

BLD WASHINGTON



BUKÁS-LOÓB SA DIYÓS

COVENANT COMMUNITY

SERVING THE WASHINGTON, D.C. AREA

Counsels

Blessed are we when we rejoice in Christ amidst the storms of life

Word: Jb 38: 1, 8-11 ; Ps 107: 23-26 ; 28-31 ; 2 Cor 5: 14-17; Mk : 35-41

Order: "Quiet ! Be Still !" (Mk: 4: 39)

(BLD Global Community reflection for June 2009)

How secure are we in the Lord during troubled times? Let adversity spur our faith to action rather than to question. In difficult moments, we should rejoice and claim God's promise. In the gospel according to Matthew, it says "behold, I am with you always until the end of the age ." (Mt: 28 : 20b)

In today's gospel story, as evening drew near, Jesus ordered his disciples to cross to the other side of the lake. This, after he taught them about God's Word on faith. Jesus' ministry is never without a purpose. Along the way, the disciples would be taught an unforgettable lesson about his power.. "Let us go over to the other side." (Mark 4: 35) His words give the disciples assurance that they would cross the lake safely. Jesus did not promise them an easy trip, but he guaranteed them safe arrival at their destination. There is nothing to fear as Jesus himself was perfectly at peace sleeping at the stern of the boat. Did Jesus know that the storm was coming? Of course he did. He allowed his disciples to sail straight into the path of a horrific storm to know how much they have learned from his teachings about faith and trust.

During this economic recession that affects us all, we are naturally frightened . We are anxious about losing our jobs, homes, financial security , our means of supporting our families. When our lives turn stormy and seemingly out of control, do we cry out to God,

"do you not care Lord , what is happening to me ?" " Don't you love me enough to do something about my problem ?" In the first reading, Job and his friends discussed about the mystery of suffering and no one had an adequate answer to the question, " why must a just man suffer?" God spoke out of the storm reminding Job that He is the Lord of creation and has power to do all things.

In their fear, in the midst of the storm , the disciples woke Jesus. He immediately rebuked the wind and a great calm settled in the lake, he then turned to his disciples and asked them, "why are you afraid , do you not yet have faith?" . God gave each of us the ability to trust him and use this faith when faced with fear, doubt and anxiety. Like the disciples, some of us may believe that Jesus is unconcerned or asleep. But are we comfortable enough to wake Jesus up and present to Him our problems? Do we bring our worries to God in prayers? Do we spend time in front of the Blessed Sacrament? When we approach God, we should trust Him completely and seek Him in the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Eucharist. He is always there expecting us to seek a deeper relationship with Him. It is through His Word that we receive its power to overcome the evil forces that arise within us, those violent storms. We often will not find Him in the busyness in our life but in the silence of our prayers. When we give ourselves entirely to Him, we find him in the soft breeze after the storm. "At the end of his sufferings, Job praised the Lord saying: " I have heard of you by hearing of the ear, but now my eyes see you " (Jb. 42:5) Brothers and sisters, like Job ,we must stay the course and continue to trust and know that no matter how serious our problems are , with God at our side,we will recover and better things will come our way. He said "Do not fear, for I am with you." (Is. 41:10)

When the disciples cried out to Jesus in their distress, he responded by quieting the storm .They were amazed , they just have seen a man do something that only God can. Who then, was this whom even the wind and the sea obey? Jesus performed the miracles to demonstrate His Divine nature and to prove to the

disciples that He was the second person of the Blessed Trinity, God the Son, who can command the wind and the sea on His own authority. Brothers and sisters, God created us in His image. He cares for us and wants us to grow in our faith and to constantly trust Him. In our darkest moment, with only the light of His truth and His promise to fill our hearts with joy and peace, let us turn to Him to obey, praise and thank Him, for His love is everlasting. (Ps 107 :1-32)

Directions:

- Find the time to schedule and attend a community retreat.
- Spend quiet time with the Lord.

God's Promise for the Week

:"They rejoiced that they were calmed, and He brought them to their desired haven." (Ps . 107:30)

Love Offering

May 29, 2009	\$ 854.00
June 5, 2009	\$ 1,169.00
June 12, 2009	\$ 788.00
June 19, 2009	\$1,050.00

Thank you for your generosity!

June Calendar

- June 5 Eucharistic Celebration
6 Agony in the Garden/
Washing of the Feet Retreat
12 Praise & Worship
19 Praise & Worship
26 Praise & Worship

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

Community Calendar

June 26-28, 2009

- National Convention of Filipino Catholic Charismatic Communities
Baltimore Convention Center
Baltimore, Maryland

August 9, 2009

- Community Day
Bretton Woods
Germantown, Maryland

September 18-20, 2009

- Singles Encounter No.4
Homewood Suites, Dulles, Virginia

November 13-15, 2009

- Marriage Encounter No. 10
Dulles Hilton, Dulles, Virginia

Messages of the ECSL and Archbishop Lagdameo for all BLD members.

**“Sing praise to the Lord for his glorious achievement; let this be known throughout all the earth.”
(Isaiah 12: 5)**

**June 19, 2009
24th Foundation Day Anniversary
Bukas Loob sa Diyos Covenant Community
Global Districts**

“...that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend and with all holy ones what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.” (Eph 3: 17-19)

**Thank you Lord for the gift of community!
BLD Executive Council of Servant Leader**



BUKÁS LOÓB SA DIYÓS COVENANT COMMUNITY

The Executive Council of Servant Leaders

"We are to be faithful to the Lord, and only to the Lord because we are His servants."

Archbishop Angel N. Lagdameo, Spiritual Director

MESSAGE

Bukas Loob sa Diyos Covenant Community Global Districts



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ in BLD,

We are now celebrating our 24th year of existence as a covenanted catholic charismatic Community. In the words of Fr. Pascual Adorable, S.J., one of our founders and our first BLD Spiritual Director, *"Bukas Loob sa Diyos is the response to God calling us to three things, namely: Holiness, Righteousness in His sight and Fullness of Love. Not as individuals separated and disunited but held together by the bond of love and peace centered on Christ. That, it is also a response to the triple call of Jesus addressed to Peter, 'Feed my lambs... Tend my sheep... Feed my sheep.'"*

As we prepare to celebrate BLD's Silver Jubilee in 2010, our beloved Community Spiritual Director, Archbishop Angel N. Lagdameo asks our Global Districts two things, in the midst of these trying times:

- To continue with more vigor our participation and support to our BLD-GK program, in providing not only houses but homes to the poorest of the poor of our country, and;
- To provide educational "Scholarship of Hope" even for one child in each family (BLD-GK villages or in any of your adopted Community) from elementary to high school, and for at least a two-year vocational skills training, if not a full College degree, not necessarily only to the 'intelligent' child.

He also exhorts us to help address the many problems and crisis our country is encountering by applying the spirituality of the Year of the Two Hearts for our social transformation. (His message of June 11, 2009)

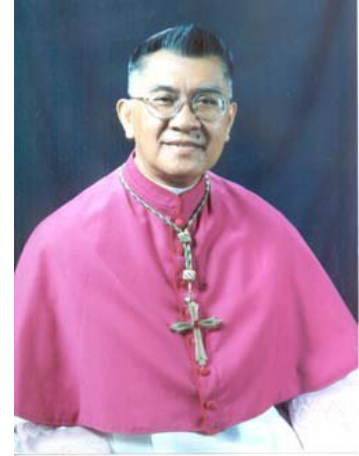
May our Poverty Alleviation Programs continue to be acceptable to Christ, as a fragrant offering to Him.

For the Executive Council of Servant Leaders,

Jun & Baby Delarmente
Presiding Servant Leader
June 18, 2008



Archdiocese of Jaro



Bukas Loob sa Diyos Covenant Community Global Districts

M E S S A G E

BLD is now in its 24th year of foundation, which makes us look forward to its silver anniversary.

I would like to link this occasion of preparation and forthcoming celebration of the BLD Silver Anniversary with the CBCP announcement of the Year of the Two Hearts of Jesus and Mary for lay participation in social transformation as well as with Pope Benedict XVI's announcement of the Year of the Priests. Both will last from June 19, 2009 to June 2010.

For the many problems and crises that our country is encountering, we cannot just simply rely on political, social, economic and professional solutions – no matter how much these are needed.

The many ordinary Catholics can help address these problems and crises by applying the spirituality of the Year of the Two Hearts for social transformation. It consists in the **renewal-reform** of our minds and hearts, of our deeds and lives, towards **oblation-offering** through **conversion-consecration** to the Heart of Jesus together with the Heart of Mary, for the growth of the **Kingdom** of God in our midst; **ROCK** for short. These are what are being asked of every priest and every layperson during this Year of the Two Hearts and Year of the Priests.

I recommend and suggest a Holy Hour either on First Friday or First Saturday or on both for the above intentions. It can be done individually or in community or the family.

May this *Year of the Two Hearts of Jesus and Mary* and the *Year of our Priests* be lived faithfully, profoundly and intensely, by all of us for the renewal of our country.

A handwritten signature in brown ink, reading '+ Angel N. Lagdameo'.

+ANGEL N. LAGDAMEO
Archbishop of Jaro &
BLD Spiritual Director
June 11, 2009