

BLD WASINGTON



# BURÁS-LOÓB SA DIYÓS

## COVENANT COMMUNITY

SERVING THE WASHINGTON, D.C. AREA

### *Counsel*

***“Listen to Him”.***  
***Listen to Jesus !***

***Theme:*** We spread the Good News of salvation when we remain faithful to our covenant with the Lord.

***Word:*** Gn 15:5-12, 17-18; Ps 27:1, 7-9, 13-14; Phil 3:17 – 4:1; Lk 9:28-36

***Order:*** “This is my chosen Son. Listen to Him.” (Lk. 9:35)

*(BLD Global Community reflection for February 2010)*

### ***REFLECTION:***

In the first reading, God made promises to Abram. Abram asks how he can know for sure that God will be true to His word. God responds by making a formal covenant with Abram. By faith Abram is justified, not through obedience to the Law.

In the second reading, we read that Faith is the saving power of the cross, the means of our salvation. The cross is an unavoidable aspect of the Christian journey. The path to heavenly life is through the cross of Jesus. St. Paul exhorts the Philippians to remain faithful to the true practice and teachings of the Church or else

they will endanger their salvation. We would do well to follow this advice to ensure our lives are in Christ, not be so occupied with earthly things.

In the Gospel, Luke pointed out the importance of prayer. That time that Jesus took James and John and Peter up on a mountain to pray. Awakened, they saw Jesus from a distance and were amazed that He was glowing. His face and garment were so bright. They saw figures standing with Jesus- Moses and Elijah, two of our greatest prophets. Peter’s first response was to honor the place, to make it a place of worship. But the Lord would have none of that. Then, a cloud cast a shadow over them, and they heard a voice say, *“This is my son; listen to him!” (Luke 9:35)*. After the voice had spoken, they found Jesus alone. Jesus told to Peter, John & James not to tell anyone. They weren’t about to, because they didn’t understand what happened! They will not understand what they saw until Calvary.

And how is it that the cross reveals God's glory? The Greek and Hebrew words for "glory" could mean "reputation". The good news revealed by Jesus is that God is love. On Good Friday, that hill called Calvary, just like the mount of Transfiguration, shone forth with God's glory. We truly get God's “reputation” right when we look to the cross. We come to see beyond a shadow of a doubt that God is love and forgiveness.

Jesus came to reveal that God is love. Were it not for Jesus, many would still hold on to other notions about God, notions that are dead wrong. We sometimes think, for example, that God is an angry God who punishes people. We need to ask ourselves, "is this the God we see in the cross of Jesus?" In the cross, we also get to see who we truly are, and how we sometimes make up our own versions of God to justify the things we do. This is the part that's so hard for us to see and to hear. All our other ideas of God which are not about Love and Mercy are exactly that- gods of our making.

Through the Lord's Transfiguration, Peter, John and James were given the grace to see God as revealed by Jesus. We too have to see God who is perfectly revealed in Jesus. That's why the voice from heaven said so clearly, "Listen to Him!" God spoke and revealed Himself partially through Elijah and Moses. It is only in Jesus that God has revealed Himself completely. ***"All things have been handed over to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him."*** (Matthew 11:27)

The Lord gave us a new covenant, by which He gave Himself completely to us, and we give ourselves completely to Him. Through our covenant, we no longer see the Lord partially or from a distance, but up close, face to face, intimately. Our covenant joins us to Him, we become one with Him.

And because we are united with Jesus, He asks us to spread the good news of His salvation. We are asked to give the word out, that despite our lapses into sin, He forgives us. And God through Jesus Christ shares with us the divine glory of the cross, the glory of being a sinner who is now forgiven, a lost sheep who has been found, one who was wrong but who finally got it right.

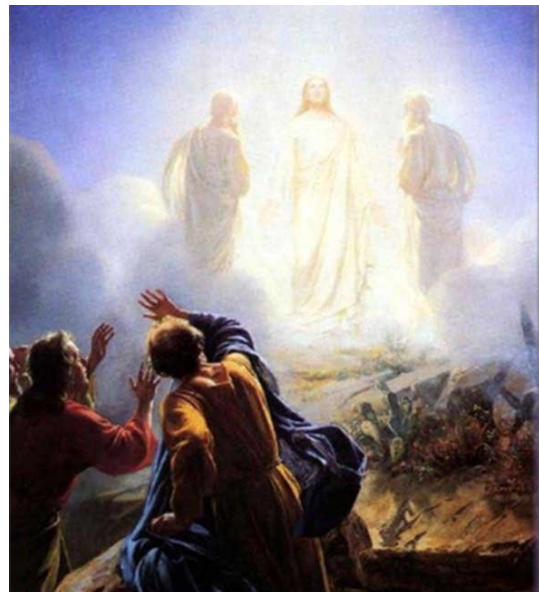
The call to spread the good news is just as exciting and just as important. We are blessed to be called to help other people fully get to know who God is through Jesus. The important thing is to remember what that voice told James and John and Peter up on that mountain, "Listen to him." And when we listen to Jesus, we will receive the grace to be faithful to our covenant. "Listen to Him!"

***Directions:***

- 1. Be imitators of Christ.**
- 2. Stand firm in the Lord.**

***God's Promise for the Week***

***"...I shall see the bounty of the Lord in the land of the living. (Ps 27:13)***



"This is my chosen Son; listen to him"

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**Stations Of The Cross**  
**According to the Method of**  
**St. Francis of Assisi**

For Roman Catholics throughout the world, the Stations of the Cross are synonymous with Lent, Holy Week and, especially, Good Friday. This devotion is also known as the "Way of the Cross", the "Via Crucis", and the "Via Dolorosa." It commemorates 14 key events on day of Christ's crucifixion. The majority concern His final walk through the streets of Jerusalem, carrying the Cross.

The Stations originated in medieval Europe when wars prevented Christian pilgrims from visiting the Holy Land. European artists created works depicting scenes of Christ's journey to Calvary. The faithful installed these sculptures or paintings at intervals along a procession route, inside the parish church or outdoors. Performing the devotion meant walking the entire route, stopping to pray at each "station."

Today, images of the Stations (or simple crosses representing them) are on display in almost all Catholic churches. They serve mainly as a focus for Lenten worship services. But the Stations can also be performed privately, at any time of the year, even at home. Many organizations offer free or inexpensive, illustrated pamphlets for this purpose.

**Begin The Stations Of The Cross**  
**Preparatory Prayer**

O most merciful Jesus, with a contrite heart and penitent spirit, I bow down in profound humility before Thy divine majesty. I adore Thee, I hope in Thee, I love Thee above all things. I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee, my Supreme and Only God. I resolve to amend my life, and although I am unworthy to obtain mercy, yet the sight

of Thy cross, on which Thou didst die, inspires me with hope and consolation. I will, therefore, meditate on Thy Passion in company with Thy sorrowful Mother and my guardian angel, with the intention of promoting Thy honor and saving my soul.

I desire to gain all the indulgences granted for this holy exercise for myself and for the Poor Souls in Purgatory. O merciful Redeemer, who has said, "And I, if I be lifted from the earth, will draw all things to Myself", draw my heart and my love to Thee, that I may perform this devotion as perfectly as possible, and that I may live and die in union with Thee. Amen.

Station:

1. Jesus Is Condemned To Death
2. Jesus Is Made To Carry His Cross
3. Jesus Falls The First Time
4. Jesus Meets His Sorrowful Mother
5. Simon Of Cyrene Helps Jesus Carry His Cross
6. Veronica Wipes The Face Of Jesus
7. Jesus Falls The Second Time
8. The Women Of Jerusalem Weep Over Jesus
9. Jesus Falls The Third Time
10. Jesus Is Stripped Of His Garments
11. Jesus Is Nailed To The Cross
12. Jesus Is Raised Upon The Cross And Dies
13. Jesus Taken Down From The Cross And Placed In The Arms Of His Mother
14. Jesus Is Laid In The Sepulcher



[Source: http://www.ourcatholicfaith.org/stations/menu](http://www.ourcatholicfaith.org/stations/menu)

**Love Offering**

Jan. 29, 2010 \$ 1,069.00  
Feb. 05, 2010 No P&W  
Feb. 12, 2010 No P&W  
Feb. 19, 2010 \$1,332.58

*Thank you for your generosity!*

**March Calendar**

Mar. 05 First Friday Eucharistic Celebration  
12 Praise & Worship  
19 Praise & Worship  
26 Praise & Worship

Stations of the Cross at OLV Church.  
7:00 PM every Friday during Lent

**Community Calendar**

Apr. 9-11  
Youth Life in Spirit Seminar #4 \*  
May 7-9  
Life in Spirit Seminar #10 \*  
Jun. 12  
Agony in the Garden/  
Washing of the Feet Retreat \*  
Jul. 9-12  
Aspirants Retreat \*  
Jul. 31-Aug. 2  
Family Encounter #4  
Malvern, PA  
Sep. 17-19  
Solo Parent Encounter #3  
Holy Family, MD  
Nov. 12-14  
Marriage Encounter #11  
Dulles Hilton, VA

\*Time & Venue – TBD  
Please check our website [www.bldwashington.com](http://www.bldwashington.com)  
for 2010 Schedule of Events.

**Teaching Schedule**

Feb. 26 - **Intro to Commitment**  
For LSS9  
After P&W  
OLV auditorium/classroom  
- **Basics of Prayer**  
For ME10 & make-up for others  
After P&W  
OLV auditorium/classroom  
Feb. 27 - **4 Basic Truths**  
For ME10 & make-up for others  
11:00 AM - 12:30 PM  
Our Lady of Good Counsel  
Vienna, VA  
- **Christian Parenting**  
ME10 & make-up for other parents  
1:00 - 5:00 PM  
Our Lady of Good Counsel  
Vienna, VA  
- **Teachings of Jesus Christ  
DVD Series, 1:00-4:00 PM**  
For Covenanted Members  
Our Lady of Good Counsel  
Vienna, VA  
Feb. 28 - **Spiritual Warfare**  
LSS7 & make-up for older classes  
1:00 - 5:00 PM  
McCarrick Center, Wheaton, MD  
- **Christian Maturity Program 2  
(Part3)**  
Repairing Wrongdoing/Suffering  
LSS 8 & make-up for older classes  
1:00 - 4:00 PM  
McCarrick Center, Wheaton, MD

**Reminder**

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

