

<i>BLD SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES - MAY 2010</i>			
Day	Time	Activity	Venue
7 Fri	8:00 - 11:00 pm	Eucharistic Celebration	OLA Church
7 Fri	after P&W	Toronto LSS Orientation (ME#31, SPE#9, Others)	Chapel
8 Sat	9:00 am - 4:00 pm	Community & Growth Part II (Aspirants)	Hall
8 Sat	9:00 am - 4:00 pm	Basic Christian Maturity Program Part II (LSS 22/23)	Chapel
9 Sun		<i>MOTHER'S DAY</i>	
14 Fri	8:00 - 11:00 pm	Corporate Praise & Worship	OLA Church
14 Fri - 16 Sun		Singles Encounter #13/ (Sunday) LSS Orientation	MMI
19 Wed	7:30 - 11:00 pm	Leadership Recollection (in lieu of DLC Mtg)	Hall
21 Fri	8:00 - 11:00 pm	Corporate Praise & Worship	OLA Church
21 Fri	after P&W	Toronto LSS Orientation (ME#31, SPE#9, Others)	Chapel
21 Fri	after P&W	Toronto LSS#25 - Welcome	OLA Church
24 Mon	2:00 - 4:00 pm	Good Shepherd Meal Service	Good Shepherd Ctr
28 Fri	8:00 - 11:00 pm	Corporate Praise & Worship	OLA Church
28 Fri	after P&W	Toronto LSS#25 Shepherding (God's Love)	OLA Church
29 Sat		Pentecost Rally	
29 Sat	9:00 am - 4:00 pm	Charismata/Prayer Leadership (LSS 22/23)	Chapel

***Seminar on Discipleship and Magisterium***  
*May 15 from 9 AM to 4 PM, Saturday @ OLA Church*  
*Speakers: Fr. Ben Ebcas and Don Quilao*

The Council of the Laity, all religious association members and prayer groups are invited to a seminar which will create a profound understanding of the role of the Magisterium (The Teaching Authority of the Church) in the person of the Pope, Cardinals, Archbishops, Bishops, Pastors (Priests), Deacons, etc.

Please note that Fr. Ben has appointed Bro. Don Quilao as the Vice Chair of the Council of the Laity. He has also appointed Sis. Zeny Uy as the Secretary AFCM Council of the Laity a couple of months ago.

***Toronto Teaching Schedule***

*For a complete and up-to-date Teaching Schedule, visit: [www.bldtoronto.com](http://www.bldtoronto.com)*



[www.bldworld.org](http://www.bldworld.org)

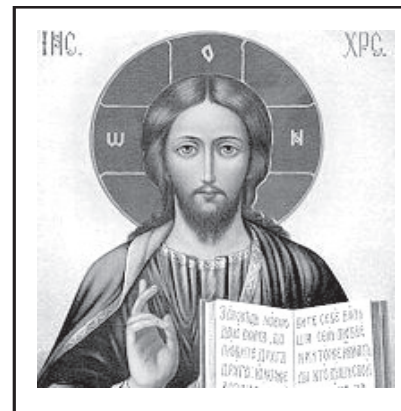


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**May 9, 2010**

**BUKÁS-LOÓB SA DIYÓS • OPEN IN SPIRIT TO GOD**  
**Toronto District**

**Sixth Sunday of Easter**



- Whoever loves me will keep my word and My Father will love him.

**REFLECTION:**

In this Sunday's Gospel reading, there are three key words: "Word", "Peace" and "Love." Our individual lives and our community life will not survive without these three essential and spiritual elements. We can think of this Sunday's keywords as three circles, one on top of the other and all with one common centre point. The "Word", which is heard or read as in sharing, is the outermost circle. The next inner circle is "Peace" and the innermost circle is "Love".

Without the "Word" which is Jesus, we in Bukas Loob Sa Dios (BLD) as a "Word-based" community, will have no spiritual lives. Without the "Word" reminding us of God's message, we will miss the point of what BLD as a covenant community really is. Without the "Word" in the Sunday and daily liturgy of the Mass, the corporate worship and the Word

*(Reflection continued on page 2)*

**THEME:**

We are disciples of Christ when we obey his word.

**WORD:**

Ac 15:22-29; Ps 67:2-6,8; Rv 21:10-14,22-23; Jn 14:23-29

**ORDER:**

- Do not let your hearts be troubled.

*(Continued from page 1)*

sharing circles, we will not be in communion with our covenant community. The “Word” is the glue that binds us together as members of the BLD community. It will also make us good people, good citizens, good neighbors and good parents. These are what the BLD covenant community is all about. The Scriptures tell us that we must be holy as God is holy (Leviticus 19:2). To be “holy” means being distinct and set apart as God’s people (Leviticus 20:26). We are the people who reflect God’s “Word” in our prayers and in our daily lives.

In another sense, we celebrate and hold high the “Word” in the Sacraments – we say “I do” when we renounce evil and reiterate our Faith in the Easter renewal of our baptismal vows. We say “I do,” when we get married with the “Word” as our supreme sponsor. Again, these are some ways we keep God’s “Word” in our lives.

“Peace” is the next key word and the search for it is a part of our inner selves. In many ways, it is reflected in what we say or do. In our inner selves we always wish to have peace but why can we not have personal and spiritual peace? An internet article lists some of the stumbling blocks in our search for peace (Randy Hain, Catholic Exchange.com, The Integrated Life, April 27, 2010). The list is for men, however, we think it applies to all persons. The challenges are:

- We often struggle with humility and let our pride and egos get in the way. That is, there are mistakenly “important” things more significant than God – family heritage, occupation, leadership positions, education, worldly possessions, wealth, personal traits like beauty, skills (artistic, sporting, cooking) and others.
- We like to be in control. (“I know this. Let me do this. It’s done this way—my way.”)
- We can be stubborn and inflexible to change. Example: Insisting in reading 1 Corinthians 13 as “One Corinthians Thirteen” instead of what is in the Lectionary (“First or First Letter to the Corinthians...”).
- Our self images and identities are often wrapped up in our careers and in our work. We neglect or forget to develop positive traits like generosity and hospitality.
- We struggle to ask others, especially the Lord, for help. We are often inclined to action when reflection and discernment are more appropriate. We may be overly concerned about the opinions of others (rather than the eyes of Jesus).

These are some of the major reasons why, in the core of our being, we are not at peace. Programs of self awareness and reversals of fundamental and spiritual personality traits are needed. These transformations may take a lifetime through the Holy Spirit’s power but they will happen “little-by-little” as one of our lively renewal songs declares.

*(Continued on page 3)*

## *Flores de Mayo Spring Dance a Huge Success!*



In behalf of the ME Class No. 30, we would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who participated and generously contributed in making the 2010 Spring Dance a huge success and a truly memorable evening. A nostalgic glimpse of a popular Filipino tradition, Flores de Mayo, provided the appropriate theme of the affair, accentuated by the colorful cultural costumes and the image of our Blessed Mother Mary carried on the shoulders of ME 30 members.

The children’s procession to offer flowers to our Blessed Mother Mary signaled the beginning of the Marian devotion during the month of May. The performances from the Philippine Heritage band to the singers and dancers were fantastic. It was so uplifting to see people of all ages dance the night away and thoroughly enjoy themselves. The food was simply delicious. Tons of door prizes were given away and the major raffle prizes were a delight to choose from. The fellowship among BLD members, family and invited guests touched our hearts and really demonstrated the true spirit of Christian love. *The ME 30 members did a superb job in organizing this event. Wow!!*

We acknowledge that our Lord God with the gifts of the Holy Spirit and the intercession of our Blessed Mother Mary gave us the strength, patience and energy to accomplish our goal. Above all, we give praise and thanks to our Almighty God for showering the BLD Community with his abundant blessings and love!

*Eric and Pat Lazaro  
ME 30 Class Shepherd Couple*

### *From the Intercessory Ministry*

Starting May 3 to May 19 , 2010, please send all prayer and other requests intended for the

Intercessory Ministry to:  
**Rock\_Sol@bell.net**

*During the aforementioned dates all intercessory inquiries will be attended to by Rock and Sol Bacani*

### *Pope’s Prayer Intentions for May 2010*

**The Holy Father's general intention is:** "That the shameful and monstrous commerce in human beings, which sadly involves millions of women and children, may be ended. "

**The Pope's missionary intention is:** "That ordained ministers, religious women and men, and lay people involved in apostolic work may understand how to infuse missionary enthusiasm into the communities entrusted to their care.

(Continued from page 5)

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.

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).

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"Love" is the third key word. It summarizes and integrates the key words: "Word" and "Peace". "Love" is a state of our inner selves expressed in action. It is what we decide to do more than the plain words we use to express it. Love is following the will and instructions of the "Word". Without "Love", there is no "Peace". Without "Love" words will not be sufficient to sustain the lives that God has planned for us - virtue-driven lives guided by the "Love's" road maps. God is "Love".

### DIRECTION:

- Let the glory of God be our light and the lamb of God be our lamp.
- Keep the Word of God.

### GOD'S PROMISE:

"...*my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him.*" (John 14:23b)

## YOUTH



## MINISTRY

## KORNER



The **Youth Sports Night** last Friday, April 30, at Marshall McLuhan Catholic Secondary School, was a tremendous success. It was a fellowship, sportsmanship and kind of reunion, all rolled into one. About 60 youths - members of the Youth Ministry, some university students and some adults sweated it out playing basketball or volleyball. We saw a lot of potential athletes among them.



**Reminders:** Those who pre-registered for the Youth Inter District Conference 2010, Long Island on August 13 to 15, note that participants are accepted on a first come first served basis. Submit all requirements to the Youth Ministry no later than May 21st. If you have not registered yet, please see the Youth Ministry registration desk.

**Dates to Remember:** Youth Praise and Worship will resume on Friday, May 14, 2010 YLSS # 11 Reunion, Saturday, May 22, 2010 – OLA Basement Hall – 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. YE # 12 – Mt. Mary Immaculate Retreat Centre, Ancaster, Hamilton – July 23, 24 & 25, 2010. (Pre-registration is now open. Details are to follow.

***Bukás Loób sa Diyós Covenant Community***  
**WORD, THEMES & PROMISES**  
**FOR MAY 2010**

**READINGS**

**May 9** Ac 15:22-29; Ps 67:2-6,8; Rev 21:10-14,22-23; Jn 14:23-29  
**May 16** Ac 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3,6-9; Eph 1:17-23; Lk 24:46-53  
**May 23** Ac 2:1-11; Ps 104:1,24,29-31,34; 1Cor 12:3b-7,12-13; Jn 20:19-23  
**May 30** Prv 8:22-31; Ps 8:4-9; Rom 5:1-5; Jn 16:12-15

**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)

**PROPHECIES**

- I have conquered death. Live in love that you may live. Pray together always. Intercede for one another that no one will be lost. By prayer and fasting you will unshackle the chain of Satan.

**DIRECTIONS**

- Reach out to those who are hurting, those who are lost and those who are difficult to love and build a community of love.

**THEMES AND PROMISES**

Week#2 (6th Sunday of Easter) **[Submission]**

Theme: We are disciples of Christ when we obey His word.  
Promise: “...my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him.”  
(Jn 14:23b)

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

Week #3 (Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord) **[Witnessing]**

Theme: We are disciples of Christ when we witness to His forgiving love.  
Promise: “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem.” (Ac 1:8)

Week #4 (Pentecost Sunday) **[Commitment to growth]**

Theme: We are disciples of Christ when we exercise the gifts of the Holy Spirit.  
Promise: “When you send forth your Spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the earth.”  
(Ps 104:30)

Week #5 (Solemnity of the Holy Trinity) **[Sense of Communion]**

Theme: We are disciples of Christ when we manifest the unity of the Most Holy Trinity.  
Promise: “The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.” (Rm 5:5)

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**Reflection for May 2010**

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

(Continued on page 6)