



VALLEY OF THE SON



COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Volume 2, Issue 4

April 2007

Month of April

WORD: *We pray constantly to endure our own passion and death to attain our resurrection.*

READINGS

- Apr 01** Is 50:4-7
Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24
Phil 2:6-11
Lk 22:14-23 or Lk 23:1-49
- Apr 08** Acts 10:34a, 37-43
Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23
Col 3:1-4 or Cor 5:6b-8
Jn 20:1-9
- Apr 15** Acts 5:12-16
Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24
Rv 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19
Jn 20:19-31
- Apr 22** Acts 5:27-32; 40b-41
Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13
Rv 5:11-14
Jn 21:1-19 or 21:1-14
- Apr 29** Acts 13:14, 43-52
Ps 100:1-3, 5
Rv 7:9, 14b-17
Jn 10:27-30

DIRECTIONS (BLD GLOBAL):

1. *Make my words the daily sustenance of your spiritual life.*
2. *Continue to proclaim the good news of our salvation through our Encounters programs*

PROPHECIES (BLD GLOBAL):

1. *Turn away from your sinfulness, pick up your cross daily and follow Me.*
2. *Be obedient to my will and I will prepare a place for you in my Kingdom*

DCS Monthly Reflections

1st Week: Palm Sunday (*Obedience*)

Theme: We endure our own passion and death to attain resurrection when we submit to the Father's will.

Promise: *"Amen I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise."* (Lk 23:43)

Order: "Are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss? Stop, no more of this!" (Luke 22:48,51)

Direction: Deceive not yourself by proclaiming our love for Christ yet not following his teachings and serving.

Reflection: Knowing that He was going to die in fulfillment of the scriptures, Christ bravely rides back into town to meet his fate. He knew that pain and hardship he must endure to fulfill his mission. In like manner we should take up our challenges and do our sacrifices. The prayers and abstinence we did during the Holy Week should continue as we become changed men. We proclaim our love for Christ by serving our community and being models for others specially the young. "If these things are done when the wood is green what will happen when it is dry?" (Luke 33:31) Let us start changing ourselves by being conscious of our lives full of hatred and anger. It warps our judgment of people. Once we allow ourselves to hate, we can neither think straight or listen with out distraction. It takes away our focus on the Lord.

2nd Week Easter Sunday (*Self-giving*)

Theme: We endure our own passion and death to attain our resurrection when we live a life of love and mercy towards others.

Promise: *"... everyone who believes in Him will receive forgiveness of sins through His name."* (Act 10:43b)

Order: "He (Jesus) commissioned us to preach to the people and testify that he is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead."

Direction: First understand the scripture by faithfully finishing community's Christian Discipleship Formation Program (CDFP), then bring the good new to people of all nations.

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DCS Reflections 2nd Week continued...

Reflection: Easter is the epitome of Catholic celebration. It is the ultimate theology of our faith. "...and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is vain; you are still in your sins." 1Co 15:17.

The Lenten season gave us a chance to reflect and meditate on the mystery of Christ's passion and death. Christ died for us, to conquer death, His and ours. What do we do to deserve such love and sacrifice?

Easter Sunday is the glorious victory of Christ's suffering, hallelujah! For forty days he appeared to the disciples physically, showing them his wounds, supping with them, and continue to reinforce their faith to be true witness of his glorious resurrection.

And He gave his grand commission to each of the disciples to help people of all nations to prepare for the final coming of the Son of God. "... this gospel of the kingdom will be preached throughout the world as a witness to all nations, and then the end will come." Mt 24:14

How are we to fulfill this great commission, if we do not even know Christ? "Ignorant of the scripture is ignorant of Christ." St. Jerome.

Let us make a commitment to God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, giving our selves, such that we shall faithfully learn the scriptures, by completing the BLD community's Christian Discipleship Formation Program (CDFP).

3rd Week: 2nd Sunday of Easter (Forbearance)

Theme: We endure our own passion and death to attain resurrection when we believe that the Risen Christ is our Lord and Savior.

Promise: "... believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name."
(John 20:31))

Directions: Continue on fully trusting God in all our works in the community even when things are not always going well in our personal lives for "once I was dead, but now I am alive forever and ever." (Rev. 1:18)

April 25
Feast of St. Mark, Evangelist

DCS Reflections 3rd Week continued...

Reflection: As we celebrate the Easter season we should rise from wallowing in sin and take up the challenge of following the path of Christ. Let us be full believers in Him and be like Thomas. Let us be movers and not be fence sitters waiting for results before we pitch in. We are stewards of our children, we feed them, take care of them and then let them go when they are grown up. So it is the same of our talents, time and resources. We use them so we also grow and enjoy and then share with others so they likewise benefit from all these blessings we are getting from God. If God's mercy endure forever, why can't we have peace with all our brothers and have peace and harmony? Let us go to that Fountain of Love and Mercy and make peace with all and serve one another.

4th Week 3rd Sunday of Easter (Caring)

Theme: We endure our own passion and death to attain resurrection when we lovingly care for others that they may see hope.

Promise: "*Cast the net over the right side of the boat and you will find something.*" (John 21:6)

Order: "Feed my lambs" .."Tend my sheep" ...
"Feed my Sheep".

Direction: "Follow Me." (John 21:19)

Reflection: Do you love me? (John 21:15) Jesus' questioning of Peter in such a direct way was not intended to make Peter feel guilty. And neither was it an ego trip for the Lord. Jesus didn't need Peter's love to feel better about himself. He already knew --- better than Peter himself---how much Peter loved him. Rather, Jesus wanted Peter to reach deep within himself and see how much love for the Lord was actually there.

Jesus questioned Peter at a pivotal moment to show that Peter's love for him was greater than any opposing power that might try to keep him bound in the memory of his failures. Jesus wanted Peter to see that while he was human and would make mistakes, his love for Jesus could still cover a multitude of human failings (1 Peter 4:8). This was probably one of the most encouraging interrogations anyone could experience! True, Jesus' question must have disturbed Peter initially. But in the end, it actually restored his faith to himself as a child of God and a chosen apostle of the Lord. It helped Peter understand that even in spite of his imperfections, he could still serve Jesus fully.
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BLD Phoenix Youth Encounter #3

"I rejoiced greatly to find some of your children walking in the truth just as we were commanded by the Father."
(2 Jn 1:4)

Who: All Youth ages 14-20

What: Youth Encounter #3

When: May 4- 6, 2007

Where: Whispering Pines Campgrounds
7525 S. Mt. Tritle Road Prescott,
Arizona 86303

Please contact the following for more details:

Chris & Mary Ann Korte (480) 844-0492

Rey & Mary Conopio (623) 847-6070

Lee & Arlene Junia (623) 703-2550

Michael Querol (206) 579 -1573

Application Forms and more information also available online at www.BLDPhoenix.com.

Birthdays

- 1 - Simon Lam (ME 2 Newark)
- 1 - Elmer Alata (ME 6)
- 3 - Glo Javier (ME 6)
- 4 - Tess Martinez (ME 5)
- 8 - Leonor Beronia (ME 1)
- 9 - Joyce Clark (ME 1)
- 12 - Mary Ann Conopio (ME 1)
- 24 - Felix Gines (ME 3)
- 24 - Edith David (ME 6)
- 28 - Denny Custodio (ME 4)

Anniversaries

- 18 - Manny & May Siongco (ME 4)
- 26 - Jack & Tess Marquez (ME 6)
- 28 - John & Eva Ward (ME 4)



BLD Phoenix 2007 Encounters and Seminars

May 4-6 YE#3 Venue to be determined

July 27-29 YLSS Mount Claret

Aug 10-12 SPE#2 Mount Claret

Sep 14-16 LSS#5 Mount Claret

Oct 26-28 Aspirants Retreat Venue to be determined

Nov 9-11 Marriage Encounter #7

(*ME - Marriage Encounter; YE - Youth Encounter;
YLSS - Youth Life in the Spirit Seminar; SPE - Solo Parents Enc-
counter; LSS - Life In The Spirit Seminar*)

Monthly Schedule

1st Fridays: Holy Mass w/ Anointing-7:30 PM
2nd, 4th & 5th Fridays: Praise & Worship-7:30 PM
3rd Fridays: Youth Praise & Worship-7:30 PM
(Venue for Friday activities: OLV Chapel)

April 28 Filipino Sunday Mass - 5:00 PM at OLV
(Sponsored by BLD Phoenix)

Church Calendar

Apr 1 - Passion Sunday (Palm Sunday)
Apr 8 - Easter Sunday
Apr 15 - Divine Mercy Sunday
Apr 25 - St. Mark

Ministry Announcements

Intercessory Ministry

Please update petitions monthly for continuous prayers and/or update ministry heads for answered prayers. You may please make/update prayer requests through a link in the website or e-mail ministry heads Denny & Nina Custodio at dennyc1220@cox.net.

IDLC

° To all DCS and Ministry Heads (and all those involved in handling minors) please take the Safety Environment Training for Ministries offered by local parishes. You may check the Diocese website for training schedule:

<http://safeenvironmenttraining.org/index.php>

° Monthly IDLC meeting will be on **March 24, 2007** at 12:00 noon at Victory Home Care 1103 S. Mesa Drive, Mesa AZ 85210 (Villaraza Building)

Secretariat Ministry

Personal data forms are already available at the Registration Area. This is for all encountered members/LSS graduates to update the community database. All forms are to be turned in to Secretariat.

THE LORD'S PROVISIONS

Cash flow as of March 2007

<i>Receipts</i>	\$
<i>Disbursements</i>	\$
<i>Surplus (Deficits)</i>	\$

See Treasury Logbook for details-available at Registration Area or see Treasury Ministry Heads Pedro & Cita Rivera

Thank you for your generosity!

www.BLDPhoenix.com

DCS Reflection 4th Week continued...

Today, Jesus asks each of us, "Do You Love Me?" even though he already knows the answer. We should welcome this kind of questioning. He doesn't doubt us. He only longs to burn away any unbelief in us with the fire of his love—a love that will create an even deeper love for him in our hearts.

Today and during Mass, let us welcome Jesus into our hearts so that we can expand our capacity to love. Yes, we will make mistakes. No one is sinless. But know that as we declare our love to Jesus, he will strengthen us and enable us to take up the work he has called us to. Then, our love for him will become the visible proof that His kingdom really has come to earth.

"Jesus, you know how much we love you. Continue refining us with the fire of your love so that we may love you more and show our love to you and our neighbors."

Week #5 4th Sunday of Easter (Witnessing)

Theme: We endure our own passion and death to attain resurrection when we witness as Christ to others.

Promise: *"I have made you a light to the Gentiles, that you may be an instrument of salvation to the ends of the earth."* (Acts 13:47)

Order: Give thanks to God, and bless His name.

Direction: Listen and hear Jesus' voice, and follow his teachings.

Reflection: Right from the early Church, evangelists encounter resistance frequently; thought successful sometimes, jealousy and disapproval forces them to move somewhere else. In God's divine providence; it assisted in the spreading of the Gospel, throughout the known world in very short time.

God's love for his people endures forever.

Through great distress, God's people multiple into great multitude, they listen and follow Jesus as Son of God, being one with the Father, with obedience as sheep to their shepherd.

We, as disciples of Christ Jesus, we are ensured to succeed in evangelization when our witnessing is worthy of Jesus' teaching, in spite of difficulty.