru Achuo, Sophia Alexander, Marie Anana, Ingrid Bernal, Marie Boissette, Carlo Buonsanto, Lee Buonsanto, Carlos Cadavillo, Edith Caliolio, Florie De Castro, Aurelia De Guzman, Che De Mesa, Ray Ermita, Julie Handel, Fernando Limbo, Amanda Onwuka, Agripina Plasas, Nancy Rivera, Leah Silen, Marva Snaggs, Nene Teodoro, Tess Teodoro, Enjhelle Vierneza, and Shannon Ann White. Class shepherds are Mat and Precy Yap.

SPE 20 expresses its deepest gratitude to Monsignor Paul Schetelick, the sponsoring class of SPE 19, the Auxies, Praise Ministry, members of the Solo Parents Ministry and its leadership, BLD Newark and most especially to God Who loves us unconditionally, without Whom we are nothing.

To God be the glory!



Since next Wednesday is already the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, and America will celebrate its independence, given all that is happening in the world, culture and society today, seems that once again we also need this timely reminder...

## A Declaration of Dependence



I am a child of God  
Yearning for the Truth  
Yearning to be Free  
And I declare my dependence on God

Although I've struggled with this  
Thinking that it's because of me  
I now acknowledge that  
I cannot go it on my own  
Yes everything I need, He provides  
I declare my dependence on God

If I do things for myself,  
Then it's just for myself  
And will not last  
If I enrich myself with fame and money  
Clothes, cars, mansions  
Those will fade  
For none of those endure

But if it's to God that I pray to  
And Christ that I work for  
If it's for Him and others  
That I live for

When from Him I seek forgiveness  
When to Him I am grateful  
When all the things that He enables me to do  
Are inspired and powered by His Holy Spirit

Then I find Joy  
Then I realize the Truth  
That sets me Free  
Cause then, I can do anything  
I can do everything that matters...

**I declare my dependence - on God.**

## **COUNSELS**

(from page 1)

through a living dialogue of faith. His spoken word has the power to lead us to salvation and eternal life. God is always willing to heal our frail bodies, our weak souls, and even this ailing world. We just need to place our trust in His saving power. Only Jesus has the power to bestow fullness of life and, as Christians, we affirm this with our minds and hearts. We should put our trust and hope in the Lord and allow Him to heal every aspect of our lives. As we do this, we continue to hold on to His promise: "...***your faith has saved you. Go in peace and be cured of your affliction.***" (Mk 5:34)

Unshakable faith gives us wisdom to do mighty deeds, is the theme for the 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time. "***He was amazed at their lack of faith.***" (Mk 6:6) Lack of faith blocks God's hand, preventing it from performing miracles. Sometimes we fail in our mission to encourage and nurture one another; and then we might feel exasperated. But the grace of God assures us that some things can still be done. Jesus gives us the strength and provides the example for how to start the change ourselves. He showed the way to build the kingdom of God; for our God Who cares for His people, Who always seeks to bring healing, freedom and happiness. We are followers of Christ by being committed to His task of encouraging others to return to God and accept the Good News of forgiveness, justice, equality, love and peace. We need to pray for others, and with others, so that love may prevail. And our faith in Christ will equip us to become better persons; and our faith will enable us to build a caring and united community. He gives us this promise: "***My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.***" (2 Cor 12:9a)

Unshakeable faith drives us to go to mission fully dependent on God's provision, is our theme for the 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Mission is where Jesus wants us to spread the fragrance of His love. Be it a mission to evangelize His Gospel, a mission to give charity to the poor and marginalized, or simply a mission to care for our own family members. Jesus tells us not to worry about anything, but in responding to God's call, to be totally dependent on His provision and wisdom. As we do, we will find that our mission is not complicated because Jesus is always on the side of those who are rejected, ostracized and pushed to the periphery. The Lord will provide the bare essentials to succeed in our work as His missionaries. While others may be opposed to what you do, continue to love, share and shine.

...Continued on page 4

# COUNSELS

(from page 3)

Do not allow others' lack of understanding and compassion kill your joy. Help the world become more fervent in the Lord's service where people are able to do God's work among their fellow men in love and unity. Relying on divine providence, God promises us this: "The Lord himself will give his benefits; our land shall yield its increase." (cf Ps 85:13)

On the 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time, our theme is: Unshakeable faith enables us to lead others to a deeper understanding of Christ's teaching. Jesus understood the importance of rest during the course of mission work. Quiet moments of respite recharge our souls and allow God to renew His spirit in us. It is a time to gather up energy, rebuild one's strength and refresh one's mind for the next challenging phases. We also need a spiritual break, a time of being alone with Christ. Prayer enabled Jesus to continue with His work to let the people know more about God's kingdom by His teachings. With greater faith in His words, our open hearts will receive a deeper understanding and knowledge of God, empowerment to be transformed in the likeness of Christ, and truth to liberate us from deception and ignorance. Thus, this is what the Lord promises us: "***I will raise up shepherds for them ... so that they need no longer fear...***" (Jer 23:4) Let us imitate Jesus and be His under-shepherds to guide and lead others to Him.

Finally, for the 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time, our theme is: Unshakeable faith allows us to share our love and compassion with others. God's word this Sunday speaks emphatically about compassion, selflessness and constructive paths to peace. Jesus performs the miracle of the multiplication of bread to underscore the importance of compassion. The occasion may have also spurred many in the crowd to share the few resources they had with others. As we begin to give our time, talent and treasure, God will join us and share in the suffering and blessing of community. Indeed, no one is so poor as to have nothing to share, and God does wonders with what little we have when we give to others out of concern and love for them. If all of us share, even in our own little ways, then we are multiplying the bread of kindness in this uncaring world. As the Lord has promised: "***You will eat and have some left over.***" (2 Kgs 4:43b)

Directions:

- Do not allow your circumstances to sway your faith; all of God's promises are true.
- Be a living witness to your faith and lead by example.

# LORD'S PROVISION

Previous Week's

Collections:	Last Week	YTD
Tithes	\$ 1,335	\$ 31,816*
Love Offerings	\$ 448	\$ 21,982
Mission Collections	\$ 85	\$ 10,384

\* YTD amount also reflects a correction for some registration payments for the SPE that were inadvertently included as Tithes in last week's CN.

Financial details are available to all members through [treasury@bldnewark.com](mailto:treasury@bldnewark.com)  
Thank you for your continued support!

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR



### Youth Encounter #25

"Come and Follow Me..."

Please contact: [dyc@bldnewark.com](mailto:dyc@bldnewark.com)

Fellowship Deaconry  
3575 Valley Road  
Liberty Corner, NJ

July 13-15, 2018

Your family is your first church...

### Family Encounter #25

July 20-22, 2018

Malvern Retreat House  
315 South Warren Avenue  
Malvern, PA 19355

Contact Persons: Jonas and Emy Cebedo, or any of the FE 24 families

**YIDC 2018**  
Youth Inter-District Conference  
August 10-12, 2018

BLD Newark Youth Ministry  
Liebenzell Retreat House  
80 Pleasant Grove Road  
Long Valley, NJ

For questions and inquiries, please email [YIDC2018@gmail.com](mailto:YIDC2018@gmail.com)

### Community Day

"... love one another as I have loved you"

August 18, 2018  
Johnson Park, Grove 4  
Piscataway, NJ



Wear your Team Color!  
A - C Red Team  
D - G Blue Team  
H - P Green Team  
Q - Z Yellow Team

**BUKAS LOOB SADIYOS**  
OPEN IN SPIRIT TO GOD  
COVENANT COMMUNITY, ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK

PRESENTS  
**GRACE-LAND**  
DINNER DANCE  
Date: September 22, 2018

**SAVE THE DATE**

Marshaling	Schedule	Date	Apostolate
		Jul 6	Mission
		Jul 13	Pastoral
		Jul 20	Evangelization
		Jul 27	Formation