

BLD WASHINGTON



BURÁS-LOÓB SA DIYÓS COVENANT COMMUNITY

SERVING THE WASHINGTON, D.C. AREA

Counsel

Accountability

Theme: We have the righteousness of Christ when we are ready for His coming.

Word: Dn 12:1-3; Ps 16:5, 8-11;
Heb 10:11-14, 18; Mk 13:34-32

Order: "Set the Lord before me." (Ps 16:8)

(BLD Global Community reflection for November 2009)

REFLECTION: A week before the great feast of Christ the King, which marks the end of the liturgical calendar, the first reading and the gospel story speak about the end times. St. Michael will herald the time of the Lord as the prophet Daniel mentions when "the wise shall shine brightly and those who lead the many to justice shall be like stars". In the gospel story, our Lord Jesus undoubtedly speaks about His second coming. Here, Jesus introduces these events or signs leading to His second coming:

1. The day of the Lord will be preceded by wars.
2. The day of the Lord will also be preceded by the darkening of the sun and moon
3. The Lord will gather His people from the four corners of the earth.

The most significant and most important event in our lives would be our departure from this earthly life as we enter into the next. Yet, we all tend to ignore or deny the truth about our ultimate destination. The readings for this Sunday invite us to reflect on the end of our short earthly journey. We should always be ready for the day when the Lord Jesus comes to lead us to the eternal life that He has promised us. We all need to pause from our busy lives to consider the short and limited number of our days here on earth. ***"Seventy is the sum of our years, or eighty, if we are strong; Most of them are sorrow and toil; they pass quickly, we are all gone."*** (Ps 90:10)

We should examine our own lives and our relationship with God, allowing His word to come alive in our hearts. **We should ask ourselves: "Are we really living God-centered, righteous lives?"** We should perform a daily self-introspection on how we have been doing, how we have lived the life of Jesus Christ, by following His Word and how we are to stand before God. We will ultimately be responsible and held accountable by our Lord for all that we did in this life. If we have committed mortal sin, we must avail of the sacrament of Reconciliation; if we have wronged anyone, we must seek pardon. We should be aware that the Lord Jesus will judge us by every word we have uttered (Mt 12:37) and by every deed we have done. Have we fed the hungry, given drink to the thirsty, welcomed the stranger, clothed the naked, cared for the

sick, and visited the prisoners? (Mt 25: 35-36). We are all reminded that we belong to our creator: ***“Brothers and sisters: None of us lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself. For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord’s. For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God.”*** (Rom 14:7-11)

As we take the time to examine ourselves, repent and perhaps, change our sinful past and enter into a new life in Jesus Christ; as we renounce our prejudices and develop greater understanding, forgiveness, and love for others, especially for our enemies; as we let go of our own agenda or vested interests and shun the attractions of the world; as we purify our passions with prayer; as we savor the Words of eternal life in our hearts, we also celebrate the presence of God in our lives.

When we seek the Lord in the silence of our hearts, He becomes our allotted portion and our cup. With Him at our right, we will never be shaken. He will show us the path to life, abounding joy in His presence, the delights at His right hand forever. (Ps 16:5, 8, 11)

We ought to heed what St. Paul says: ***“My prayer is that your love may more and more abound, both in understanding and wealth of experience, so that with a clear conscience and blameless conduct you may learn to value the things that really matter, up to the very day of Christ.”*** (Phil 1: 9-10)

We should not fear the coming of our Lord, Jesus for He is our light and our salvation. Instead, we should continue to persevere in following His commandments, we should believe that we shall enjoy the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. (Ps 27:13). We can then claim the Promise of the Week: ***“Therefore my heart is glad and my soul***

rejoices, my body, too, abides in confidence, because you will not abandon my soul to the netherworld, nor will you suffer your faithful to undergo corruption.” (Ps16:9-10). Let us remember the Lord's order for the week: ***“Set the Lord before me”*** (Ps 16:8). As we heed and follow the Lord's voice, let us also yield to His directions for ourselves: *Be prepared and be watchful for no one knows when the Lord is coming.*

Directions: Be prepared and be watchful for no one knows when the Lord is coming.

God’s Promise for the Week

“Therefore my heart is glad and my soul rejoices, my body, too, abides in confidence; because you will not abandon my soul to the netherworld, nor will you suffer your faithful to undergo corruption.”

(Ps16:9-10)

November 9

Feast of the Dedication of the St. John Lateran Basilica in Rome

Most Catholics think of St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City as the pope's main church, but they are wrong. St. John Lateran is the pope's church, the cathedral of the Diocese of Rome where the Bishop of Rome presides.

The first basilica on the site was built in the fourth century when Constantine donated land he had received from the wealthy Lateran family. That structure and its successors suffered fire, earthquake and the ravages of war, but the Lateran remained the church where popes were consecrated until the popes returned from Avignon in the 14th

century to find the church and the adjoining palace in ruins.

Pope Innocent X commissioned the present structure in 1646. One of Rome’s most imposing churches, the Lateran’s towering facade is crowned with 15 colossal statues of Christ, John the Baptist, John the Evangelist and 12 doctors of the Church. Beneath its high altar rest the remains of the small wooden table on which tradition holds St. Peter himself celebrated Mass.

Comment: Unlike the commemorations of other Roman churches (St. Mary Major, August 5; Sts. Peter and Paul, November 18), this anniversary is a feast. The dedication of a church is a feast for all its parishioners. In a sense, St. John Lateran is the parish church of all Catholics, because it is the pope's cathedral. This church is the spiritual home of the people who are the Church.

Quote: "What was done here, as these walls were rising, is reproduced when we bring together those who believe in Christ. For, by believing they are hewn out, as it were, from mountains and forests, like stones and timber; but by catechizing, baptism and instruction they are, as it were, shaped, squared and planed by the hands of the workers and artisans. Nevertheless, they do not make a house for the Lord until they are fitted together through love" (St. Augustine, *Sermon 36*>).

Source:
<http://www.americancatholic.org/Features/Saints/Saint.aspx?id=1194> (text)

Love Offering

- Oct. 09, 2009 \$ 707.00
- Oct. 16, 2009 \$ 606.00
- Oct. 23, 2009 \$ 704.00
- Oct. 30, 2009 \$1,378.00
- Nov. 06, 2009 \$ 937.00

Thank you for your generosity!

November Calendar

- Nov. 06 1st Friday Eucharistic Celebration
- 08 The Teaching of Jesus Christ Disciples’ Assembly
- 13 Praise & Worship
- 13-15 Marriage Encounter No. 10
- 14 Don Moen Benefit Concert
- 20 Praise & Worship
- 21 Flashback to the 50’ to 80’s
- 27 Thanksgiving Mass

Community Calendar

Nov. 21, 2009

Flashback to the 50’s to 80’s
Fundraising Benefit Dance
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.

Reminder

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