

BLD WASHINGTON



# BURÁS-LOÓB SA DIYÓS

## COVENANT COMMUNITY

SERVING THE WASHINGTON, D.C. AREA

### Counsels

#### *Servanthood*

**Theme:** We are faithful to Christ when we render unselfish service to community.

**Word:** Is. 53:10-11; Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22; Heb 4:14-16; Mk 10:35-45

**Order:** “Whoever wishes to be first among you shall be the slave of all.” (Mk 10:44)  
“Drink the cup that I drink and be baptized with the baptism I am baptized.” (Mk 10:44)

*(BLD Global Community reflection for October 2009)*

**REFLECTION:** Imagine living in a kingdom, just like in the medieval times where the people pledged their loyalty to their King. One can imagine the luxurious life the King lived, being catered to and having people kneel whenever he entered a room. The trumpets would sound and all would stop what they were doing and pay reverence. Back then, all subjects serve their king, even unto death. The king has all the power, and he owns everything.

This Sunday’s Gospel presents to us a completely different king. In the Gospel, we have our King Jesus, the Son of Man, our Prince of Peace, and the King of all Kings, who tells his disciples - “*The Son of*

*Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.”* (Mark 10:45) Can you imagine Jesus, the one true King who came down from Heaven, serving us, His people? He was a humble King who, before his passion, death, and resurrection, served with great love, compassion and humility. Just as He taught his disciples, He teaches us and shows us what the meaning of true servanthood is.

Do we ever think about what we receive when we reach out to help others? Yes, there is that warm, fuzzy feeling. We feel good about ourselves. There is nothing wrong with that, but there is a lot more that we receive. We receive God’s Grace. We are given a dose of humility. We experience how our works, in the name of Jesus, are transformed into servanthood. We want to do it again and again because we are experiencing God. At the end of our Mass, the priest tells us to go forth to love and serve the Lord. As the congregation replies, “thanks be to God,” this does not mark the end, but rather a commencement. When we leave the church, we have Jesus physically living inside us, and we are to go forth and serve others. Servanthood is not something we only do on Friday worships, LSS weekends, or Sundays at mass. It is a way of life that we must live just as Jesus did.

Our community encourages us to be good stewards. Stewardship means the best use of our talents, time, and treasures. When Jesus, who is our King, commands us to serve in Matthew 28:19 when he tells us to “Go

therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.” The King is asking us to do the best we can, to use all the gifts we received, and to develop those gifts in service to His kingdom. What can I do best? What can you do best? When we give our best, serving one another, it pleases our King and He calls us “faithful servants”. This affirms our theme for this Sunday’s readings, which states that we are faithful to Christ when we render unselfish service to the community.

As we continue to devote our time and service to the Lord through the community, we must also endure sufferings. Budgeting our time with work, family, and community life can be a challenging task. Serving our fellow brothers and sisters can be difficult as well, where sometimes we may not agree on everything and judgments are casted. These are simply the bearings of serving in an imperfect community. The Lord encourages us in Isaiah in regards to the suffering servant – “...through his suffering, my servant shall justify many, and their guilt he shall bear.” We must therefore remember our common goal in serving, to please the King. We must emulate His unique ways of serving – with love and humility.

In the Lord’s promise, we are comforted to know the fruits of our service to the Lord. As we give our lives to Him as an offering for sin, we shall see our descendants in a long life and the Lord’s will, shall be accomplished through us. We are the Lord’s hands, His instruments, and His handiwork – used to do His will in the lives of others.

Heavenly Father, I ask You to set me free from fear and pride that I may be a worthy servant with love and compassion for others. May the fire of Your love inflame my heart that I may give generously and serve joyfully for Your sake. Through my service,

may I place myself at the disposal of others by putting their interests first and by taking on their cares and concerns as if they were my own. Make me a servant O Lord, humble and meek. Make me a servant.

**God’s Promise for the Week**

***“If he gives his life as an offering for sin, he shall see his descendants in a long life, and the will of the Lord shall be accomplished through him.” (Is 53:10)***

\*\*\*\*\*

October 7

**St. Teresa of Avila**



Born at [Avila](#), Old [Castile](#), March 28, 1515; died at Alba de Tormes, October 4, 1582. Teresa lived in an age of exploration as well as political, social and religious upheaval. It was the 16th century, a time of turmoil and reform. She was born before the Protestant Reformation and died almost 20 years after the closing of the Council of Trent.

The gift of God to Teresa in and through which she became holy and left her mark on the Church and the world is threefold: She

was a woman; she was a contemplative; she was an active reformer.

As a woman, Teresa stood on her own two feet, even in the man's world of her time. She was "her own woman," entering the Carmelites despite strong opposition from her father. She is a person wrapped not so much in silence as in mystery. Beautiful, talented, outgoing, adaptable, affectionate, courageous, enthusiastic, she was totally human. Like Jesus, she was a mystery of paradoxes: wise, yet practical; intelligent, yet much in tune with her experience; a mystic, yet an energetic reformer. A holy woman, a womanly woman.

Teresa was a woman "for God," a woman of prayer, discipline and compassion. Her heart belonged to God. Her ongoing conversion was an arduous lifelong struggle, involving ongoing purification and suffering. She was misunderstood, misjudged, opposed in her efforts at reform. Yet she struggled on, courageous and faithful; she struggled with her own mediocrity, her illness, her opposition. And in the midst of all this she clung to God in life and in prayer. Her writings on prayer and contemplation are drawn from her experience: powerful, practical and graceful. A woman of prayer; a woman for God.

Teresa was a woman "for others." Though a contemplative, she spent much of her time and energy seeking to reform herself and the Carmelites, to lead them back to the full observance of the primitive Rule. She founded over a half-dozen new monasteries. She traveled, wrote, fought—always to renew, to reform. In her self, in her prayer, in her life, in her efforts to reform, in all the people she touched, she was a woman for others, a woman who inspired and gave life.

Her writings, especially the *Way of Perfection* and *The Interior Castle*, have helped generations of believers.

In 1970, the Church gave her the title she had long held in the popular mind: doctor of the Church. She and St. Catherine of Siena were the first women so honored.

**Comment:** Ours is a time of turmoil, a time of reform and a time of liberation. Modern women have in Teresa a challenging example. Promoters of renewal, promoters of prayer, all have in Teresa a woman to reckon with, one whom they can admire and imitate.

**Quote:** Teresa knew well the continued presence and value of suffering (physical illness, opposition to reform, difficulties in prayer), but she grew to be able to embrace suffering, even desire it: "Lord, either to suffer or to die." Toward the end of her life she exclaimed: "Oh, my Lord! How true it is that whoever works for you is paid in troubles! And what a precious price to those who love you if we understand its value."

St. Teresa is the patron saint of Headache sufferers. Her symbol is a heart, an arrow, and a book. She was canonized in 1622.

Source: <http://www.americancatholic.org/Features/Saints/saint.aspx?id=1169>

### **Love Offering**

Sept. 25, 2009 \$1,209.00  
Oct. 02, 2009 \$1,003.00  
Oct. 09, 2009 \$ 707.00  
Oct. 16, 2009 \$ 606.00

### **Philippine Typhoon Victims**

Oct. 02, 2009 \$1,555.00  
Oct. 09, 2009 \$ 314.00  
Oct. 16, 2009 \$ 140.00

*Thank you for your generosity!*

**October Calendar**

- Oct. 02 Eucharistic Celebration (Church)
  - 09 Praise & Worship (Church)
  - 16 Praise & Worship (Auditorium)
  - 23 Praise & Worship (Auditorium)
  - 24 Bible Seminar (CMcCAR)  
CMP 2 Part 1 (CMcCar)
  - 25 Advanced Intercession and  
Spiritual Warfare (CMcCAR)  
Teaching of Christ (CMcCAR)
  - 30 Mass with Bishop Donald Wuerl
- 

**Community Calendar**

- Oct. 23-25, 2009  
John6 Crossings Retreat  
BLD Newark  
Rahway, NJ
- Oct. 31, 2009  
Mass with Bishop Donald Wuerl  
Crypt of the Basilica of the Shrine  
of the Immaculate Conception  
Washington, D. C. at 5:00 PM
- Nov. 13-15, 2009  
Marriage Encounter No. 10  
Hilton Wash. Dulles Airport Hotel  
13869 Park Center Road  
Herndon, VA 20171
- Nov. 21, 2009  
Flashback to the 50's to 80's  
Forth Myer Recreation Center  
228 McNair Rd, Bldg 405  
Forth Myer, VA 22211  
5:00 – 11:00 PM

Please check our website  
[www.bldwashington.com](http://www.bldwashington.com)  
for 2009 Schedule of Events.

**Teaching Schedule**

**Oct, 24, 2009**

- Basic Bible Seminar  
\*LSS9 & older  
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Please bring your Catholic Bibles (New American Bible, New Jerusalem Bible or Revised Standard Version).

Please RSVP to [jcorosa@yahoo.com](mailto:jcorosa@yahoo.com) by October 21st.

- CMP 2 Part 1  
Christian Discipline  
Christian Speech  
\*LSS8 & older  
2:00 - 4:00 PM

Please bring your Catholic Bibles (NAB, NJB or RSV).

Kindly RSVP by October 21st to [jcorosa@yahoo.com](mailto:jcorosa@yahoo.com).

**Oct. 25, 2009**

- Advanced Intercessory  
Prayer Leadership  
\*LSS7 & older  
12:00 NN – 4:00 PM

Kindly RSVP to [jcorosa@yahoo.com](mailto:jcorosa@yahoo.com) by October 21st.

Venue:

Cardinal McCarrick Center  
12247 Georgia Avenue  
Wheaton, MD 20902

---

**Reminder**

Please sign in and wear your BLD IDs during Praise and Worship and Community Functions.