

BLD WASHINGTON



# BUKÁS-LOÓB SA DIYÓS COVENANT COMMUNITY

SERVING THE WASHINGTON, D.C. AREA

## Counsel

### *LIVING THE WORD*

**Theme:** The sonship of Jesus is manifested upon those who bring glad tidings to the poor.

**Word:** Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10; Ps.19:8-10, 15;  
1 Cor 12:12-30 or 12:12-14, 27  
Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

**Order:** "Allot portions to those who had nothing prepared." Neh. 8:10  
(BLD Global Community reflection for January 2010)

**REFLECTION:** The scriptures for this week provide insights into what it means to be living examples of God's word from the life of Israel, the life of Jesus, and the life of the early Christian community. In them we discover that following Christ is all about "living the word".

When the Israelites returned from exile, in the first reading, not only had the cities to be rebuilt and the land restored, but also the people had to be rededicated to God and his Word. Ezra, the priest/scribe, was entrusted with the spiritual renewal and rededication of his people. The people were so moved as they listen to God's Word. They realized how they have been unfaithful to God and how much they have missed hearing his Word. The rededication ceremony is concluded with a feast. Perhaps their weeping convinced Ezra to "take it easy on

them." He and Nehemiah then encouraged the people to celebrate their observance of the law. **"Do not be saddened this day, for rejoicing in the Lord must be your strength."** (Neh 8:10)

In the second reading, the Corinthian community was plagued by factions of varying kinds. Here, Paul is preaching unity. Just as each of our physical body parts must work together to ensure the proper functioning of the whole body, so must all the members of the Church, the Body of Christ, work together. Mutual respect, cooperation and support should characterize the interaction among the members of the community. Each gift is valuable and should be used to build up the community.

Since human beings have a desire to belong to another person, to a community, or to God, we can imagine how the Christians at Corinth welcomed Paul's letter assuring them that they were all "one body." They were not to create divisions among themselves by identifying as Jews or Greeks, slaves or free people, women or men. Because they had all been anointed by the Holy Spirit, they had become together the one body of Christ. Each was a member; no one was left out. **"You are Christ's body and individually parts of it."** (1Cor 12:27 )

In today's Gospel reading from Luke, Jesus is visiting His home synagogue in Nazareth,

it's a Sabbath morning, and the scroll of Isaiah is handed to him. Jesus unrolls it carefully, reverently, until he finds exactly the place he has in mind. As was the custom, he then stands up to read the text:

**“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord.” Lk 4:18-19** Then he rolls up the scroll, hands it back to the attendant and sits down to instruct, as teachers did. His commentary that day was dramatically brief: **“Today, this scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing,” Lk 4:21** he says, as a hush falls over the crowd and everyone gazes at him in amazement.

Jesus declares himself to be Israel's long awaited Messiah, born 30 years earlier in humble circumstances, and now ready to change forever the course of human history. On that fateful day in Nazareth, Jesus formally inaugurates his mission, the reason God took on human form, the cause for our celebration of Christmas a month ago.

A new era begins. Jesus is Yahweh's Anointed One, filled with the Spirit of God. Jesus not only announces God's salvation, He brings this salvation about in His person. The verse from Isaiah sums up His entire life and death. Jesus not only preaches God's unconditional love for everyone, but his life personifies and demonstrates it. The blind are literally given sight, those held captive by illness, sin, and death are, in fact, delivered. In the three short years of his earthly ministry, the year of God's favor, the traditional Jewish jubilee year, does indeed arrive once and for all.

In conclusion, if "we were all baptized into . . . Christ's body" by the same Spirit that

anointed Christ, then we must share in his mission as well. We must function as the members of Christ that we are—Christ's hands, eyes, ears, and feet. It is for us to bring glad tidings, liberty, sight, and freedom to all who are oppressed. And this is where we derive our Theme for tonight - **The sonship of Jesus is manifested upon those who bring glad tidings to the poor.** So let us do our part to build the Kingdom of God here on earth. With every act of kindness, we lay another brick. Every time we forgive, every time we go out of our way to help someone, every time we do justice, we share in His mission. As a community, let us be charitable to the least of our brethren especially in our own native land. **“Allot portions to those who had nothing prepared.” Neh. 8:10** There are many opportunities for us to do just that. If we choose to help those in the Philippines, we can support our Scholarship for the Poor program, our own Philippine Medical Mission this coming February, the Gawad Kalinga and the Sagip sa Escuela program (save a school child) sponsored by Isaiah 58. Over here in our area, we have the Soup Kitchen, Nursing Home visitation, rebuilding of St. Mary's parish, and the parish assisted evangelization. Whichever we support can be holy and acceptable to the Lord if we listen to and act on God's word. Then, we will truly be able to say that we are "living the Word."

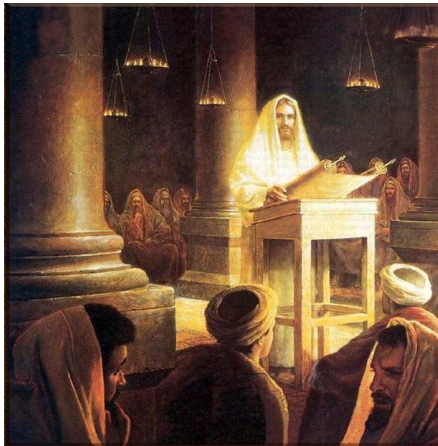
***Directions:***

1. Support our Scholarship for the Poor program.
2. Support our Philippine medical mission on Feb 22-25, 2010.

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

***“Do not be saddened this day, for rejoicing in the Lord must be your strength.”***

***(Neh 8:10)***



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**Love Offering**

Dec. 11, 2009 \$ 672.00  
Dec. 18, 2009 \$ 742.51  
Jan. 08, 2010 \$ 986.00  
Jan. 15, 2020 \$ 1,229.00

*Thank you for your generosity!*

**January Calendar**

Jan. 08 Praise & Worship  
15 Praise & Worship  
22 Praise & Worship  
29 Praise & Worship

**Community Calendar**

Jan. 22, 2010  
March for Life, 12:00 noon  
National Mall & 7<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, D. C.  
Feb. 22-25, 2010  
Medical Mission (w/ BLD Newark)  
Mauban, Quezon, Philippines  
Mar. 5-7, 2010  
YLSS# 4  
Time & Venue - TBD

**Teaching Schedule**

**Jan. 23 - Encounters w/Jesus**

Road to Emmaus & Jesus  
in the Old Testament  
(LSS9 & make-up for older LSS)  
Room 1A (Basement)  
McCarrick Center, Wheaton, MD  
Sat., Jan. 23, 2PM-4PM

**- Christian Maturity Program II**

Handling Conflict &  
Fraternal Correction  
(LSS8 & make-up for older LSS)  
Room 1B (Basement)  
McCarrick Center, Wheaton, MD  
Sat., Jan. 23. 2PM-4PM

**- Teachings of Jesus Christ  
by Fr. Corapi**

Sacred Scripture & Faith:  
Response to God's Love  
(Covenanted members)  
De Leon residence,  
Great Falls, VA  
Sat., Jan. 23, 2PM-4PM

**Feb. 26 - Post Encounter\***

(ME10/SE)

**Feb. 27 - Christian Parenting\***

(ME10/SPE)

**- Encounters with Jesus\***

(LSS9 & older)

**- Spiritual Warfare\***

(LSS7 & older)

**Feb. 28 - Teachings of Jesus Christ\***

Module 6 + Q&A  
(Covenanted members)

**- CMP 2 Part 3\***

(LSS8)

**Mar. 28 - Shepherd Training\***

(LSS7 & older)

\*Time and Venue – TBD

Please check our website [www.bldwashington.com](http://www.bldwashington.com)  
for 2010 Schedule of Events.

**Reminder**

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

**Marching for Life**

This month, thousands of people will gather in Washington, D.C., on January 22 to mark the 29th anniversary of the Supreme Court's *Roe v. Wade* decision that legalized abortion in the United States. This annual March for Life has been taking place since 1974, a year after the Court's decision.

The March for Life was begun by Nellie Gray, who still serves as its president, as a grassroots campaign to ensure that the Court's decision would not be forgotten or taken for granted as unchangeable. That first year, an estimated 20,000 people gathered at the nation's capital.

Since that first gathering, issues such as partial-birth abortion and stem-cell research have also become part of the focus of the pro-life movement. The theme of this year's

March is "Truth Uncovers Abortion Evils." According to organizers of the March, the theme was chosen in response to the question, "Why does America, the land of the free, permit the intentional killing of an estimated 4,000 preborn human children each day?"

Source:<http://www.americancatholic.org/news/default.aspx?categoryid=38>

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***National Prayer Vigil for Life and other Pro-Life Events in Wash., D.C.***

**January 21-22, 1998**

As we approach the 25th anniversary date of the Supreme Court decisions that legalized abortion, *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton*, many thousands of pro-life Americans are expected to witness to their belief in the sanctity of human life by participating in events of prayer and education, as well as in the annual March for Life. Many such events will take place at the local level throughout the United States. In Washington, D.C., some of the major events will include the following:

***Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.***  
***(See below for schedule.)***

***Prayer & Music Event for Youth,***  
***Jan. 21-22***

*Catholic University of America, DuFour Center; 11:30 pm on January 21 - 1:00 am on January 22; featuring: Jeffrey Dean.*  
***NOTE: This Event is Already Sold Out.***

**Annual March for Life, Jan.22**

*12:00 Noon; begins with a rally on the Ellipse near the White House; followed by march to Capitol Hill and the Supreme Court. Visit the office of your elected officials on the 22nd.*

***Information: 202-LIFE-377***

**Youth Mass and Rally for Life, Jan 22**

***10:00 AM - Noon, Constitution Hall, 18th & D Sts., N.W. Sponsored by the Catholic Archdiocese of Washington, D.C.***

***Information: 301-853-4555***

**Mass for Seminarians, Jan. 22**

***10:00 AM - St. Patrick's Church; 10th & G Sts., N.W.; sponsored by the Respect Life Committee, St. Joseph's Seminary, N.Y.***

***Information: 914-968-6200***

**Respect Life Mass, Jan. 22**

**10:30 AM - Cathedral of St. Matthew;**  
*corner of Rhode Island & Connecticut Aves.*  
*Sponsored by the Archdiocese of*  
*Washington, D.C.*  
**Information: 301-853-4555.**

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***People of Life***

***A People of Faith, Hope and Love***  
***Basilica of the National Shrine***  
***of the***  
***Immaculate Conception***  
***Washington, D.C.***  
***January 16-23, 1998***

**A special exhibit that tells the Pro-Life  
movement's story by**

**Remembering the Child**  
**Remembering the Woman**  
**Remembering God**  
**&**  
**Speaking the Truth To Power**

Sponsored by the National Conference of Catholic  
Bishops  
and the Knights of Columbus.

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***National Prayer Vigil for Life***  
***Basilica of the National Shrine of the***  
***Immaculate Conception***  
***Michigan Ave. & 4th St., N.E.,***  
***Washington, D.C.***

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21**

**Great Upper Church**

**7:00 PM - Pre-Liturgy Concert**  
*Kids for Life; a children's choir from*  
*Glassboro, New Jersey*

**8:00 PM - Mass in Thanksgiving for the  
Gift of Life**  
*Principal Celebrant and Homilist: Bernard*

*Cardinal Law, Archbishop of Boston and  
Chairman of the NCCB Committee for Pro-  
Life Activities.*

**Crypt Church**

**10:30 PM - Rosary for Life**  
*Led by Mothers of Mary.*

**11:00 PM - Sacrament of Reconciliation**  
*Confessional Chapel (until 1:00 am).*

**11:30 - Night Prayer**  
*Followed by Exposition of the Blessed  
Sacrament*

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 22**

**Crypt Church**

**Midnight - HOLY HOURS**  
*Beginning at midnight & ending at 6:00 am;*  
*led by Seminarians for Life International.*

**6:00 AM - Morning Prayer**

**Great Upper Church**

**7:30 AM - Closing Eucharistic Liturgy**  
*Principal Celebrant & Homilist: Most Rev.*  
*Justin Rigali, Archbishop of St. Louis.*

[Source: http://www.usccb.org/prolife/march.shtml](http://www.usccb.org/prolife/march.shtml)

