

BLD WASHINGTON



BUKÁS-LOÓB SA DIYÓS COVENANT COMMUNITY

SERVING THE WASHINGTON, D.C. AREA

Counsels

Theme: “We partake in Christ’s prophetic mission when we forgo our personal comfort for the sake of the Gospel.”

Word: Amos 7:12-15 Ps 85:9-14 Eph 1:3-14
Mk 6: 7-13

Order: Take nothing for the journey but the Holy Spirit (Mk 6:8)

Promise: “The Lord Himself will give His benefits; our land shall yield its increase. Justice shall walk before Him, and salvation, along the way of His steps.” (Ps 85:13-14)

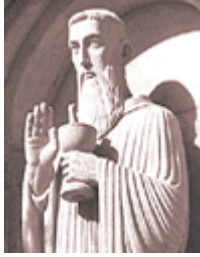
(BLD Global Community reflection for July 2009)

REFLECTION: This Sunday’s Gospel from Mark, Chapter 6, talks about practical guidelines given by Jesus on how His chosen apostles should carry out His mission. The apostles had heard His preaching and had seen the miracles He performed. Their future work would be to bring His teachings and the story of Christ’s life and miracles to all men. They had not yet seen everything, nor were they fully aware, as yet, of who Christ really was, but they did know that He was laying the foundation of the Kingdom of God among men. He now sends them out on a temporary mission: two by two, they were to go to the neighboring villages and towns, preaching repentance, casting out demons and healing the sick. He advises them that they were to take neither food supplies nor money, only the clothes on their backs and a walking stick... thus making them entirely reliant on God’s divine providence. This is also echoed in the First Reading from the Book of Amos. Amos was sent on a mission to prophesy in another land. Amos obeyed, notwithstanding his fear of inadequacy. *I am no prophet. I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees*, he says. Yet, he accepted God’s calling, trusting that God will supply Him with all his needs. Our second reading from St. Paul’s letter to the

Ephesians affirms this in the opening verse of Ephesians 1: 3: “*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavens.*”

We too have been called, not because of who we are, what we are or what we can bring to community, BUT simply because God has chosen each one of us, and He knows each one of us by name. *In Him, we were also chosen, destined in accord with the purpose of the One who accomplishes all things according to the intention of His will, so that we might exist for the praise of His glory, we who first hoped in Christ.. Eph 1:11-12.* By virtue of our baptism, as believers of Christ, we have the responsibility to share the message of hope, the Good news of God’s love with others. We have been called, like Amos, and the early disciples to go forth and make disciples of all people trusting God that He will accompany us in this missionary journey. God is our strength. His grace is sufficient.

The scripture readings this Sunday, in a meaningful way, tells us how Jesus had prepared the disciples, letting them go and allowing them to take over the reins. He was able to allow the students to become the teacher. In our own ministry, we must also learn to do the same. We need to equip people and then enable them by *exiting*. John the Baptist knew when it was time to step aside after preparing the way for Jesus. *He must increase, I must decrease. Jn 3:30.* As members of BLD, we are not called to be the ‘Jack of all trades’. Although some of us can, and do wear many hats, our job is not to do all the work, but to enable others to do so. We must invite others, guide and mentor them and the Lord will equip them. Then, we must exit or step aside, allowing them to carry the word of God to others. This requires great trust. However, if the Lord could entrust His message to us, should we not all do the same by trusting others? And where does that exit lead? It leads back to where we first encountered God and the cycle begins all over again.



July 11

St. Benedict

(480?-543)

It is unfortunate that no contemporary biography was written of a man who has exercised the greatest influence on monasticism in the West. Benedict is well recognized in the later *Dialogues* of St. Gregory, but these are sketches to illustrate miraculous elements of his career.

Benedict was born of a distinguished family in central Italy, studied at Rome and early in life was drawn to the monastic life. At first he became a hermit, leaving a depressing world—pagan armies on the march, the Church torn by schism, people suffering from war, morality at a low ebb.

He soon realized that he could not live a hidden life in a small town any better than in a large city, so he withdrew to a cave high in the mountains for three years. Some monks chose him as their leader for a while, but found his strictness not to their taste. Still, the shift from hermit to community life had begun for him. He had an idea of gathering various families of monks into one “Grand Monastery” to give them the benefit of unity, fraternity, permanent worship in one house. Finally he began to build what was to become one of the most famous monasteries in the world—Monte Cassino, commanding three narrow valleys running toward the mountains north of Naples.

The Rule that gradually developed prescribed a life of liturgical prayer, study, manual labor and living together in community under a common father (abbot). Benedictine asceticism is known for its moderation, and Benedictine charity has always shown concern for the people in the surrounding countryside. In the course of the Middle Ages, all monasticism in the West was gradually brought under the Rule of St. Benedict.

Today the Benedictine family is represented by two branches: the Benedictine Federation and the Cistercians.

Source:

<http://www.americancatholic.org/Features/SaintOfTheDay/default.asp?id=1441>

July Calendar

- July 03 Eucharistic Celebration
- 10 Praise & Worship
- 17 Praise & Worship
- 24 Praise & Worship
- 25 New Creation Realities
Christian Maturity Program 1 (Part 2)
- 31 Praise & Worship

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

Teaching Schedule

July 25, 2009

- NEW CREATION REALITIES
(for LSS#9 & older) 9 AM - 12 NN
Cardinal McCarrick Center Room 2/3
12247 Georgia Avenue,
Silver Spring, MD 20902
- CHRISTIAN MATURITY PROGRAM 1-
Part 2 (for LSS#8 & older) 1 PM - 4 PM
Cardinal McCarrick Center Room 2/3
12247 Georgia Avenue,
Silver Spring, MD 20902

Community Calendar

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

Love Offering

June 19, 2009 \$1,050.00
June 26, 2009 \$ 957.00
July 03, 2009 \$1,277.00
July 10, 2009 \$ 822.00

Thank you for your generosity!