



# ***Bukás Loób sa Diyós*** **(Open in Spirit to God)**

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC COVENANT COMMUNITY  
DISTRICT OF TORONTO

**"I am the Way, the Truth & the Life, no one comes to the Father except through Me."**  
(John 14:6)

## MESSAGES FROM THE DCS

- We joyfully announce the appointment of **Lito and Arlene Martin** as **Pastoral Stewards**, effective **May 1, 2026**. We praise and thank the Lord for their generous response to His call and extend our warm congratulations.

Let us all congratulate Lito & Arlene on their return from vacation on May 4th. We also extend our heartfelt thanks to Noli and Jeanny Mercado for faithfully shepherding the Pastoral Apostolate during this transition.

May the Lord continue to guide and inspire us as we serve Him humbly and passionately.

- 🌸 **Celebrate Mother's Day with Purpose** 🌸

Let us joyfully support The Singles Ministry as they host a meaningful Mother's Day Fundraiser in preparation for SE #26!

On **Friday, May 8, 2026** at OLA Hall, beautiful roses will be on sale—a perfect way to honor the mothers, mother figures, and women who bless our lives. Give a rose. Share love. Support a mission.

- A **second collection** in support of the **Winnipeg P.G. LSS#3** will be on **Fridays, May 1st & 8th**. Thank you for your generosity.
- All are invited to join us for **Community Intercession** on **Friday, May 29th at 8:00 PM** in the OLA Hall.

Come together in prayer as we intercede for our church and community. Community Intercession will be held every 5th Friday of the month. All are welcome.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- **First Friday Mass for May/Anointing**  
Friday, May 1st at 8 PM OLA Parish
- **Praise & Worship & WSC (2nd & 4th Fri.)**  
Fridays, May 8, 15, 22 & 29 8PM at OLA Hall
- **Teaching - Intro. to the Word & Understanding Corporate Worship**  
Saturday, May 23rd - 12p to 4p OLA Rm. 3
- **Teaching - Fraternal Correction**  
Saturday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> - 12p to 4p OLA Rm. 4
- **Community Intercession**  
Friday, May 29th - 8p at OLA Hall
- **Supplemental Teaching**  
Friday, May 29th - 9p at OLA Hall

## COMMUNITY WORD

The Holy Spirit empowers us to proclaim the Good News.

## THEME

We are empowered by the Holy Spirit to trust Jesus, the Way, the Truth, and the Life, and continue His works.

## PROMISE

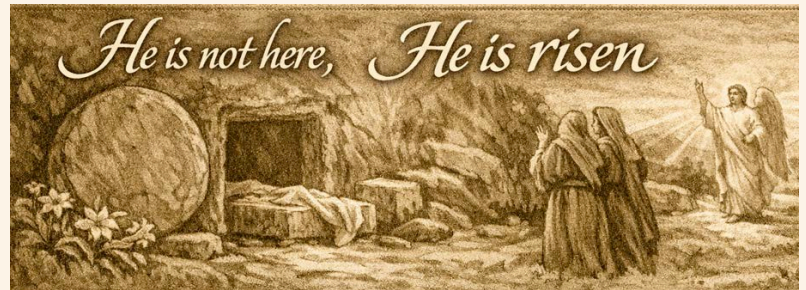
*“The one who believes in me will also do the works that I do, and in fact, will do greater works than these.”* (Jn 14:12)

## ORDER

[none for this week]

## DIRECTION

[none for this week]



## CSL REFLECTION (ABRIDGED)

The theme for the **5th Sunday of Easter** is – **We are empowered by the Holy Spirit to trust Jesus, the Way, the Truth, and the Life, and continue His works.** In moments of uncertainty, Jesus tells His disciples, **“Do not let your hearts be troubled.”** Trust is the beginning of discipleship. As a covenant community, we are called to anchor our lives in Christ, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Trusting Him means surrendering our plans, fears, and limitations, believing that He leads us to the Father. The Holy Spirit strengthens this trust within us and forms us as living stones built into a spiritual house. Faith is active belief, leading us to participate in Christ’s ongoing work. Through service, evangelization, and faithful obedience, we allow God’s saving action to continue in our time. When we trust fully, the Spirit empowers us beyond our natural capacities so that our lives bear lasting fruit for God’s kingdom. We are assured that, **“Whoever believes in me will do the works that I do, and will do greater ones than these.”** (Jn 14:12) *(see p7 for full version.)*

### Reflection Guide Questions:

1. In what areas of my life is Jesus inviting me to trust Him more deeply as the Way, the Truth, and the Life?
2. How is the Holy Spirit calling me to actively participate in continuing Christ’s works in my family, community, and mission?



***The Month of New Beginnings:** May our hearts continue to bloom with faith, love, and renewed purpose as we walk in the risen life of Christ.*



## ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MINISTRIES

### MISSION

- **Invitation to Support the Kitchener Life in the Spirit Seminar – June 13–14, 2026**

We warmly invite everyone to support the BLD Kitchener Prayer Group's Life in the Spirit Seminar, to be held on the weekend of **June 13 and 14, 2026**, at the Hall of **St. Mark Catholic Parish**, located at 55 Driftwood Drive, Kitchener, ON N2N 3A2.

This seminar is a grace-filled opportunity for spiritual renewal and growth in the Holy Spirit. We humbly ask for your prayers, participation, and any support you can offer to help make this event fruitful for all LSS participants.

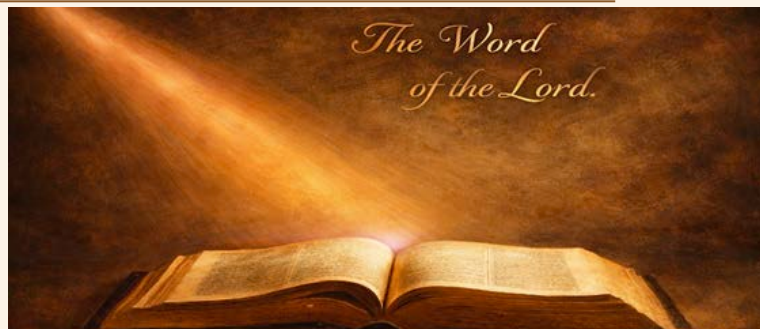
Thank you for journeying with us in mission and service. May the Lord richly bless you as we come together to build His Kingdom. Please see attached flyer for details.

- The Mission Ministry is encouraging volunteers to serve meals to the homeless at the **Good Shepherd Ministries on May 13, 2026. BLD's schedule is every 2nd Wednesday of the month from 2:00 - 4:00pm.** Let us enjoy the experience of feeding the less fortunate of our brothers and sisters. Please coordinate with Richie Evangelista for more details.
- The **Breaking the Yoke of Poverty (BYOP) Ministry** has started collecting Lenten card donations to support the BYOP Scholarship of Hope program for the needy children in our home country, the Philippines. You can remit your donation via e-transfer. Indicate 'Lenten Cards donation'.

Email: [bldtorontotreasury@yahoo.com](mailto:bldtorontotreasury@yahoo.com)

Security Question: who is my first teacher?

Answer/Password: Jesus1



### COMMUNITY PRAYER

Lord Jesus, You said that all will know we are Your disciples by our love for one another. You prayed that your disciples may all be one, just as You and the Father are one.

We ask, Lord, to grant us that same unity of heart and mind so that, in You, we may also be one with the Father.

Lord, we have a covenant with You to follow Your commandments, especially loving one another and living in unity. Let your Holy Spirit flow freely into our hearts and minds, so that we may share in that mutual love between You and the Father.

Let harmony reign in our community life and activities, and may we always accept one another, forgive each other, and see each other with Your eyes, Lord Jesus. Then, we will truly experience the fruits of unity and merit in our midst, Your amazing presence.

Help us to be holy as You are holy, to sincerely love one another as You have loved us. Remind us always to lift our hearts in prayer. Nourish us by Your word and strengthen us through the Sacraments. Make us one, Lord Jesus, for it is good and pleasant when we dwell as one, and there You will lavish blessings upon us. In Your Mighty Name, we pray. Amen.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, we trust in your love. Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us. St. Joseph, pray for us.



*Do not  
let your  
hearts  
be  
troubled*  
(John 14:1)

## FROM THE MINISTRIES *(cont'd.)*

### SINGLES

The **Singles Encounter #26** is closely approaching. We invite individuals, 19 years old this year or older and have never been married, to join us on **June 12-14, 2026**, at **The Valley of the Mother of God** in Orangeville for a spiritual retreat to get away from the busyness of life and into peace of mind with the Lord. Register using the link: <https://bit.ly/SEW-26> or scan the QR Code on the attached flyers. You can also reach us at [bldtorontosingles@gmail.com](mailto:bldtorontosingles@gmail.com) for any questions you may have.

For SE#26 Registration inquiries, please visit the recruitment table every Friday, starting on Friday April 24, 2026 at OLA Hall.

The Singles Ministry is planning a **fundraising event for Mother's day** to raise money for the upcoming SE#26. We will be selling roses on **Friday May 8, 2026** to celebrate Mother's day.

### FAMILY LIFE

*"As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."*  
(Joshua 24:15)

Families are warmly invited to a **Family Encounter Weekend** at the beautiful and peaceful **Valley of the Mother of God** on **July 25 to 26, 2026**. Rooted in Scripture and guided by prayer, this weekend invites families to renew their commitment to serving the Lord together, to cherish children as God's precious gift (Psalm 127:3), to honor one another across generations (Exodus 20:12), and to love one another deeply in Christ (1 Peter 4:8).

Join us for a grace-filled weekend of faith, reflection, and meaningful family encounters. All families are welcome.

For details, please contact Willie & Annette Guillermo.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### DCS

- In response to the request raised at the last Disciples meeting, we have prepared a summary of free and confidential support available to help our members navigate the practical, legal, and emotional challenges that can follow the loss of a loved one. This brief guide highlights no-cost or low-cost services in Toronto that BLD members can refer to on for both (1) clear steps to take after the passing of a spouse—including estate administration and access to brief legal advice—and (2) counselling and grief-support options. A quick ‘how to use’ notes and direct source links are included to make it easy for anyone to find the help they need. This information is uploaded on our website for access.
- Our community continues to grow, and your voice matters. We’ve created a new email where you can share your thoughts, ideas, and feedback:  
[bldtorontosuggestionbox@gmail.com](mailto:bldtorontosuggestionbox@gmail.com) You may include your name or remain anonymous—though adding your name helps us follow up when needed. All submissions will be kept confidential. For those who prefer the traditional method, our physical Suggestion Box remains at the hall entrance. Let’s work together to build a stronger, more connected community.

## INTERCESSORY

Everyone is invited to our Community Intercession every Monday evening at 7:30 PM via Zoom, except on the 1st Monday of the month and on holidays. Pls. see below for Zoom details note that we have new Passcode:

Meeting ID: 812 7532 6147

Passcode: 2026357

Please write clearly on your petition forms, especially names, so that the intercessors can read your handwriting.

## SECRETARIAT

Please make sure to scan your ID before Praise and Worship every week or sign-in your attendance for safety and security purposes in case of emergency.

Kindly advise the Secretariat by emailing [bldtorontosecretariat01@gmail.com](mailto:bldtorontosecretariat01@gmail.com) if you know of any member who does not receive the weekly DCS broadcasts. Help us to keep all members well informed of community events.

## TREASURY

All 2025 tax receipts have been mailed out. To set up an Interac e-transfer for their love offerings, please see the information below:  
Email: [bldtorontotreasury@yahoo.com](mailto:bldtorontotreasury@yahoo.com)

Security Question: who is my first teacher?

Answer/Password: Jesus1

Once Jojie Abellanosa (Treasurer) receives your e-transfer, expect a confirmation email coming from her (not from your bank), otherwise please email her at the above-noted email address.

## CONTACT US

BUKAS LOOB SA DIYOS COVENANT COMMUNITY, TORONTO DISTRICT

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2565 Bathurst St., Toronto, ON M6B 2Z3

## SUNDAY READINGS

May 3, 2026 - Fifth Sunday of Easter - Jesus: The Way, the truth & the Life  
(Cycle A, Year II)

### 1<sup>st</sup> Reading - Acts 6:1-7

Now during those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists complained against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution of food. And the twelve called together the whole community of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should neglect the word of God in order to wait on tables. Therefore, brothers, select from among yourselves seven men of good standing, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this task, while we, for our part, will devote ourselves to prayer and to serving the word."

What they said pleased the whole community, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a convert of Antioch. They had these men stand before the Apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of God continued to spread; the number of the disciples increased greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

### Psalm 33

**R: Let your love be upon us, Lord, even as we hope in you.**

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous. Praise befits the upright. Praise the Lord with the lyre; make melody to him with the harp of ten strings. **R.**

For the word of the Lord is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness. He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord. **R.**

Truly the eye of the Lord is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love, to deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine. **R.**

### 2nd Reading - 1 Peter 2:4-9

Beloved: Come to the Lord, a living stone, though rejected by human beings yet chosen and precious in God's sight. Like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

For it stands in Scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner," and "A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

### Gospel - John 14:1-12

Jesus said to his disciples: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going."

Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?"

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father."

[www.livingwithchrist.ca](http://www.livingwithchrist.ca)

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## CSL WSC REFLECTION GUIDE

### May 3, 2026 (Cycle A, Year II) – 5th Sunday of Easter

#### JESUS THE WAY, THE TRUTH & THE LIFE

##### Reflection:

The **theme** for this **Fifth Sunday of Easter** calls us to a deeper trust in Jesus, who reveals Himself as the **Way, the Truth, and the Life**. In the Gospel, Jesus speaks tenderly to His disciples: **“Do not let your hearts be troubled.”** We are comforted and invited to Jesus’ call to anchor our lives in Him even amid uncertainty, trials, and the unknown. Trust is not a resignation to what will happen to our life but an active surrender in faith.

As we serve in community, trust in Jesus becomes the foundation of our identity and mission. To believe that He is the Way means that we follow His path of obedience, humility, and sacrificial love. To believe that He is the Truth means that we allow His Word to shape our minds, our decisions, and our priorities. To believe that He is the Life means that we draw our strength, hope, and purpose from Him alone. This trust is formed through prayer, the Word, and a continuous yielding to God’s will.

The first reading from Acts shows how the early Christian community responded to practical challenges through discernment and Spirit-led action. Faced with internal concerns, the apostles did not lose sight of their mission. Instead, they empowered others to serve, ensuring that both the proclamation of the Word and the care of the community would flourish. This reminds us that trusting Jesus also means trusting the work of the Holy Spirit within the community, raising leaders and inspiring service for the good of all.

Saint Peter, in the second reading, affirms that we are “living stones” being built into a spiritual house. Each one of us has a place and a purpose in God’s plan. As a royal priesthood and a holy nation, we are called not only to personal holiness but also to mission, to proclaim the mighty acts of God who has called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

The Holy Spirit is the source of our empowerment. It is the Spirit who strengthens our faith when it is weak, who clarifies the truth when we are confused, and who leads us forward when the path is uncertain. When we surrender to the Spirit, our lives become instruments of God’s grace. We begin to act not out of fear or self-reliance, but out of confidence in God’s power working within us.

To continue the works of Jesus is to participate in His mission of love, mercy, and salvation. It means reaching out to those in need, witnessing to our faith in word and deed, and building communities in unity and service. It is through our obedience and openness that God’s saving work continues in our time.

As we grow in trust, we are reminded that our capacity is not the limit, God’s power is. When we believe fully and live faithfully, the promise of Jesus becomes real in us: **“Whoever believes in me will do the works that I do and will do greater ones than these.”** (Jn 14:12)

##### Prayer:

Heavenly Father, You have called us to trust in Your Son, Jesus, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. In moments of doubt and uncertainty, strengthen our faith and quiet our troubled hearts. Fill us with Your Holy Spirit, that we may be empowered to serve, to witness, and to continue the works of Christ in our daily lives. Form us as living stones in Your spiritual house, united in love and mission. May our lives bear fruit that brings glory to Your Name and leads others to Your saving grace. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.