



COVENANT NEWS

BUKÁS-LOÓB SA DIYÓS COVENANT COMMUNITY • ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK

Volume 23 Issue 18

Bulletin Edition

May 12, 2017

NEWS

COUNSELS

'If Relationship With Mary Is Lacking, There Is Orphanhood in Heart,' Says Pope

Ahead of Fatima Trip, Francis Tells Portuguese Pontifical College That If Priests Forget Their Mother Mary, Something Is Lacking

MAY 9, 2017 / DEBORAH CASTELLANO LUBOV /
PAPAL TEXTS

Ahead of his Apostolic Visit to Fatima, May 12-13, Pope Francis has urged Rome's Portuguese Pontifical College to turn to Our Lady.

Francis did so yesterday, May 8, 2017, when receiving the pontifical college in audience in the Vatican. Talking with the community in the Consistory Hall of the Apostolic Palace, the Holy Father reminded them that "to have a good relationship with the Virgin, helps us to have a good relationship with the Church," because "both are Mothers."

He quoted Saint Isaac, Abbot of Stella's words: "What can be said of Mary can be said of the Church and also of our soul," because the three are mothers and the three give life. "It is necessary to cultivate a filial relationship with the Virgin, because if it is lacking, there is something of an 'orphan in the heart,'" he stressed.

"A priest who forgets the Mother, especially in moments of difficulty," the Pontiff declared, "is a priest who is lacking something. It is as if he were an orphan, even though he is not! He has forgotten his Mother."

Pope Francis concluded, reminding them that "in difficult moments, a child always goes to its mother," and noting the Word of God teaches us to "be quieted children in her [their mother's] arms."

We Do Not Know the Way!!!

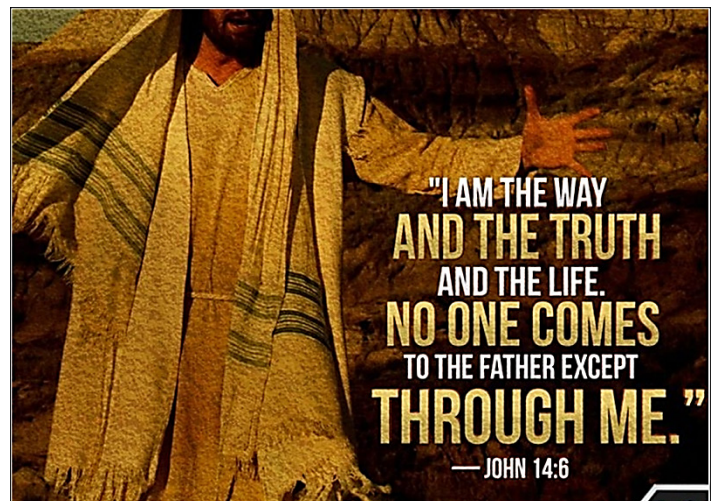
THEME: We are empowered by the Holy Spirit when we boldly do the works of Jesus.

WORD: Acts 6:1-7 ~ Ps 33:1-2,4-5,18-19
1 Pt 2:4-9 ~ Jn 14:1-12

ORDER: "... do the works that I do, and (you) will do greater ones than these..." (Jn 14:12a)

REFLECTION:

Thomas was so honest in his question to Jesus "Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?" (Jn 14:5) Jesus said:



Let us focus on Jesus as the Way. He said no one comes to the Father but by Me; thus He is the only path linking heaven and earth for Christian disciples who are serious about their desire to be with God in heaven.

Our theme of the week is **We are empowered by the Holy Spirit when we boldly do the works of Jesus.**

...Continued on page 3

Promise of the Week

Whoever believes in Him shall not be put to shame.

(cf 1 Pt 2:6b)

IT STARTED 100 YEARS AGO...

The following article was submitted last year by a BLD member who is also active at St. Antoninus Parish in Newark. It is included in this CN issue now, to coincide with Pope Francis' trip to Portugal for the 100th Anniversary of the appearance of Our Lady of Fatima (Saturday, May 13, 2017). Given the turbulence in the world today, its message is as timely as ever.

It started 100 years ago. World War I was raging; the Bolshevik revolution was simmering, ready to fully explode the following year. Margaret Sanger was aggressively pushing birth control and forced sterilization, which would later be picked up by the Nazis in their population control and genocide programs. The Mexican Revolution was wreaking havoc, bitterly persecuting the Church and anyone associated with it.

In this perfect storm scenario, Pope Benedict XV cried out to heaven in desperation as there was no human solution to the outbreak from hell. He asked all Catholics to storm heaven and beseech Our Lady under the title of Queen of Peace, adding this invocation to the Litany of Loreto.

She did not tarry in responding. First she set the stage. In 1916 she sent Michael the Archangel, the Angel of Peace to 3 shepherd children in Fatima, Portugal. They were 9-year old Lucia, Francisco, who was 8 and Jacinta, who was the youngest at 6. The Archangel appeared to them on a rocky outcrop while they were tending sheep. The wind began to blow and they looked up to see what was happening. They saw, above the trees bathed in light, the shape of a transparent young man. He was of great beauty and appeared to be 14-15 years old. They stood transfixed; and when he approached them, he said, "Fear not. I am the Angel of Peace. Pray with me." He knelt with his face to the ground and the children followed suit. He prayed: "My God, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love Thee. I beg Thee for forgiveness for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love Thee."

He rose and told the children to pray that prayer all the time and that the hearts of Jesus and Mary were open to their pleadings. Consumed by awe and reverence, they prayed that prayer for hours on end, while prostrated on the ground.

The second visit from the Angel occurred over the well at Lucia's house where they were →→

→ playing. The Angel remonstrated: "What are you doing? Pray! Pray a great deal! The Hearts of Jesus and Mary have merciful designs concerning you. Offer prayers and sacrifices constantly to the Most High!"

"How?" they asked.

"Offer God a sacrifice of anything you can as an act of reparation for the sins with which He is offended, and as a supplication for the conversion of sinners. Draw peace upon your country by doing this. I am its guardian angel – the Angel of Portugal. Above all, accept and endure with submission whatever suffering the Lord sends you."

When the 3 young shepherds tried to share their story with others, they were ridiculed and endured much suffering.

The third apparition occurred at a rocky outcrop. As soon as they arrived there with their sheep, they prostrated themselves and repeatedly said the prayer the Angel had given them. They sensed a strange light above them and looked up to see the Angel bearing a chalice in his left hand.

Drops of blood fell into the chalice from a Host suspended over it. Leaving the chalice and the Host in the air, the Angel prostrated himself next to the children and prayed:

"Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, I adore Thee profoundly and offer Thee the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the tabernacles of the world, in reparation for the insults, sacrileges and indifference with which He is offended.

And through the infinite merits of His Most Sacred Heart and of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg Thee for the conversion of poor sinners."

He then rose and gave the Host to Lucia and the contents of the chalice to Francisco and Jacinta.

"Take and drink the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, Who is horribly insulted by ungrateful men. Make reparation for their crimes and console your God."

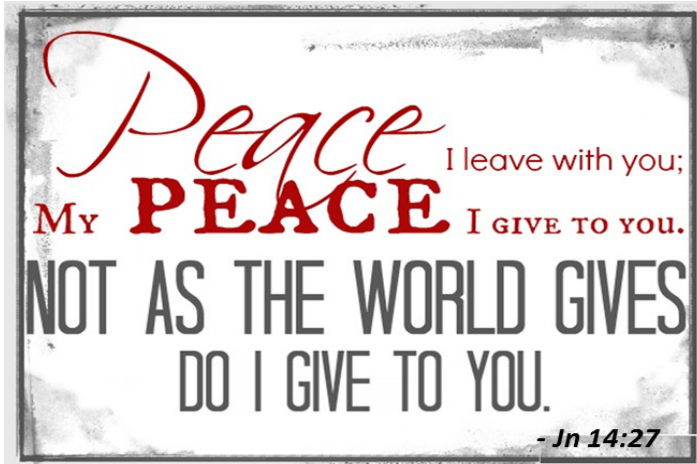
The children were totally absorbed and changed by this last apparition. God took up His throne in their souls when they received Holy Communion. This was the final preparation before the coming of the Mother of God in the following year, the one who would confront the devil who was sowing evil everywhere in the world.

It is no different now in 2017.

...Continued on page 4

Christ's Peace

In the end, it is only Christ's kind of love that will bring peace and security for us all.



The news today is littered with unrest. Protests abound, held by people not happy with the way their countries are being run by their government officials. Civil wars seem common in international news. Terrorist attacks make the presence of police enforcers necessary in the streets. Seeing uniformed men armed with high-powered guns, walking alongside riders in train stations offers people a somewhat disturbing sense of security.

Just recently, a missile was launched against Syria that even resulted in an emergency meeting of the Security council of the United Nations. On the domestic front, children launch tirades against their parents, and these have even led to lawsuits. Is this what we have become – a citizenry of loud shouts and battle cries?

Not so with Jesus. Following the mission that was handed down by God the Father, He accepted dying on the cross. In His agony, He even cried out and shed blood as His perspiration, but still He obeyed. His mission was to conquer death in order for us to live. Ultimately, He triumphed; not with sword nor with arms, but with words and silent obedience. Such is the irony of His victorious fight against evil.

It is by this victory that He is able to leave us with the Peace that only He can give.

In the world that we live in today, it is truly urgent that we cling to this Peace and believe Him when He says, ***“Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.”*** (Jn 14:27c)

Not that we simply do nothing, but we must make the effort and seize the opportunities to bring others to Him. In the end, it is only Christ's kind of love that will bring peace and security for us all. →→

COUNSELS

(from page 1)

The works of Jesus were clearly described in the Bible: great miracles of healing and raising of the dead; lessons about being human, as shown by His humility, kindness, charity, faithfulness and compassion; His mercy and the many other beautiful qualities that made people believe and follow Him.

The works of Jesus are the footprints we need to show us the Way. They are not easy to follow on our own especially in the troublesome times we are in. It also seems that we can always find excuses and justifications to procrastinate doing anything. But all of us are given only so much time to spend on this journey, so we need to spend our time wisely.

None of us can become holy overnight; but if we have a childlike trust in Him, and make the effort to meditate on His words, observe His ways, imitate His actions, and even sacrifice some of the worldly things we value, we will walk in His Way and become more like Jesus.

For directions to the community, our DCS is exhorting everyone to;

1. Be bold in inviting others to our encounters and seminars.
2. Be a good witness by your willingness to accept ministry assignments.

Let us no longer be shy or timid in helping our Community grow. We know that “He or she that the Lord appoints – He anoints. And whoever He picks – He equips.” Let us rise up and heed the call to come and worship the God Who bids us to follow His Way, as His royal priesthood and holy nation that knows, loves and serves Him.

→ Dearest Lord, may I be able to emulate Your stance of silence and servitude in bringing the flock back to You. May I be an effective shepherd in showing Your face to the people around me. May my life be an example of what a true disciple is. In Your mighty name, I pray. AMEN.



- Jn 14:27c

IT STARTED 100 YEARS AGO... (from page 2)

We need to prostrate ourselves in prayer and make daily sacrifices for the conversion of souls if the world is to survive the storms of this century. We must bear the cross just as those faithful children did and be willing to suffer. It is the only way. So let us prepare for the 100th anniversary of Her coming. Let us prepare now so that our Mother finds an army of faithful prayer warriors. The conversion of souls depends on our prayers and sacrifices. Let us hasten the events that will lead to the triumph of Her Immaculate Heart.

MARY, QUEEN OF PEACE, PRAY FOR US.
ST. MICHAEL, THE ARCHANGEL,
LEAD US IN BATTLE.

A Stewardship Prayer

- from the Franciscans at St. Anthony's Shrine, Boston, MA

Receive my offering O Lord. It is not charity because You are not a beggar. It is not a contribution because You have no need for it. It is not leftovers because You want more than that.

My gift O Lord, represents my gratitude, my love...
...for whatever I have, it is because
You have given it to me.



TEACHING CALENDAR

Teachings for Saturday, **May 13, 2017** - 1 to 6 pm:
- Encounter with Jesus: Matthew / Mark (LSS 1-46B)
- Sienna Gift Inventory (LSS 47)

LORD'S PROVISION

Previous Week's

Collections:	Prior Week	YTD
Tithes	\$ 1,430	\$ 24,377
Love Offerings	\$ 332	\$ 23,575
Mission Collections	\$ 130	\$ 2,681

Financial details are available to all members through treasury@bldnewark.com
Thank you for your continued support!

COMMUNITY CALENDAR



BLD Newark
1992-2017

Save the Date

This year marks BLD-Newark's 25th anniversary. You are part of the beautiful tapestry the Lord has woven into this community's history, and we invite you to join us as we celebrate this important milestone.

Please save the following dates:

- August 19, 2017- Community Celebration at the Basilica
- August 20, 2017- 25th Anniversary Dinner Dance

We look forward to reminiscing our yesterday, celebrating our today, and envisioning our future with you.

By His grace,
The 25th Anniversary Committee

"May the LORD bless you and keep you! May the LORD let his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you. May the LORD look upon you kindly and give you peace!"
(Numbers 6:24-26)

Marriage Encounter # 48

May 19-21, 2017

Hotel Executive Suites
30 Minue Street, Carteret, NJ
Contact email: MLA@bldnewark.com

- June 16 -18, 2017**
Graymoor Spiritual Life Center
Garrison, NY 10524
Singles Encounter #37
Come all you who are thirsty...
Please contact: Jutt Bustos
Lita Alfaro
- June 23-25, 2017**
Days Hotel of East Brunswick
195 Route 18 S
East Brunswick, NJ 08816
Solo Parents Encounter #19
"Jesus is calling..."
Please contact: Cherry and Reuben Vibar
- July 7-9, 2017**
Pine Hill, PA (TBC)
Youth Encounter #23
"Come and Follow Me..."
Please contact: dyc@bldnewark.com
- July 14-16, 2017**
Malvern Retreat House
315 South Warren Avenue
Malvern, PA 19355
Family Encounter #24
Your family is your first church...
Please contact: Willy and Amor Ferrer
Noel and Gale Deleon

Marshaling	Date	Apostolate
	May 19	Evangelization
	May 26	Formation
	Jun 2	Management
	Jun 9	Mission