



CATHOLIC SPIRITUALITY  
FOR THE INCARCERATED  
FROM THE ORDER OF MALTA

# The Serving Brother

SUMMER 2016

Thoughts from His Holiness, Pope Francis

## The Fullness of Christian Faith

In God's gift of faith, we realize that a great love has been offered to us. When we welcome Jesus Christ the Word made flesh, the Holy Spirit transforms us. He lights up our way to the future and helps us to joyfully advance on wings of hope.

Christian faith is centered on Christ. Jesus taught that Abraham's faith pointed to him "Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day; he saw it and was glad." (Jn 8:56) Jesus is Lord and God has raised him from the dead! (Rom 10:9). All the hopes of the Old Testament point to Christ.

The history of Jesus is the complete revelation of God's reliability. The word which God speaks to us in Jesus is not simply one word among many, but his eternal Word. (Heb 1:1-2) God can give no greater guarantee of his love, as Saint Paul reminds us. (Rom 8:31-39) Christian faith is thus faith in a perfect love, in its ability to transform the world and to unfold its history. "We know and believe the love that God has for us." (1 Jn 4:16) In the love of God revealed in

Jesus, faith helps us see the foundation on which all reality and our final destiny rest.

The clearest proof of Christ's love is to be found in his dying for our sake. If laying down one's life for one's friends



The Order of Malta has issued stamps dedicated to the Christian virtues of Faith (Fides), Love (Caritas) and Hope (Spes). These major Christian principles are explored in this issue in the writings of popes Francis and St. John Paul II.

is the greatest proof of love, (Jn 15:13) Jesus offered his own life for all, even for his enemies, to transform their hearts. This explains why the writers of the Gospels could see the hour of Christ's crucifixion as the greatest expression of faith. In that hour the depth and breadth of God's love shone forth.

CONTINUED INSIDE, SEE **CHRISTIAN FAITH**



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A Spiritual Message from Father George

# Faith, Hope and Love

In this edition of the Serving Brother we look at the three “theological virtues” of Faith, Hope and Love (Charity).

But what is Love? What is Faith? What is Hope?

No one has ever answered the first question better than Saint Paul in his first letter to the people of Corinth, chapter 13: “Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no records of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth...”

I recommend you go open your Bible now and read these beautiful passages and spend some time reflecting on God’s love in your life.

In the end, we won’t need faith anymore because we will see God face to face. Our faith in God will be transformed into sure knowledge of God and his love for us. In a similar way, we won’t need hope anymore because when we come into the presence of God, all that we have ever hoped for will be realized in that moment we see God. The one thing that will remain for all eternity is Love. Our destiny is not death, but to be in the gaze of God’s love forever.

Of course, now, as Paul writes we can’t see it – all we can see is as a reflection in a mirror. But the day will come when we shall see God face to face and we will know and love God fully as we realize how fully God knows and loves us.

That’s what heaven is. But for now it seems that we are a long way off from heaven. We know loss and loneliness and suffering. One of the hardest parts of my work is when I have to tell a prisoner that his or her mother or spouse has passed away. But what is always clear in those moments to me is the truth that Love never dies. Our loved ones continue to love us as we love them; they remain alive in our hearts as long as there is love in our hearts.

Because we’re not in heaven yet, God gives us the graces or “virtues” (in the traditional theological language) of Faith and Hope and Love (AKA Charity). We believe that these graces (or gifts) come to us through Salvation in Jesus Christ. We don’t just invent our own faith, hope and love. When we are baptized, God claims us for Himself and gives us these virtues. They help us grow in our relationship with God in this life and prepare us for that moment when we shall see

# Mass readings

WEEK	MON	TUES	WEDS	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
<b>May 30-Jun 5</b>	2 Pt 1:2-7 Mk 12:1-12	Zep 3:14-18a Lk 1:39-56 <i>The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	2 Tm 1:1-3, 6-12 Mk 12:18-27 <i>St Justin, Martyr</i>	2 Tm 2:8-15 Mk 12:28-34 <i>Sts Marcellinus and Peter, Martyrs</i>	Ez 34:11-16 Rom 5:5b-11 Lk 15:3-7 [1]	2 Tm 4:1-8 Lk 2:41-51 <i>The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin</i>	1 Kgs 17:17-24 Gal 1:11-19 Lk 7:11-17
<b>Jun 6-12</b>	1 Kgs 17:1-6 Mt 5:1-12 <i>St Norbert</i>	1 Kgs 17:7-16 Mt 5:13-16	1 Kgs 18:20-39 Mt 5:17-19	1 Kgs 18:41-46 Mt 5:20-26 <i>St Ephrem</i>	1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-16 Mt 5:27-32	Acts 11:21b-26; Mt 5:33-37 <i>St Barnabas</i>	2 Sm 12:7-10, 13 Gal 2:16, 19-21 Lk 7:36-8:3
<b>Jun 13-19</b>	1 Kgs 21:1-16 Mt 5:38-42 <i>St Anthony of Padua</i>	1 Kgs 21:17-29 Mt 5:43-48	2 Kgs 2:1, 6-14 Mt 6:1-6, 16-18	Sir 48:1-14 Mt 6:7-15	2 Kgs 11:14, 9-18, 20 Mt 6:19-23	2 Chr 24:17-25 Mt 6:24-34	Zec 12:10-11; 13:1 Gal 3:26-29 Lk 9:18-24
<b>Jun 20-26</b>	2 Kgs 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18 Mt 7:1-5	2 Kgs 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36 Mt 7:6, 12-14 [2]	2 Kgs 22:8-13; 23:1-3 Mt 7:15-20 <i>St Paulinus of Nola; Sts John Fisher &amp; Thomas More</i>	2 Kgs 24:8-17 Mt 7:21-29	Is 49:1-6 Acts 13:22-26 Lk 1:57-66, 80 [3]	Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19 Mt 8:5-17	1 Kgs 19:16b, 19-21 Gal 5:1, 13-18 Lk 9:51-62
<b>Jun 27-Jul 3</b>	Am 2:6-10, 13-16 Mt 8:18-22 <i>St Cyril of Alexandria</i>	Am 3:1-8; 4:11-12 Mt 8:23-27 <i>St Irenaeus</i>	Acts 12:1-11 2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18 Mt 16:13-19 [4]	Am 7:10-17 Mt 9:1-8 <i>The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church</i>	Am 8:4-6, 9-12 Mt 9:9-13 <i>St Junipero Serra</i>	Am 9:11-15 Mt 9:14-17	Is 66:10-14c Gal 6:14-18 Lk 10:1-12, 17-20
<b>Jul 4-10</b>	Hos 2:16, 17b-18, 21-22 Mt 9:18-26	Hos 8:4-7, 11-13 Mt 9:32-38 <i>Sts Anthony Zaccaria &amp; Elizabeth of Portugal</i>	Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12 Mt 10:1-7 <i>St Maria Goretti, Virgin &amp; Martyr</i>	Hos 11:1-4, 8c-9 Mt 10:7-15	Hos 14:2-10 Mt 10:16-23	Is 6:1-8 Mt 10:24-33 <i>St Augustine Zhao Rong, &amp; Companions, Martyrs</i>	Dt 30:10-14 Col 1:15-20 Lk 10:25-37
<b>Jul 11-17</b>	Is 1:10-17 Mt 10:34-11:1 <i>St Benedict</i>	Is 7:1-9 Mt 11:20-24	Is 10:5-7, 13b-16 Mt 11:25-27 <i>St Henry</i>	Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19 Mt 11:28-30 <i>St Kateri Tekakwitha</i>	Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8 Mt 12:1-8 <i>St Bonaventure</i>	Mi 2:1-5 Mt 12:14-21 <i>Our Lady of Mount Carmel</i>	Gn 18:1-10a Col 1:24-28 Lk 10:38-42
<b>Jul 18-24</b>	Mi 6:1-4, 6-8 Mt 12:38-42 <i>St Camillus de Lellis</i>	Mi 7:14-15, 18-20 Mt 12:46-50	Jer 1:1, 4-10 Mt 13:1-9 <i>St Apollinaris, Martyr</i>	Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13 Mt 13:10-17 <i>St Lawrence of Brindisi</i>	Jer 3:14-17 (399) Jn 20:1-2, 11-18 <i>St Mary Magdalene</i>	Jer 7:1-11 Mt 13:24-30 <i>St Bridget</i>	Gn 18:20-32 Col 2:12-14 Lk 11:1-13
<b>Jul 25-31</b>	2 Cor 4:7-15 Mt 20:20-28 <i>St James</i>	Jer 14:17-22 Mt 13:36-43 <i>Sts Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin</i>	Jer 15:10, 16-21 Mt 13:44-46	Jer 18:1-6 Mt 13:47-53	Jer 26:1-9 (405) Jn 11:19-27 <i>St Martha</i>	Jer 26:11-16, 24 Mt 14:1-12 <i>St Peter Chrysologus</i>	Ecc 1:2; 2:21-23 Col 3:1-5, 9-11 Lk 12:13-21
<b>Aug 1-7</b>	Jer 28:1-17 Mt 14:13-21 <i>St Alphonsus</i>	Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22 Mt 14:22-36 [5]	Jer 31:1-7 Mt 15:21-28	Jer 31:31-34 Mt 16:13-23 <i>St John Vianney</i>	Na 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7 Mt 16:24-28 <i>The Dedication of the Basilica of Saint Mary Major</i>	Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 2 Pt 1:16-19 Lk 9:28b-36 [6]	Wis 18:6-9 Heb 11:1-2, 8-19 Lk 12:32-48
<b>Aug 8-14</b>	Ez 1:2-5, 24-28c Mt 17:22-27 <i>St Dominic</i>	Ez 2:8-3:4 Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14 <i>St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, Virgin and Martyr</i>	2 Cor 9:6-10 Jn 12:24-26 <i>St Lawrence, Martyr</i>	Ez 12:1-12 Mt 18:21-19:1 <i>St Clare</i>	Ez 16:1-15, 59-63 Mt 19:3-12 <i>St Jane Frances de Chantal</i>	Ez 18:1-10, 13b, 30-32 Mt 19:13-15 <i>Sts Pontian, Pope &amp; Hippolytus, Martyrs</i>	Jer 38:4-6, 8-10 Heb 12:1-4 Lk 12:49-53
<b>Aug 15-21</b>	Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab 1 Cor 15:20-27 Lk 1:39-56 [7]	Ez 28:1-10 Mt 19:23-30 <i>St Stephen of Hungary</i>	Ez 34:1-11 Mt 20:1-16	Ez 36:23-28 Mt 22:1-14	Ez 37:1-14 Mt 22:34-40 <i>St John Eudes</i>	Ez 43:1-7a Mt 23:1-12 <i>St Bernard</i>	Is 66:18-21 Heb 12:5-7, 11-13 Lk 13:22-30
<b>Aug 22-28</b>	2 Thes 1:1-5, 11-12 Mt 23:13-22 <i>The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17 Mt 23:23-26 <i>St Rose of Lima</i>	Rv 21:9b-14 Jn 1:45-51 <i>St Bartholomew</i>	1 Cor 1:1-9 Mt 24:42-51 <i>St Louis &amp; St Joseph Calasanz</i>	1 Cor 1:17-25 Mt 25:1-13	1 Cor 1:26-31 Mt 25:14-30 <i>St Monica</i>	Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29 Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a Lk 14:1, 7-14

Note: Solemnities in red, Feast days in gold and Memorials in green, in celebration of the saint/event shown. [1] The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus [2] St Aloysius Gonzaga [3] The Nativity of St John the Baptist [4] Sts Peter and Paul [5] Sts Eusebius of Vercelli & Peter Julian Eymard [6] The Transfiguration of the Lord [7] The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

him face to face in Heaven. Faith is our belief in God and in the truth of his revelation to us in the Bible. Hope is what keeps us from despair and giving up – it comes from God’s spirit dwelling in our hearts – again something that comes when we accept God’s love for us through our acceptance of Jesus Christ. With faith and hope we are also given the gift of charity, that makes us fully human, and gives our lives purpose and meaning and happiness because, it is

our friendship with God – when we love God above all things and when we love our neighbors as ourselves.

Pope Francis reminds us that Faith is God’s gift to us that transforms our lives, lighting our hearts so that we can see God’s light shining in us and in one another.

Gus Lloyd’s reflection reminds us how important Hope is in our lives. In fact, if I had to describe the purpose of

CONTINUED INSIDE, SEE **FATHER GEORGE** 3

It is precisely in praying and meditating on Jesus' death that faith grows stronger and receives a dazzling light. We experience Christ's steadfast love for us, a love capable of embracing death to bring us salvation. This love is something I can believe in. Christ's total self-gift overcomes every suspicion and enables me to entrust myself to him completely.

As the risen one, Christ is the trustworthy witness, deserving of faith. (Rev 1:5; Heb 2:17) Had the Father's love not caused Jesus to rise from the dead, had it not been able to restore his body to life, then it would not be a completely reliable love, capable of conquering even death.

When Saint Paul describes his new life in Christ, he speaks of "faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." (Gal 2:20) Precisely because Jesus is the Son, because he is absolutely grounded in the Father, he was able to conquer death and make the fullness of life shine forth.

If God could not act in the world, his love would not be a love capable of delivering the joy that it promises. It would make no difference at all whether we believed in him or not. But we know God's love is all powerful. That is why we Christians profess our faith in God's powerful love which really does act in history and in our lives. God's love can be encountered and felt; it is a love fully revealed in Christ's passion, death and resurrection.

Faith does not simply look at Jesus, but sees things as Jesus himself sees them, with his own eyes. In faith we share in his way of seeing. In many areas in our lives we trust others who know more than we do. We trust the doctor who gives us medicine for healing, the lawyer who defends us in court. We also need someone trustworthy and knowledgeable where God is concerned. Jesus, the Son of God, is the one who

makes God known to us. (Jn 1:18) Christ's life, his way of knowing the Father and living in complete and constant relationship with him, brings us freedom in our lives.

We "believe" Jesus when we accept his word, his testimony, because he is truthful. We "believe in" Jesus when we personally welcome him into our lives and journey towards him, clinging to him in love and following in his footsteps along the way.

To enable us to know, accept and follow him, the Son of God took on our flesh. Christian faith is faith in the incarnation of the Word and his bodily resurrection; it is faith in a God who is so close to us that he entered our human history. Our faith in the Son of God made man in Jesus of Nazareth enables us to grasp reality's deepest meaning and to see how much God loves this world and is constantly guiding it towards himself. This leads us, as Christians, to live our lives in this world with ever greater commitment, freedom and joy. ✳

The above is adapted from *Lumen Fidei*, an encyclical letter issued by Pope Francis on June 29, 2013.

.....  
**FATHER GEORGE**, FROM PAGE 2

being a minister in prison, I would say it is to point to the reality of hope in our lives, when the world around us is tempting us to lose sight of hope.

Finally, in a reflection from Pope Saint John Paul II, this great and holy man reminds us that Love is what we need to be truly free, but it demands something of us - we must give up selfishness. The key to freedom is to let go of being selfish and becoming a man or a woman for others. We are created to serve one another and in so doing serve God, who has called us into existence for that purpose. ✳

Father George T. Williams SJ, Editor of The Serving Brother, is Chaplain of San Quentin State Prison. Opened in July 1852, San Quentin is the oldest prison in California, and houses over 4,200 men including more than 750 on death row.



*Head of Christ*, by Rembrandt, Dutch c 1648-50

# Love is demanding, not easy

by Pope St. John Paul II

The love which the Apostle Paul celebrates in the First Letter to the Corinthians – the love which is “patient” and “kind,” and “endures all things” (1Cor 13:4, 7) – is certainly a demanding love. But this is precisely the source of its beauty. By the very fact that it is demanding, it builds up the true good of man and allows it to radiate to others.

Love is true when it creates the good of persons and of communities. It creates that good and gives it to others. Only the one who is able to be demanding with himself in the name of love can also demand love from others.

Love is demanding. It makes demands in all human situations. It is even more demanding in the case of those who are open to the Gospel. Is this not what Christ proclaims in “his” commandment? Nowadays people need to

rediscover this demanding love, for it is the truly firm foundation of the family, a foundation able to “endure all things.”

The dangers faced by love are also dangers for us all. Here one thinks first of all of *selfishness* – not only the selfishness of individuals, but also of couples or, even of social selfishness, that for example of a class or nation. Selfishness in all its forms is directly opposed to love. We find our true selves when we give ourselves away in love. A gift is, obviously, “for others.” This is the most important dimension of our lives together.

We thus come to the very heart of the Gospel truth about freedom. We realize our full humanity by the exercise of freedom in truth. Freedom cannot be understood as a license to do absolutely anything: it means a gift of self. The idea of gift contains not only the free act of the subject, but also the aspect of

duty. This moves the person to become a gift for others and to discover joy in giving himself. This is the joy about which Christ speaks. (Jn 15:11; 16:20, 22)

A freedom without responsibilities is the opposite of love. When this concept of freedom is embraced by society, and quickly allies itself with varied forms of human weakness, it soon proves a systematic and permanent threat to the family. In this regard, one could mention many serious consequences, even though a great number of

them are hidden in the hearts of men and women like painful, fresh wounds.

This is why the Church both believes and proclaims the love which “endures all things.” (1 Cor 13:7) With Saint Paul she sees in it “the greatest” virtue of all. (1 Cor 13:13) Everyone is called to love, including spouses and families. In the Church everyone is called equally to perfect holiness. (Mt 5:48) ✱

The above is adapted from *Gratissimam Sane, A Letter to Families* from Pope St. John Paul II dated February 2, 1994.

**“I GIVE YOU A NEW COMMANDMENT: LOVE ONE ANOTHER. AS I HAVE LOVED YOU, SO YOU ALSO SHOULD LOVE ONE ANOTHER. THIS IS HOW ALL WILL KNOW THAT YOU ARE MY DISCIPLES, IF YOU HAVE LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER.” JOHN 13:34-35**

## *In Thankful Remembrance*

Dear Serving Sisters and Brothers,

The Order of Malta is deeply thankful to the Lord for our calling of ministering to souls in prison, and to those getting out of prison and seeking a better life in the community. The Lord got us focused on this early in our history. A Rule of the Order of Malta from the year 1181 shows that we regularly helped prisoners during the first 133 years that had passed since our founding. Yes, the Order of Malta IS the oldest Prison Ministry effort in the Western world ... and perhaps the entire planet!

While our experience is long, our constant challenge is to always serve you better. As a volunteer effort, we know that we will always fall short of our aspirations. We ask for your understanding and for your forgiveness. However, with the aid of the Holy Spirit, we are confident that we can make an important difference. *The Serving Brother* that you hold in your hands is one way

that has helped us to “be an instrument of salvation to the ends of the earth.” (Acts 13:47) We thank the Lord that it is now distributed in dozens of nations in North & South America and in the Caribbean & Oceania regions. With this progress, each of our Serving Sisters and Brothers are part of a spiritual community whose power continues to grow.

Recognizing the awesome prayer power of our spiritual community, may I ask you to please pray for the souls of three individuals who have recently gone home to God that were critical in the development of *The Serving Brother*?

**Paul McNamara, KM**, was called home by Our Lord on January 23, 2016 at age 74. A father of two and grandfather of four, Paul’s life was dedicated to doing the Lord’s work in his corner of the world. He was a fine example of Charity, a virtue that helps us love God and our neighbors, more than ourselves. Paul was an early supporter of *The*

*Serving Brother* project.

**Sheila Feitelberg**, a Dame of Malta, was called home by Our Lord on February 6, 2016 at age 78. A mother of six and grandmother of twelve, Sheila was a gracious and generous person. She was a fine example of the virtue of Faith – the belief in God and in the truth of His revelation – as well as obedience to Him. Sheila was a consistent supporter of *The Serving Brother* from its very beginnings.

Our Lord called **Lillian Caron**, my mother, home on March 5, 2016 at age 85. A mother of eight and grandmother of thirteen, Lillian was a gentle soul devoted to her family, her friends, to God and His Church. She was a fine example of the virtue of Hope – the belief that God is eternally present in every human’s life, never giving up on His love, and seeing past the troubles of the day. Without Lillian’s teaching, example and ongoing support over the years there would be no such thing called *The Serving Brother* to reach you.


In the Mass of Christian Burial, our priests say:

*“Into your hands, Father of mercies, we commend our brother/sister in the sure and certain hope that, together with all who have died in Christ, he/she will rise with Him. We give you thanks for the blessings which you bestowed upon him/her in this life: they are signs to us of your goodness and of our fellowship with the saints in Christ.*

*“Merciful Lord, turn toward us and listen to our prayers: open the gates of paradise to your servant and help us who remain to comfort one another with assurances of faith, until we all meet in Christ and are with you and with our brother/sister forever.*

*“In peace let us take our brother/sister to his/her place of rest. May the angels lead you into paradise; may the martyrs come to welcome you and take you to the holy city, the new and eternal Jerusalem.”*

With prayerful thanks,

Steven G. Caron, KM  
 Publisher  
*The Serving Brother* 

## Give your brain a workout!

### Sudoku Puzzle

	2			9		1		
3					6	7	2	
	4		3			5		
9						4	1	
		3	4		1	8		
	6	1						2
		4			9		7	
	3	7	1					5
		2		5			4	

Sudoku Directions – Fill each square with the numbers 1-9. No number can appear twice within the same row, the same column, or within the same frame of nine squares. **ANSWERS ON BACK PAGE**

### Brain Teaser

Cryptogram: Can you uncode the saying below, by figuring out how the letters have been swapped? Hint: every M in the first puzzle represents the letter A. In the second, B represents I.

M JMC SPORIZO XZDXRPDH PX  
 APFH, CIZ FDIS, DPNRO.

– XOHYH TMBOPD

B TCZF PFZFX UFA SN  
 KOTVVUBPY BPAFXDFXF JBAT  
 SN FRWOCABVP.

– SCXI AJCBP

# Our Hope is in that which cannot be seen

by Gus Lloyd

St. Paul says, “Now hope that sees for itself is not hope. For who hopes for what one sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait with endurance.”

(Romans 8:24-25)

So what is hope? Here’s what the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* says: “Hope is the theological virtue by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life

as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ’s promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit.”

Our hope is heaven, the resurrection of the body, life after death. These are all things that cannot be seen. But we believe, because God has assured us of them, if we hold fast to Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit. If we put our hope in the Lord, it will lead us to the other two theological virtues of faith and charity.

In Luke, chapter 13, Jesus compares the Kingdom of God to a mustard seed and to yeast. The mustard seed is the smallest of seeds that grows into something great, and yeast is an amazing agent of change. Two aspects of the Kingdom for us to think about.

Gus Lloyd is the host of “Seize the Day,” a weekday morning program on the Catholic Channel of Sirius Satellite Radio (XM 129), which is sponsored by the Archdiocese of New York



Christ Crowned with Thorns, by Fra Angelico, Italian, c 1420

## Puzzle solutions

– Mark Twain

I have never let my schooling interfere with my education.

– Steve Martin

A day without sunshine is like, you know, night.

Answer to cryptquote:

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6	9	8	7	5	3	2	4	1
2	3	7	1	6	4	9	8	5
1	5	4	2	8	9	6	7	3
4	6	1	9	7	8	3	5	2
5	7	3	4	2	1	8	9	6
9	8	2	6	3	5	4	1	7
7	4	9	3	1	2	5	6	8
3	1	5	8	4	6	7	2	9
8	2	6	5	9	7	1	3	4