

Month of June

WORD: *Blessed are those who share in the life and love of the Father, the Son and the Spirit.*

READINGS

- June 7 Dt 4:32-34,39-40
Ps 33:4-6,9,18-20,22
Rom 8:14-17
Mt 28:16-20
- June 14 Ex 24:3-8
Ps 116:12-13,15-18
Heb 9:11-15
Mk 14:12-16,22-26
- June 21 Jb 38:1,8-11
Ps107:23-26, 28-31
2Cor 5:14-17
Mk 4:35-41
- June 28 Wis 1:13-15, 2:23-24
Ps 30:2,4-6, 11-13
2Cor 8:7,9,13-15
Mk 5:21-43 or 5:21-24,35b-43

MONTHLY COUNSELS

June 6-HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY (Evangelization)

Theme: Blessed are we when we observe and teach God’s statutes and commandments.

Promise: *“You must keep his statutes and commandments that I enjoin on you today, that you may have long life on the land which the Lord, your God, is giving you forever.” (Dt 4:0B)*

Reflection: Three things we all have in common as children of God. We are all created in the image and likeness of God. We are all redeemed by Christ. We all need to be sanctified by the Holy Spirit. If we remember those three things, it should not be difficult to understand that the Father expects a certain norm and attitude in keeping with our roles as his sons and daughters. *“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations... teaching them to observe all that I commanded you.”* We are enjoined to remind one another that our mission is to spread God’s word and love to all the corners of the earth. Christ died, rose from the dead and ascended into heaven so that the Holy Spirit may be poured out over the whole earth and that regardless of rank we may all be renewed in our commitment to his love. The man we forced to wear a crown of thorns is the savior who offers us a princely crown. This man of sorrows is also our glorious king. The Father will give us the wholeness of life that he promised, if only that we could all be reconciled to his son whose one wish is to draw all of us to him, that he in turn may draw us all to the Father. Someday we shall all go home and embrace the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit in an everlasting love.

Prayer: Dear Jesus, you are the center of my life. If I seek to live in you forever, there is no power on earth and in the heavens that could prevent that. You have chosen me and in turn I have chosen you as my Lord and savior. Take me home Jesus, take me home to you and to the Father and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Order: *“You must keep his statutes and commandments which I enjoin on you today...” (Dt 4:40a)*

Direction: Obey God’s commandments. Observe the rules of friendship and the boundaries of proper relationships. Let God in your marriage, family and home. Believe that there is only one God who gave us his commandments.

June 13-SOLEMNNITY OF THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST (Obedience)

Theme: Blessed are we when we faithfully partake of the Body and Blood of Christ.

Promise: *“Take it, this is my body...this is my blood of the covenant which will be shed for many.” (Mk 14:24)*

Reflection: Like Moses who led the Israelites into a covenant relationship with God, our parents made that covenant for us when they brought us to the baptismal font as did their parents who did the same for them. We renew that loving commitment to God when we present our children for baptism. This tradition of God’s grace perpetuates itself in the family. The gift of faith is nurtured in the home of obedience. No thanksgiving is more appropriate than when we honor God by carrying on the life of Christ his son, in our lives and in our children’s lives. We ought to inspire our children, our friends and all within our sphere of influence to faithfully partake of the Body and Blood of Christ.

Continued next page...

Life in the Spirit Seminar #8 (LSS 8)
 June 19, 2009 (Friday) at 8pm - Invocation Mass
 June 20-21 (Sat & Sun- times TBA) - LSS Day 1 & Day 2
 Spiritual Director: Msgr. Schetelick

There will be **NO Praise & Worship at OLV** on June 19. There will be instead an Invocation Mass open to all at 8 PM to be held at Queen of Peace Parish
 Madonna Hall
 141 North MacDonald ST Mesa AZ 85201

Inside June Issue:

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Prayer: Thank you God for reminding me in the Eucharist that you created me without my permission but that you cannot save me without my express consent. I must personally accept you, O Christ as my Lord and savior. You cannot save me without my own willingness and sincere desire to be saved. I am all yours. Amen.

Order: "Take it, this is my body." (Mk 14:22b)

Direction: Give thanks to God through our obedience to his will and our fidelity to the sacraments. Receive communion regularly. Confess at least once a month. Enjoin your friends to live in a sacramental marriage. Advise them that their marriage can be con-validated, if appropriate. Encourage them to have their children baptized and confirmed.

June 20-12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Joy & Serenity)

Theme: Blessed are we when we rejoice in Christ amidst the storms of life.

Promise: "They rejoiced that they were calmed, and he brought them to their desired haven." (Ps 107:30)

Reflection: We who are in Christ are a new creation. Our old doubts and fears, we must throw them all away. Has God not quieted the storms of our life? Has he not changed our passions for the lesser things of the world into our supreme passion to seek only his will? "Do you not yet have faith?" (Mk 4: 40b) If even the wind and sea obey God, do we not yet have the faith that our anxieties, troubles and problems could all vanish with one word from him? We only have to cling on to God's word. We only have to seek his help. We only have to trust in his abiding presence. That is why in BLD, we remind one another that there are tears and there are joys. There are failures and there are triumphs. There are partings and there are reunions. In all these times, God is always with us, and with God there are no problems without solutions. God's power can contain all the adverse forces of fate and all the harsh trials of life. To have joy, we must open our hearts to God. To have serenity we sometimes must walk the unbeaten path with him. If we address our petitions to God in the center of all our needs, he promises us both joy and serenity.

Prayer: I trust you, dear Jesus. I have you O God who rebuked a storm to be calm. I thank you for gently chiding me for my attachments to worldly things. You have lovingly roused up my passion for you, my one and only joy. Thank you, Jesus.

Order: "This far shall you come and no farther." (Jb 38:11)

Direction: Obey God's commandments. Listen to his promptings. Say yes to love. Say no to lust. Share. Be not selfish. Believe that there are limits to curiosities. Believe that there are forbidden things. Seek God's forgiveness and believe.

June 27 - 13th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Charity)

Theme: Blessed are we when like Jesus we abound with works of charity.

Promise: "...your abundance at the present time should supply the needs, so that their abundance may also supply your needs, that there may be equality." (2Cor 8:14)

Reflection: Fear never resides in hearts that are open to God's guidance and direction. There is also no fear even in hearts that have abundant need and want. God, whose charity is the well-spring of our abundance, always provides. God invites us to share our abundance with others.

Counsels continued...

He reminds us that we are only custodians of the world, and nature and its resources and even of our personal blessings. Each gift, each treasure, each talent is meant for sharing not hoarding. In the Gospel, the woman afflicted with hemorrhages for 12 years, has great faith. She says of Jesus, "If I but touch his clothes, I shall be cured." The charity of Jesus touched her even as it touches all who seek him in complete trust. God so loves us, he gives himself to us in the Eucharist to all who wish to receive him in faith. He multiplies himself for us and waits for us in as many tabernacles as there are in the world that keep him exposed in perpetual adoration, to as many who need to visit him and confide in him.

Prayer: Jesus, now I know for certain that you love me. You are with me as often as I receive you in the Eucharist and as often as there are moments in the day that my thoughts seek you and I say, "My Jesus, how I wish that I could at this very moment receive you sacramentally, but since I cannot, come at least spiritually into my soul. Amen."

Order: "Do not be afraid, just have faith." (Mk5:36b)

Direction: Arise, O soul, wherever you are. Be aware that God is with you. Smile and spread God's cheerfulness. Lift your hearts and voices in praise of God. Visit the sick. Comfort a child. Do what it takes to help a lonely friend to smile today. †



A Prayer for Fathers...

God, bless all the fathers in the world. Guide them to be good role models and loving to all their children. Help them to be a father like You are. Give them grace and patience to handle situations in a loving way. Amen -From BLD Phoenix

Saints of the Month! Did you know that...



...According to rich tradition, St. Peter was crucified on the Vatican Hill upside down because he declared himself unworthy to die in the same manner as the Lord?

...He was then buried on Vatican Hill, and excavations under St. Peter's Basilica have unearthed his probable tomb, and his relics are now enshrined under the high altar of St. Peter's?

...In liturgical art, he is depicted as an elderly man holding a key and a book. His symbols include an inverted cross, a boat, and the cock?



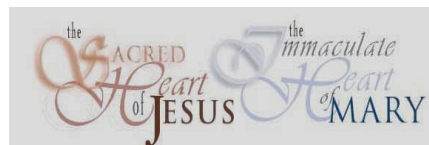
...St. Paul, the indefatigable Apostle of the Gentiles, was converted from Judaism to Christianity on the road to Damascus?

...St. Paul's untiring interest in and paternal affection for the churches established by him have given us fourteen canonical Epistles? (It is, however, quite certain that he wrote other letters which are no

longer extant).

...both St. Peter's & St. Paul's feastday is on **June 29?**

<http://www.catholic.org/saints>



Hail O Loving Hearts of Jesus and Mary!

**Feastday
June 19 and 20**

Concordis Indu Corpus Christi

As a Catholic family, we celebrate the Feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ on June 14 this year. A few years back, I was given the opportunity to participate in a Eucharistic Pilgrimage in Hanceville, Alabama together with other BLD members. This exactly was held in Our Lady of Angels Monastery, the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament. The event was graced with people from all ages and areas in the USA, Australia, Ireland and the Philippines. I have never seen a shrine so beautiful. I was awestruck to find a 8-foot monstrance that holds the Blessed Sacrament so grandly. The place just exudes nothing but sacredness.

I noticed that the opening Eucharistic Celebration was celebrated mostly in Latin (and all Masses thereafter). It seemed like a foreign experience but, there was also something very familiar about it. And if you've ever been to Mass in a foreign country, you may well have had the same experience that I did. Even though I didn't understand every word, there was still the comfort that I had because the Mass was the same both at my parish and there. I understood that I was in the Liturgy of the Word when we sat to hear the readings. I knew that we were in the Eucharistic Prayer at the elevation of the Host and Cup. I knew that "*Corpus Christi*" meant "The Body of Christ" when I went forward to receive Holy Communion (on the tongue and kneeling down). Even though I may not have understood every single word, I still felt united with the other worshippers in that shrine, because we had all come to the Altar to receive the Body of Christ.

The experience brought me to the words of St Paul to the Corinthians (and we are meant to hear it as well), "Because the loaf of bread is one, we, though many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf." We are called to unity with one another as we gather around the Altar to partake of the one Body of Christ. Being a part of such diversity, with the different age, racial groups present, it reminded me of Pope Benedict making a note of this very important aspect of the Eucharist, "We feel the truth and the power of the Christian revolution," he says, "the most profound revolution in human history, which we may experience in the Eucharist where people of different ages, sexes, social conditions and political ideas come together in the presence of the Lord. The Eucharist can never be a private matter...The Eucharist is public worship, which has nothing esoteric or exclusive about it...We remain united, over and above our differences, we (must be) open to one another in order to become a single thing in Him."

As a community, we try to express our unity in many ways and so it is with every Mass. During Mass, we might all sing the same songs. We might all stand or sit together. Those are all favorable things, but they are not what unites us. They put us on a somewhat equal footing, but that can happen in all kinds of gatherings. The one thing that does unite us at this gathering is the experience we have here that we do not have in any other situation, is the Eucharist. The Eucharist unites us in the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, where all division must necessarily cease. The Eucharist is the celebration of our unity *par excellence*.

As a community, it is also inevitable to go through the pains of

Corpus Christi Continued ...

division. Even as Catholics, we are divided from one another. Mortal sin separates us not only from God, not only from those we have wronged, but also from the Church and all of our brothers and sisters in Christ. When we have sinned greatly, we are not permitted in good conscience to receive the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, because we cannot dare to pretend to be one with those we have separated ourselves from through mortal sin. The lack of unity that we find ourselves in is one that is deeply painful to us, and grievously painful to our Savior who came that we might all be one.

As it all seemed like just another trip to a foreign country with a foreign language, the experience nevertheless provided me the sense of oneness with the people I have never met before but more so is a deeper unseen interaction with our Lord Jesus Christ through the Eucharist – deep enough to bring tears to my eyes during communion. At that point, I found new meaning with great understanding and appreciation of the Holy Mass. As a community in communion with the Church and Christ, we must all make it our prayer that the many things that divide us might soon melt away so that we can all become one (concordis) in the real way that Jesus meant for us. "I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world." On this feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, we pray that every person may one day come to share in the flesh of our Savior, given for the life of the world, and we pray that his great desire might come to pass: that we may be one. †



FACTS OF OUR FAITH

Trinity Sunday, also known as Holy Trinity Sunday, is celebrated a week after Pentecost Sunday in honor of the most fundamental of Christian beliefs—belief in the Holy Trinity. We can never fully understand the mystery of the Trinity, but we can sum it up in the following formula: God is three Persons in one Nature. The three Persons of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are all equally God, and They cannot be divided.

As Fr. John Hardon points out in his *Modern Catholic Dictionary*, the origins of the celebration of Trinity Sunday go all the way back to the Arian heresy of the fourth century, when Arius denied the divinity of Christ by denying that there are three Persons in God. To stress the doctrine of the Trinity, the Fathers of the Church composed prayers and hymns that were recited on Sunday as part of the Divine Office, the official prayer of the Church. Eventually, a special version of this office began to be celebrated on the Sunday after Pentecost, and the Church in England, at the request of St. Thomas á Becket (1118-1170), was granted permission to celebrate Trinity Sunday. The celebration of Trinity Sunday was made universal by Pope John XXII (1316-34).

For many centuries the Athanasian Creed was recited at Mass on Trinity Sunday. While seldom read today, the creed can be read privately or recited within the family to revive this ancient tradition.

Building Our House

On a balmy June 6 afternoon, BLD Phoenix covenanted, committed and newly-encountered members came in pairs and groups to gather in Madonna Hall, Queen of Peace Church, in Mesa, for a community wide spiritual retreat whose theme was "Unless the Lord Builds the House." Always the staple in such an activity is the introductory praise and worship that BLD aptly calls IACTS. It always firmly sets up the message of the day through reflection and song, the mighty duo that never fails to help open hearts and minds to become receptive to the Holy Spirit. Formation apostolate stewards Ramon and Ludy Cuasay led the prayers.

The conference proper as conceived by Father Pete Literal, the spiritual retreat director, had six parts and talks. "Building the house" was the metaphor for building a community of worship and service. Myths and mistaken presuppositions of community building and renewal must first be addressed for proper focus. Next the mission must always be Christ centered and the mission sender must unmistakably be Christ himself. What follows is Christ's model of servant leadership, the humble "towel and basin mentality" as opposed to the false "head-table mentality." After such steps, one is now ready to come home to a community. Coming home requires forgiveness and reconciliation. These are the necessary ingredients of a celebrating faith community.

The fifth phase consists of a serious review of promise and commitment that ultimately earns one the rite of passage through a tunnel of blessings. This readiness of commitment was dramatized by the act of nailing one's faults and failings into a block of wood that each participant had to do before going up to the altar to pick up his covenant or commitment pledge which he had to read and reflect on before he affixed his signature and return it to the altar. He then picked up a votive candle to join the final phase which is resealing the covenant. This involved the simple ceremony of carrying one's votive candle and speaking the substance of these words as he approached another member whom he may have offended or had difficulties with, "Give me your light, and forgive me for having fallen short of your expectations." The other one responds in this fashion, "I forgive you and I also need your light, for I too may have fallen short of your expectations." The whole assembly in twos facing one another created two long lines of candle bearers who now went in procession to the hall to take their seats for the celebration of the Eucharist.

What better way to re-seal the covenant and prepare for the Eucharist than for pairs to submit to one another's forgiveness and to acknowledge their dependence and reliance on one another in the name of community. The Eucharist concluded the spiritual retreat.#

THE LORD'S PROVISIONS

Cash flow as of May1 2009
Receipts \$3,896.63
Disbursements \$1,131.96
Surplus (Deficits) \$2,764.67

For more details, see Treasury Ministry Heads, Pedro & Cita Rivera. **Thank you for your generosity!**

June Teaching Schedule

Teaching Topics:

Christian Love; Christian Faith

For All Encounter and LSS Graduates (Adults)

When: **June 28**, 2009 at 12noon to 4PM,

Where: VHC Offices 1212 N Spencer St., Mesa 85203

Please bring you Bible, Notebook and Pen!



August 7-9, 2009

Inviting All Youth **ages 15-19**, to join the BLD Youth Ministry through **Youth Encounter #5 (YE5)!**

Venue will be at the **Ponderosa Camp**, United Christian Youth Camp

(1400 Paradise Valley Rd. Prescott, AZ 86303).

For registration please contact

Bushen Rivera & Louise Lazaro (YE#4 Youth Shepherds)

Please share your walk/faith/transformation in the Lord or an answered prayer thru an article (350 words max). Please E-mail to wordministry@bldphoenix.com.

"We are witnesses of all the things He did both in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem..."

Acts 10:39

BIRTHDAYS

3 - Dory Hey (ME 4)	17 - Manny Siongco (ME 4)
8 - Jack Marquez (ME 6)	19 - Mike Kelly (SPE 1)
9 - Rupert Arrieta (YE 1)	26 - Romy Tioseco (ME 4)
12 - Bing Omega (ME6)	28 - Phillip Go (YE 2)
13 - Nina Custodio (ME 4)	29 - Mario De Leon (ME 6)
14 - Bea Bautista (YE 1)	Davao

ANNIVERSARIES

16 - Tony & Venus Fuentes (ME 7)
 17 - Gerry & Gladys Bautista (ME 2)
 19 - Jess & Ning Laforteza (ME 1 Reno)
 23 - Mike & Tess Martinez (ME 5)
 27 - Jess & Gee Go (ME 5)

SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING

To ALL BLD members who are currently interacting (and who will potentially be interacting) with minors (Youth and Mark 10 Ministry), please find time to complete the "Called to Protect" course offered by the Safe Environment Office under the Diocese of Phoenix.

You may check your local parish for class schedules or go to: <http://www.safeenvironmenttraining.org/classes.php>. Those who have already completed Called to Protect, you may renew by checking class schedules at your local parish or you may also complete renewal process online by going to the same website mentioned above.

As an overview of what Called to Protect is, the course is described as follows: In this 3 hour educational session individuals will learn guidelines for their interaction with minors, and how to respond to boundary violations or if they suspect abuse. Individuals will also learn myths and facts about sexual abuse, detailed warning signs to watch for in adults who may abuse, and how to identify children who may have been abused. This interactive program is mandatory for all employees, clergy, and volunteers that serve children and youth. Due to the sensitive nature of the topic no one under 18 years old should attend this session.

If you need more information, please contact Youth & Mark 10 Ministry Heads (Manny & May Siongco and Gerry & Gladdine Bautista).