

BLD WASHINGTON



BUKÁS-LOÓB SA DIYÓS COVENANT COMMUNITY

SERVING THE WASHINGTON, D.C. AREA

Counsels

Perseverance

Theme: We are faithful to Christ when we are persistent in our faith.

Word: Jer 31:7-9; Ps 126:1-6; Heb 5:1-6; Mk 10:46-52

Order: Take courage; get up, Jesus is calling you.”

(BLD Global Community reflection for October 2009)

REFLECTION: The gospel story spoke about the blind man from Jericho named Bartimaeus. He was a beggar waiting at the roadside. During those times, the Jews believed that people with handicaps, especially the blind, lepers or other illnesses have been cursed by the Lord so they were treated with disdain. Even being poor was a sign that you had found disfavor with God, while the healthy and the rich were the recipients of God’s blessings. So this blind man was left with no other means of support except to beg for alms from the passersby. When he heard the commotion from the crowd and learned that Jesus of Nazareth was in the area, he started to cry out saying “Jesus, son of David have mercy on me”. But the people rebuked him and told him to be silent as if to tell him that he was not worthy to call on the Name of Jesus. But he cried out all the more “ Son of David have

mercy on me”, something inside him was pushing him to persevere, inspiring him to ignore the advise of the crowd with hopes that Jesus would hear him. His perseverance paid off as Jesus stopped and called him.

These scripture passages may just pass our hearing because we can not fully appreciate how difficult it is not to be able to see. But as we have learned and experienced, the words in Scripture are inspired by God and are often directed to each of us. Let us consider for a moment, how many of us feel like this blind beggar - waiting for relief in this highway of life. How often do we feel neglected, unappreciated, taken for granted or ignored by the people around us, even the ones closest to us, our spouses, children or family, and even by our community. We may even feel envious of those who have a lot of possessions and better positions. Most of us wait for the day when the Lord will hear our prayer, the day of our deliverance from the pains, worries and fears, when we can find comfort, peace, and security – the easy life. But often ,doubt comes to us, leading us to ask: “are we worthy”? Will God listen to sinners like us? Many will stop praying, just remain quiet and hope for the best. We allow the crowd of doubts and lack of confidence to discourage us - unlike Bartimaeus who ignored their rebuke and persevered in calling on the Lord.

Perhaps we could relate to the crowd who rebuked the beggar. We are not like this blind man, we are not handicapped in any way. We have been blessed in many ways.

We are doing well in our work, we are well provided for and we are well-respected and appreciated by our friends and co-workers. We are on some kind of easy street, knowing that our abilities and resources will be enough to see us through, no matter what comes up. Of course, we still rely on the Lord, and we tithe, we serve and do what we can to help others as long as these do not interfere with our defined comfort zones. And what are our comfort zones? These are the areas we hold sacred and non-negotiable not even for the Lord. Referring back to the gospel when Jesus called Bartimaeus, he threw away his most precious possession, the mantle that gave him comfort from the wind and the cold. He sprung up from his position and came to Jesus. Let us ask ourselves, what have we given up? Have we surrendered our comfort zones or attachments in order to follow the Lord more closely? Let us not forget that we cannot be with Jesus without sacrifice, we have to get rid of everything that gets in the way.

Jesus asked Bartimaeus, “what do you want me to do for you?” He answered “Master let me receive my sight” and Jesus said to him “Go on your way your faith has made you well”. Immediately he received his sight and followed Him on the way. God has raised the bar for us, who are his followers. Acknowledging the blessings he has given to all of us by allowing us to know Him, we should be the one asking Him – “Lord what is it you want me to do for you?” And whatever you ask of me – give me the grace to accomplish your will.

Directions:

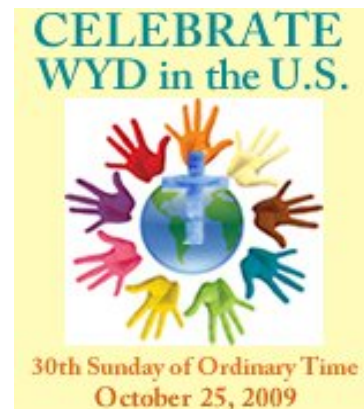
1. Deal patiently with the ignorant and erring
2. Bear with one another.
3. See Christ in each other.
4. Persevere in prayer.

God's Promise for the Week

“Go your way; your faith has saved you.”
(Mk 10:52)

30th Sunday of Ordinary Time
October 25, 2009

Celebrating World Youth Day
in the United States



The [National Celebration of World Youth Day](#), annually celebrated on the 30th Sunday of Ordinary Time in the United States, offers all involved in youth ministry an opportunity to highlight the gifts and joys that young people and youth ministry bring to faith communities across the country.

Theme

[Pope Benedict XVI states:](#) We take as our text for the year 2009 a saying of Saint Paul: “We have set our hope on the living God” (1 Tim 4:10).

Source:
http://www.nfcym.org/resources/WYD_US.htm

World Youth Day Blessing of Youth

God of youth,
 We ask your blessing upon our young people gathered here.
 You have gifted each one of them in a special and unique way.
 May they come to know and share the wonder and awe that lives within them as they grow in wisdom, knowledge and understanding of you.
 Guide and sustain them as they discern your invitation to discipleship.
 Bless their openness and enthusiasm and allow their questions to both enliven and challenge us as a community of believers gathered to do your will.
 Strengthen and support the many good works they do.
 Challenge and provoke them along their journey of faith so they may help lead the church into the possibilities of tomorrow.

In all these things, we ask your blessing upon them this day, in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen

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 Praise & Worship (Church)
- 31 Mass with Bishop Donald Wuerl
SE4 Grand Reunion

Reminder

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

Love Offering

- Oct. 02, 2009 \$1,003.00
- Oct. 09, 2009 \$ 707.00
- Oct. 16, 2009 \$ 606.00
- Oct. 23, 2009 \$ 704.00

Philippine Typhoon Victims

- Oct. 02, 2009 \$1,555.00
- Oct. 09, 2009 \$ 314.00
- Oct. 16, 2009 \$ 140.00
- Oct. 23, 2009 \$ 294.00

Thank you for your generosity!

Community Calendar

- 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
 - **SE4 Grand Reunion**
Our Lady Good Counsel
8601 Wolftrap Road
Vienna, VA 22182 (12NN-4:00PM)
- Nov. 07, 2009
 - Disciples' Assembly**
Cardinal McCarrick Center
12247 Georgia Avenue
Wheaton, MD 20902 (1:00-4:00 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**
Fort Myer Recreation Center
228 McNair Rd, Bldg 405
Fort Myer, VA 22211
5:00 - 11:00 PM

Please check our website www.bldwashington.com for 2009 Schedule of Events.