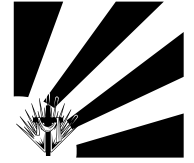




BLD PHOENIX

VALLEY OF THE SON



COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Volume 4, Issue 11

Ordinary Time Year B

November 2009

Month of November

WORD: *The Kingdom of heaven is for those who have the righteousness of Christ.*

READINGS

November 1 Rv 7:2-4, 9-14

Ps 24:1-6

1 Jn 3:1-3

Mt 5:1-12

November 8 1 Kgs 17:10-16

Ps 146:7-10

Heb 9:24-28

Mk 12:38-44

November 15 Dn 12:1-3

Ps 16:5, 8-11

Heb 10:11-14, 18

Mk 13:34-32

November 22 Dn 7:13-14

Ps 93:1-2, 5

Rv 1:5-8

Jn 18:33b-37

Teachers Development Program For the West Coast Districts

As approved by BLD ECSL

Host: BLD Phoenix

Date: November 14 - 15, 2009

Venue: Madonna Hall,

Queen of Peace Church

141 N McDonald St Mesa 85201

By invitation only.

For covenanted members with unique
MCT results in prophecy or teaching.

Inside October Issue:

Monthly Counsels..... pg 1, 2,4

Rosary Sunday 2009 Info pg 2

Community Day 2009 pg 3

Interview with Don Moen pg 3

The Lord's Provisions pg 4

**Happy
Thanksgiving
from BLD Phoenix**



Website: www.BLDPhoenix.com
Group E-mail: BLDPhoenix@yahoo.com

MONTHLY COUNSELS

Nov 1st: Solemnity of All Saints (Perseverance)

Theme: We have the righteousness of Christ when we endure persecution for His sake.

Promise: *"He shall receive a blessing from the Lord, a reward from God his savior." (Ps 25: 5)*

Reflection: Christ is our brother and savior. Thus, we are already the Father's adopted children in Christ. Yet, ambitious and daring, we are tempted to ask, "Is there a greater dignity to aspire for?" That the saints and martyrs are now in heaven shows us some foretaste of the answer to that question. Not until the end of our lives, not until we have received *the seal on the foreheads of the servants of God*, shall we come into the final fulfillment of God's promise. Then shall we truly belong to that sovereign human togetherness and unity with Christ. O, if soon we could but enter into the communion of the saints. The handiwork of God, the final masterpiece of his genius shall become manifest when we enter into the glorious company of all God's blessed in heaven. *What we shall be has not yet been revealed. "Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven."* On the strength of that promise, we persevere in seeking the face of God. In BLD, we see the many faces of God, the many disguises by which he reveals himself to us. Christ's love and service, he never withheld from us. How dare we withhold ours from him? We must persevere in the hope that in our faithfulness to God's word and our persistence in benevolence, love and service may cause the Lord's mercy to pour down upon us a blessing. On the second coming of Christ, *we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. "Everyone who has this hope based on him makes himself pure as he is pure."*

Prayer: Jesus, dear brother, our savior, bless us with your mercy. You are our righteousness. Help us to persevere in the calling we have received from you. Amen.

Order: *"Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven."* Mt 5: 12a

Direction: Let us fix our eyes on Christ. Set our goal on his reward. Serve him and persevere. Suffer every inconvenience and indignity for his sake.

Nov 8th: 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Dispossession)

Theme: We have the righteousness of Christ when we give unselfishly, trusting in God's provision.

Promise: *"For the Lord says, 'The jar of flour shall not go empty, nor the jug of oil run dry'..." (1 Kgs 17: 13b)*

Reflection: When we see a poor mother suffer pain and humiliation for the sake of her child, that her child may not starve, she gives us reason to believe, to hope and to love. When we hear of a husband forgive the errant wife, bring her back home to save her dignity and remain firm in his love for her and their family, he too gives us reason to believe, to hope and to love. From the last shreds of hope in the human heart, arises that undying trust in a divine intercessor. From a small cupful to drink, the greatest thirst is quenched. From a meager piece of bread, the gravest hunger is satisfied. From the mere touch of a loving hand, the deepest hurt is healed. *"Do not be afraid."* There is a God who watches. There is a God who provides. There is a God who brings relief to those who eagerly await him. Everyone who gives to God the last morsel of his love and trust has emptied himself of all he has. He gives not out of his plenty but out of his irreducible want. *Continued next page...*

Counsels continued from page 1...

To such a one, the Lord shall not say, "Your prayers, not answered; your words, not rich." This thought then inspires us to be disembodied even from our poverty, helplessness and multiple needs. God's provision is enough. What we lack, he makes up for. In BLD, we are in the company of people who have demonstrated beyond doubt that love and trust in God are never wasted. For all of us, God's jar of flour shall not go empty, nor the jug of oil run dry.

Prayer: Jesus, teach us to dispose of human neediness and attachment to material possessions. If you possess us and we have you, we have no other need. Amen.

Order: "Do not be afraid." (1 Kgs 17: 13a)

Direction: Trust God, then do as you will with what you have. Have faith where hope abides with God. God's provision fills to the brim every empty heart that trusts.

Nov 15th: 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Accountability)

Theme: We have the righteousness of Christ when we are ready for His coming.

Promise: "Therefore my heart is glad and my soul rejoices, my body, too, abides in confidence; because you will not abandon my soul to the netherworld, nor will you suffer your faithful to undergo corruption." Ps 16: 9-10

Reflection: We have all experienced St. Paul's predicament, when he cried out in his soul, "What I do I do not understand. For I do not do what I want, but I do what I hate." (Rom 7: 15) Our soul remains a battleground where we must shed blood and war against the world, the devil and the flesh, although that war has already been won by Christ for us. That is why we could say, "You are our inheritance, O Lord." Christ has already shown us the path to life, to the fullness of joy in his presence. Indeed, we have the righteousness of Christ when we are ready for his coming. Are we truly ready though, or do we still need the prompting of the Spirit in our confidence? What else need Christ do to make us trust him? By the one offering of his life that he made for us, he has already made us perfect. He has drawn us up to himself. He has reconciled us to himself for consecration to the Father. O, if we but believe. O, if we but follow in his ways. "Learn a lesson from the fig tree," Jesus tells us. "When its branch becomes tender and sprouts leaves, you know that summer is near." Though we know not the last of our days, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light. The Son of Man shall come to meet us in that darkness. We shall account then for every moment we delighted in his fellowship and for the hours or days we shunned his company. We shall give account of our obedience and humility, and also, of our disobedience and arrogance. Even now he wants us to prepare for that day. When that hour is upon us, shall we stand the scrutiny of the Son of Man when we stand before him in judgment?

Prayer: Jesus, forgive us our many faults. We alone were responsible for our mistakes. Let your mercy cleanse away our guilt. Amen.

Order: "Learn a lesson from the fig tee." (Mk 13: 28)

Direction: Be prepared and be watchful always. Be ready for the Lord's coming. He who abides in God's presence, the Lord never abandons.

Nov 2 - All Souls Day: We remember our loved-ones who passed. We pray that they rest in the peace of the Lord. Amen.

November Teachings Schedule

Topics: Christian Service; Christian Community
For All Encounter and LSS Graduates (Adults)
When: **November 22, 2009** at 12noon to 4PM
Where: VHC Offices 1212 N Spencer St., Mesa 85203
Please bring your Bible, Notebook and Pen!

Counsels continued...

Nov 22nd: Solemnity of Christ the King (Witnessing)

Theme: We have the righteousness of Christ when we testify to the truth of his kingship.

Promise: "Your decrees are worthy of trust indeed; holiness befits your house." Ps 93:5

Reflection: Is Jesus our king? Where is his kingdom? Where is his scepter and throne? Strange indeed, that our king did not wear his crown. He had thorns gouged on his head. When we thought he was to ascend into his kingdom, he cried out, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Mt 27: 46b) Where was the glory in that? What scepter? His hands were outstretched. He could not hold a cup, much less a scepter. What throne? The cross was his throne, the two beams of wood where he was nailed to die. Yet all the peoples of the earth lament him now as it was prophesied. And all who believe will cry out, "Do not drive me from your presence, nor take from me your holy spirit. Restore my joy in your salvation; sustain in me a willing spirit. I will teach the wicked your ways, that sinners may return to you. Rescue me from death, God, my saving God, that my tongue shall praise your healing power." (Ps 51: 13-16) Some kings possess kingdoms, divide and conquer. Christ, our king, desires that we possess him, that we divide his grace and his love that all may have a full share, that we conquer our docility, and declare, with the boldness of a son, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." (Lk 23: 46b) We may have an advantage over those who lived in the time of Christ, for they may have not known him as we now know him as our king. May we fully commend our spirit to our Father as boldly as Jesus commended his spirit to that same Father.

Prayer: Jesus, you are our king. May our compassion and our willingness to serve your people be our living witness to the truth. Amen.

Order: "Testify to the truth." (Jn18:37b)

Direction: Listen to the voice of Christ our King in the midst of the world's temptations and flagrant spiritual laziness. Be a witness to his words even if it causes hardship. Be sincere. Avoid lying and deceit.

Nov 29: First Sunday of Advent (Year C)

Theme: We are vigilant for the coming of Jesus when we abound in love for one another.

Promise: "All the paths of the Lord are kindness and constancy toward those who keep his covenant and his decrees." Ps 25: 10

Reflection: Don't we all love surprises? But sometimes, we lose the benefit of the surprise when we dampen the enthusiasm of those who planned the surprise with negative responses, for example: "Is not the party too expensive?" Or, "I wish you had done it this way or that way." We tend to vitiate the very life of what was *Continued on page 4...*

I BELIEVE THERE IS MORE

Why does BLD-Phoenix thrive and sparkle? The source is its concept of community. The BLD-hosted *I Believe There Is More Concert* is a sterling reminder. The fund raiser was held October 24 in the Phoenix First Assembly of God. Though it featured Don Moen, an internationally acclaimed praise and worship leader, song writer and producer, he was merely our star excuse to experience a different kind of praise and worship to help raise funds for BLD-Phoenix projects, two of which were to help the typhoon afflicted victims in the Philippines and the BLD-GK house building work for the poor. For most of us whose prime function is the love of God, we had a praise and worship event of a lifetime carved in music as though we just went to the Opera or the Ball and yet went home having sang and danced and swayed and praised and prayed all for God.

When BLD-Phoenix plans and works, it is one big family. When we danced and sang and praised God that October evening with our invited guests, we acted as mirrors that we held up to one another to reflect who and what we were, a Catholic charismatic community and why we continue to thrive and sparkle.

I Believe There Is More WAS a concert to remember. In my life, *I Believe There Is More* IS a message and I have reflected on it before the Blessed Sacrament. *I Believe There Is More* IS indeed a powerful spiritual challenge. I may not sing or dance or work many things as great as others do, yet I have reason to thank the Lord for some talents he did give me. You cannot compete with me as I exert my human best to do what the Lord has commissioned ONLY me to do for him in my life. And I know I cannot outdo anyone in what he does in the unique calling that he ALONE has received from the Lord.- RSC

"I delight to do your will, O my God, and your law is within my heart." Psalm 40:8



A MEMORABLE YLSS

With the fire of the Holy Spirit burning in their hearts, the light of God's love has shone through as thirty six of our youth concluded their Youth Life in the Spirit Seminar #3 with a renewed sense of love and commitment to the Lord. The seminar was held November 6 to 8 at the Lake Pleasant outdoor Center with Fr. Paul Lehman our spiritual director visiting from Newark, New Jersey.

In my time in BLD, I am uniquely blessed to have been a part of many Youth Life in the Spirit Seminars in different communities. However, this past seminar with the beautiful view of Lake Pleasant was by far one of the most powerful. *"I have called you by name, you are mine"* (Isaiah 43:1) I had participants this weekend tell me of their anxiety, a fear that perhaps they were not ready and, "Maybe I shouldn't be here." Thirty six youth arrived Friday at Lake Pleasant all of whom had similar concerns. But Saturday's day of testimonies, Mass and the always intense Baptism in the Holy Spirit experience had transformed anxiety, fear and uncertainty into healing, reconciliation and submission to God's will in all of them. Sunday afternoon, we were blessed witnesses to thirty six youth leave their old life behind and willingly accept God's invitation to enter their New Life. There were first time shepherds and our new sharers, Louise, Bushen, and Mitchie this weekend. God made his presence felt and the image of lost sheep coming back into his fold, may have been universal and not just an observer's solitary experience..

Let us invoke the Holy Spirit's help that we may truly know and understand Christ through our difficulties, injustices and persecutions. *"The Lord will not allow us to experience these trials unless it be for the greater good."* (James 1:29). We open ourselves to His Spirit to understand how God is moving in our lives. Christ is calling us to sow tears so we can receive the gift of rejoicing. Through sharing His death and resurrection we will follow Christ into God's kingdom. He alone can lead us the way through death into life. We thank the Lord for the blessing of our youth and for touching their hearts so powerfully and lovingly in the recently concluded YLSS. MK

"Many, Lord my God, are the wonders you have done, the things you planned for us. None can compare with you; were I to speak and tell of your deeds, they would be too many to declare." (Psalm 40:5)





Marriage Encounter #10

January 8-10, 2010

ME 10 will be held at the Windemere Hotel and Conference Center, 5750 E. Main Street, Mesa, AZ 85205

Please take the time to invite your friends who are sacramentally married to participate in our coming ME 10. This is our opportunity to bring them closer together as a couple and closer to Christ. Let us share with them the wonderful encounter experience we all had. God bless.

COVENANT OF LOVE

On July 26 of this year, Bishop Thomas Olmsted promulgated "Covenant of Love," a new marriage preparation policy for the Diocese of Phoenix. The Office of Marriage and Respect Life will be working with parishes to launch this policy in January, 2010. This policy will begin a three year diocesan initiative for marriage in our diocese. In 2010, the diocese will be devoted to a greater zeal in helping engaged couples prepare for life together. In 2011, we will give special energy and focus to our people already married, endeavoring to help them deepen and renew their marriages. In 2012, we will dedicate a particular diocesan focus to our young people, still years away from marriage, and their parents, in the stage called "remote marriage preparation."

Just to pose 3 (out of the 8) Q & A items about the changes:

1. When will these changes take place?

The change takes place Jan. 1, 2010. During the fall of 2009, parishes will be preparing for it.

2. What are the main changes to the diocese's marriage preparation policy?

The policy is richer in its theological reflection on the "is" of marriage and goes into the latest developments in the cultural situation our couples face. These teaching points are accompanied by the following enhancements in the policy:

- ▶ Deeper analysis, diagnosis, theological understanding and pastoral response;
- ▶ Parish/diocesan/online education programs encouraged;
- ▶ More thorough training for marriage preparation ministers and lay leaders;
- ▶ Three courses required (previously two);
- ▶ Full course in an approved method of Natural Family Planning (previously just the introduction class at most parishes);
- ▶ Nine month preparation period (previously six).

3. Why did the diocese make these changes?

For the past 50 years, marriage has been on the decline in the United States; however, in the past 10 years we see indications that the cultural grasp on the meaning of marriage is slipping radically and quickly. Among these indications are the explosion of extramarital cohabitation, the growing disconnect between marriage and children, and the attempts to redefine marriage in law. Today it is no exaggeration to say that when the culture is not actively attacking the idea of lifelong marriage and the welcoming of children, it is indifferent. It would be a grave injustice not to give our couples proper support and guidance in today's anti-marriage culture. Couples living the fullness of God's plan for marriage have less than a 4 percent divorce rate.

Continued next column...



BLD Phoenix

Christmas Party

When: **December 5, 2009** 6:00 PM

Where: **Madonna Hall** at the Queen of Peace Parish

141 N Macdonald Mesa, AZ 8520

Please stay tuned for more details...Thank You!

Counsels continued... supposed to have been fun and a memorable event. Beware that when we are the recipient of a surprise we do not diminish the significance of the occasion and the love and the thought expended in it. That is the rule for pleasant surprises. For negative surprises, there is another approach. Without vigilance, without readiness, without thorough preparedness, a disaster may be an event in the making, especially in our spiritual lives. We are forewarned, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon and the stars..." Further, we are admonished, and rightly so, "Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life, and that day catch you by surprise like a trap." Advent is the season for waiting. It is the season of expectation but most importantly, the season of preparation. The Lord's coming and the Lord's tidings are at hand. For those who are vigilant, for the faithful who are watchful over the proper conduct of their affairs, it is not the season for fright and regret. It is a time of jubilation because... *redemption is at hand.*

Prayer: Dear Jesus, your coming is not meant to bring sorrow. Nor is it a threat. Fill us with expectation and prepare our hearts to be worthy of your presence. Amen.

Order: "*Be vigilant at all times and pray.*"

Direction: Love one another. Encourage on another. Do not be lacking in vigilance through the proper conduct of all your dealings with everyone.- RSC

BIRTHDAYS

2-Jonathan Lureñana	14 - Joseph Kodumal
2-Richard Bauer	16 - Lee Junia
3-Thelma Alata	16 - Dawn Siongco
4-Gladdine Bautista	19 - Nikka De Jesus
4-Annalyne Avendanio	20 - Brian Climaco
8-Janice Kodumal	23 - Arlene Junia
10-Jackie Ronsayro	24- Evan Pangilinan
13-Milrose Kodumal	30 - Andre Bautista

ANNIVERSARIES - none on file

THE LORD'S PROVISIONS

Cash flow as of October 2009

Receipts \$3,385.04

Disbursements \$584.40

Surplus (Deficits) \$2800.64

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

Covenant of Love continued...

It takes sacrifice, openness to God's will and love in all of its fullness - but are these not what those in love really desire?

For more information about the new marriage policy, visit:

www.ourcovenantoflovephx.org