

### *From the Life in the Spirit Apostolate*

The Life in the Spirit Seminar #26 Grand Reunion will be held at the OLA Hall in August 27, 2011 from 9:30 am to 2:00 pm.

All the lambs, shepherds, co-shepherds and members of the working team are invited to attend.

Registration starts @ 9:30 am.

### *ME #33 Application Forms Now Available!*

Now is the best time to contact your ME candidates because BLD Toronto's Marriage Encounter #33 is coming up soon. The MEW details are:

**When:** October 22 -23, 2011 (one overnight stay only)

**Fee:** \$160 per couple

**Venue:** Holiday Inn Express in Richmond Hill

Since this is the new cost-effective ME Program, spaces will be limited to 25 couples only. Please submit completed application forms as soon as possible to ensure a spot for your candidates.

*Application forms are available from any member of ME #32 or from Gie & Beth Santulan.*

### *From the Marriage & Family Life Apostolate*

We are pleased to announce that our **Family Encounter #16** will be held in **August 20-21, 2011** at the **Holiday Inn Express** on Leslie, north of Highway 7. Parents with children who have taken either the ME or SPE and have attended the LSS, are invited to experience the FE weekend designed to reveal God's wonderful plan for their family.

For those who are interested or if you have any prospective candidate family, registration forms are available at the desk in the basement hall before and after the Mass or corporate worship from any member of *FE#15* or from *Willie and Annette Guillermo, FE #15 Shepherd Couple*.

### *BLD RAFFLE 2011*

The final draw for the 2 major prizes, the brand new **Mazda 5** and the **Caribbean Cruise voucher for two**, will be in **Sept. 16, 2011** during our celebration of **BLD Community Day**.

Please be reminded that BLD Raffle 2011 tickets will be available in the OLA basement hall every Friday before and after our worship.

We would also be accepting payments for the tickets that have already been sold.



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



[www.bldtoronto.com](http://www.bldtoronto.com)

**August 12, 2011**

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

**Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**



#### REFLECTION:

In times of distress, we seek the help of Jesus and through our expectant faith, we believe that we will receive the favor we ask for. There are times when we feel put off or ignored by the Lord and feelings of unworthiness creep in and prevent us from seeking a strong and spirited persistent faith. The readings for this Sunday give a sense of hope to us who have not experienced God's redeeming grace or us who have fallen out of grace. God's mercy is not exclusive only to the children of Israel but open to us who have that persistent faith in His mercy.

This Sunday's Gospel is the only occasion in which Jesus preached outside of the Jewish territory. A gentile woman, a foreigner who was not a member of the Jewish people, put Jesus on the spot by pleading for His help. At first Jesus seemed to pay no attention to her which seemed to be a deviation of His character as a compassionate and loving person. Je-

#### THEME:

We have faith in Jesus when we persist in our prayers.

#### WORD:

Is 56: 1,6-7; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Rom 11: 13-15, 29-32; Mt 15: 21-28

#### ORDER:

- Go to the lost sheep.
- "Maintain justice and do what is right." (Is 56:1)

sus did this to test the woman and to awaken the faith in her. Jesus prompted the expression “throwing bread to the dogs” which challenged this helpless woman to have more faith and determination. The Jews often spoke of the gentiles with arrogance and insolence as “unclean dogs” since the gentiles were excluded from God’s covenant and favor with Israel. For the Greeks, the “dog” was a symbol of dishonor and was used to describe a shameless and audacious woman. Matthew 7:6 records the expression: do not give dogs what is holy. Jesus, no doubt spoke with a smile rather than with an insult because this woman immediately responds with wit and faith - “even the dogs eat the crumbs”. Jesus praises a gentile woman for her faith and her love. She was willing to suffer in order to obtain healing for her loved one. She also had indomitable persistence. Her faith grew in contact with the person of Jesus. She began with a request and she ended on her knees in worshipful prayer to the living God. No one whoever sought Jesus with faith, whether Jew or gentile, was refused this help. *(excerpted from rc.net/wcc/readings/aug3.htm.)*

The first reading portrayed a scenario where the gentile or foreigner had a share of deliverance and thus can be a part of God’s kingdom. In the second reading on the other hand, Saint Paul declared himself as the apostle of the gentiles to encourage his fellow Jews to embrace the messianic truth. His effort was to create more fronts to spread the good news of salvation. God had master planned a different form of evangelization. In the early times, evangelization efforts were geared towards conquest of foreign lands bringing with them a Christian package of doctrines and traditional practices. The modern Church uses sanctified lives, such as the lives of saints, as witnesses to God’s redeeming grace. In this way, evangelization is carried out in a rightful and justifiable manner.

BLD as a covenant community shares the mission of the mother church in its effort to reach out to its lost sheep. As a result, we have become a community of believers whose lives have been transformed by a process of renewal that makes the image of Christ evident in our simple lives where God claims victory. The programs of encounters use us to be witnesses to bring new hope to the lost and weary and to bring in the future disciples of Jesus. As witnesses, we brace ourselves with our prayers for sustainability anchored in an indomitable persistent faith and dependence in Jesus.

**DIRECTION:**

- Continue to minister to the lost sheep.
- “I will bring them to my Holy Mountain.”(Is 56:7)

**GOD’S PROMISE:**

“ ...great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” (Mt 15:28)

***An Urgent Appeal from the Treasury Ministry***

We appeal to your generous hearts to help the poorest of the poor in the Philippines by supporting a project of the Treasury Ministry in cooperation with BYOP Ministry.

After every Prayer Meeting, the Treasury Ministry will be collecting new and used children’s clothes, shoes and toys for ages 2 to 15 years old.

We will also be collecting school supplies (school bags, pens, folders, crayons, calculators, notebooks, etc.) and all kinds of toiletries both for children and adults (toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant soap, moisturizer, etc.)

Collected items will be sent to the Mary Immaculate Queen of Heaven Missionaries (MIQHM) in Cebu where BLD Toronto has committed to support the education of 50 poor children under the care of the Sisters of MIQHM. These items will also be shared with the other poor children of the community including many of the mothers who are rehabilitated prostitutes.

A drop box will be available in the BLD Office and everyone is encouraged to bring one or two of the abovementioned items every Friday. Your continuous support to this Project will not only mean a lot in the lives of many poor Filipino children and their families, but will also surely please our Lord in heaven as we put our faith into action.

As written in Is 58:6-7: *“This, rather is the fasting that I wish: releasing those bound unjustly, untying the thongs of the yoke, setting free the oppressed, breaking every yoke, sharing the bread with the hungry, sheltering the oppressed and the homeless, clothing the naked when you see them and not turning your back on your own kin.”*

Thank you for your generosity and God bless,  
***The Treasury Ministry (coordinators and members)***

**Announcement:** *There will be no Mark 10 sessions for the month of August.  
Mark 10 Praise and Worship will resume on the 9th of September, 2011 .*

*For a complete and up-to-date version of the “BLD Toronto 2011 Schedule of Activities”,  
please go to [www.bldtoronto.com](http://www.bldtoronto.com) and click on “Calendar of Events”.*

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