



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH NEWSLETTER

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Issue 2020/12

For Private Circulation Only

22 March 2020

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR A

Reading I: Sam 16: 1. 6-7. 10-13

Reading II: Eph 5: 8-14

Gospel: Jn 9: 1-41

Revised Roman Missal: 269

Gospel Summary

Using saliva and earth, Jesus made a paste to heal the blind man. The healing became a true conversion for the man, but created some problems for Jesus with the Jewish leaders. Because this healing took place on the Sabbath, the Pharisees accused Jesus of breaking Jewish law. The Pharisees tried to get confirmation of this action from the blind man's parents and from the blind man himself. In the end, the authorities were unable to charge Jesus with any wrongdoing and had to recognize that Jesus was gaining many disciples.

Reflection for Families

In order for parents to help their children follow the light of Christ, they too must open their eyes. As Jesus helped the blind man understand, it is not enough to see only with our eyes. We need also to see with our hearts and allow our every action to reflect this sight. Jesus healed the man of his blindness, but in the end the man recognized Jesus as the Messiah and worshiped him.

Bringing the Gospel Into Your Family

Make an effort today (or sometime this week) to really see God in our lives. This may take some time and deliberation, but take a walk together and look for signs of God in the beauty of nature. Talk about ways God has helped you see with your heart, and suggest ways you can share the sight of your heart with others. You might bring some of your findings to your family's prayer space.

Discussion Starters

1. My eyes were really opened when...
2. The hardest thing for me about being blind would be...
3. The most precious thing I've seen with my heart is...

“ PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS”

Dear Brother and Sister we will be showing our **live streaming** Daily & Sunday Masses as per below:

Monday —Friday Mass at 6 p.m.

Saturday Mass at 6:30 p.m.

Sunday Mass at 7:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.

All live streaming Mass is available at Bishop Cornelius Sim Live Stream youtube

For more information, please go to Vicariate website: www.rcvbd.com

Commentary for The Fourth Sunday in Lent (Year A) – 22 March 2020

INTRODUCTION:

The readings this Sunday tells the story about sight and light. Jesus gave sight to the man born blind while those who think they can see prove to be spiritually blind. May we learn to see by the light of Christ in the darkness that surrounds us today. Thus, do not just read or hear the words but listen with your heart to the deeper meaning in the readings. Ask God to help you open your mind and heart to what He is asking of you and what He wants to do through you

COMMENTARY

First Reading: 1 Sam 16: 1, 6-7, 10-13

In God's choice of David to succeed King Saul, God does not judge by outward appearances or who may look like the most fitting but by what is in a person's heart.

Ultimately, Samuels saw what God had in mind, a young man with the confidence and character needed to fill a large role in God's Plan of Salvation.

The **Responsorial Psalm**, (23:1-6), is the famous "The Lord is My Shepherd" prayer. Even though you might have heard this many times, pause and listen to the words. God is truly a divine shepherd who wishes to take care of each of us as thoroughly as a shepherd takes care of his sheep. Sheep do not have good eyesight and require careful watching for many reasons. God is willing to watch over us, if we let Him and follow His lead.

Second Reading: Eph 5: 8-14

Paul uses the symbols of "light" and "darkness" to indicate awareness and ignorance, or even worse, a refusal to listen. The dark places of life are healed by being brought into the light.

Gospel: Jn 9: 1-41

Here we have an extensive teaching by Jesus referring to Himself as the Light of the World. We have a blind man who represents all of Judaism from antiquity to the present, who longs to see the Messiah, but is unable because he is looking in the wrong direction, or he is looking for something or someone to fulfill a preconceived need. In this story, the Pharisees, who knew better but who refused to listen, were both deaf and blind to what Jesus was saying and doing. Their minds were not open, and their faith was so locked in the earthly teachings of Moses that they failed to see God standing before them in the person of Jesus Christ.

DAY	EVENT	READINGS
Monday 23	4TH WEEK OF LENT	Is 65: 17-21 Jn 4: 43-54
Tuesday 24	4TH WEEK OF LENT	Ez 47: 1-9. 12 Jn 5: 1-16
Wednesday 25	ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD (SOLEMNITY)	Is 7: 10-14. 8: 10 Hebr 10: 4-10 Lk 1: 26-38
Thursday 26	4TH WEEK OF LENT	Ex 32: 7-14 Jn 5: 31-47
Friday 27	4TH WEEK OF LENT	Wis 2: 1. 12-22 Jn 7: 1-2. 10: 25-30
Saturday 28	4TH WEEK OF LENT	Jer 11: 18-20 Jn 7: 40-53
Sunday 29	FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT	Ez 37: 12-14 Rom 8: 8-11 Jn 11: 1-45