



BLD WASHINGTON
BUKÁS-LOÓB SA DIYÓS
COVENANT COMMUNITY

SERVING THE WASHINGTON, D.C. AREA

Counsel

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

Theme: We are disciples of Christ when we follow His commandment of love.

Word: Disciples of Christ have love for one another.

Order: *“I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another.”* (Jn 13:34)

(BLD Global Community reflection for April/May 2010)

REFLECTION:

Our Community Word for the month of May is: **Disciples of Christ have love for one another.** Jesus said: *“You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it. You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these commandments.”* (Mt. 22: 36-40).

Being disciples of Jesus Christ does entail knowledge of the bible and the doctrines of the Church. But more importantly, we should live and share the love of God. We can only share God’s love with others when we have an on-going relationship with Jesus as we spend time with Him in prayer, meditation, obeying His Word, and in the frequent reception of the Sacraments. We can never over-emphasize this point. But if we examine

ourselves honestly, we have to admit that we are still far from giving Jesus the first priority in our lives. For if we truly love God with all our heart, mind and spirit, we should have a heart that throbs with compassion for others, a forgiving heart devoid of resentment, hurts, anger, unforgiveness, a heart ready to help others, especially the poor. We should spend more time improving our spiritual life, making our character conform to that of Jesus. We should spend more time thinking of the goodness and mercy of God, how to follow Him, do His Will, and praise and thank Him for everything – for the wonder of creation, our very lives, our means of livelihood, our family, our neighbors, our co-workers, and all persons who come our way, appreciating and honoring them and their talents, for like us they too, are created in God’s image. Then with the help of the Holy Spirit, we can begin to love others as we love ourselves.

The theme for the 5th Sunday of Easter is: **We are disciples of Christ when we follow His commandment of love.** Just as the Lord is *“gracious and merciful, slow to anger, of great kindness, good to all and compassionate,”* (Ps 145:8-9) so too, should we be for Jesus commands us to love one another as He has loved us. While awaiting the return of Jesus, we should be supportive of one another and behave with mutual love, respect, and concern. This mutual love should be evident in our Christian life, that others may recognize us as true followers of Christ, thus giving witness to the beauty of our faith and attracting others to join us in community. The Blessed Teresa

of Calcutta once said: “True love of our neighbor is to wish him well and to do good to him.”

For those who follow this commandment of Jesus, the Promise for the Week is: ***“He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them as their God.”*** (Rev 21:3b).

For the 6th Sunday of Easter, the theme is: **We are disciples of Christ when we obey His word.** We can only obey the Word of God if we know the Word of God. This is only possible if we take time to read his word in the bible daily. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states that God is the author of Sacred Scriptures, “The divinely revealed realities, which are contained and presented in the text of the Sacred Scriptures, have been written down under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit,” (CCC105). The Church forcefully and specifically exhorts all the Christian faithful...to learn “the surpassing knowledge of Jesus Christ”, by frequent reading of divine scripture. “Ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Jesus Christ,” (CCC 133). The Promise for those who obey the Word of God is: ***“...My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him.”*** (Jn 14:23b).

For the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord, the theme is: **We are disciples of Christ when we witness His forgiving love.** As Jesus commanded His disciples to preach repentance for the forgiveness of sins, we too should give witness to His forgiving love. We do this when we periodically go to confession and live what we pray for in the Lord’s Prayer: “Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.” The Promise of the Week is: ***“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem.”*** (Acts 1:8).

For Pentecost Sunday, the theme is: **We are disciples of Christ when we exercise the gifts of**

the Holy Spirit. Like the first disciples, we too have been given the Holy Spirit and His gifts. We need to exercise these gifts so we can live renewed lives in Christ. With Jesus in us, we can be made instruments in the renewal of others. But we need to constantly examine ourselves for the fruit of the Holy Spirit in our life: ***“Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.”*** (Gal 5:22). The promise of the week is: ***“When you send forth your spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the earth.”*** (Ps 104: 30).

The theme for the Solemnity of the Most Blessed Trinity is: **We are disciples of Christ when we manifest the unity of the Most Holy Trinity.** The Pastoral Constitution of the Church says: “The Church has been seen as a people made one with the unity of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,” (Lumen Gentium 4). We belong to the Church so we should manifest the unity of the Most Holy Trinity in BLD. Our Covenant also states that we should commit ourselves to the Person of Jesus Christ and be united in heart, mind and spirit in obedience to God, our Father, and in response to the direction of the Holy Spirit. The Promise of the Week is: ***“The Love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.”*** (Rom 5: 5).

Directions:

1. Reach out to those who are hurting, those who are lost and those who are difficult to love.
2. Build a community of love.

God’s Promise for the Week

“He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them as their God.” (Rev. 21:3b)



May 1

St. Joseph the Worker

JOSEPH VS. COMMUNISM

"Where did this Man get such wisdom and miraculous powers? Isn't this the carpenter's Son?" — Matthew 13:54-55



In 1955, Pope Pius XII instituted this feast day in honor of St. Joseph the Worker. He put the feast on this day to oppose the May Day military celebration of the Communist world. It seemed so foolish of Pius XII to bring up Joseph, the poor carpenter of Nazareth, to confront Soviet military

might. Joseph seemed even less likely of defeating the mammoth Communist machine than David against Goliath. In a few short decades, however, Soviet Communism was shattered.

May Day has lost its triumphal glory. The Lord has conquered. Christianity has defeated Communism. Joseph has conquered in the name of his Foster Son, Jesus (see Rm 8:37). Joseph the Worker has conquered by faith. "This is the work of God: have faith in the One Whom He sent" (Jn 6:29). "All depends on faith, everything is grace" (Rm 4:16). "The power that has conquered the world is this faith of ours. Who, then, is conqueror of the world? The one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God" (1 Jn 5:4-5).

Prayer

Father, may we choose a lifestyle that will maximize opportunities for developing our faith in You. Saint Joseph, pray for us.

Source: <http://www.presentationministries.com/obob/obob.asp?d=5/1/2010>

Reminder

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

Love Offering

Apr. 02, 2010 (No P&W)
Apr. 09, 2010 \$1,086.00
Apr. 16, 2010 \$1,233.00
Apr. 23, 2010 \$2,038.00

Thank you for your generosity!

April/May Calendar

May 07 Invocation Mass
May 14 Praise & Worship
May 21 Praise & Worship
May 28 Praise & Worship

Teaching Schedule

Apr. 30 Intro to Intercession

For LSS9 and make-up for older classes
After P&W (1 hour teaching)
Our Lady of Victory

May 02 Family Spirituality

1:45 PM
Our Lady of Good Counsel
Parish Center

Community Calendar

May 7-9 Life in Spirit Seminar #10
Holy Family Seminary
401 Randolph Rd., Silver Spring, MD

May 21-23

Youth Life in Spirit Seminar #4
Time and Venue - TBD

Jul. 31-Aug. 2

Family Encounter #4
Malvern, PA

Sep. 24-26

Solo Parent Encounter #3
Holy Family, MD

Nov. 12-14

Marriage Encounter #11
Dulles Hilton, VA

Please check our website www.bldwashington.com for 2010 Schedule of Events.