



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH NEWSLETTER

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19 March 2023

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”

• **SECOND COLLECTION**

Our Second Collection this Sunday is for “The Catholic Social Welfare fund” in reference of St. Joseph. This was previously known as the St. Vincent De Paul Collection. Thank you for your generosity and support.

♦ **COMMUNITY GOTONG-ROYONG**

Please come and help in this community event today, 19th March at 10:30 a.m. and bring along your cleaning tools. Lunch will be provided.

♦ **COMBINED PRAYER MEETING**

There will be a combined prayer meeting on Thursday, 23rd March in COOL Parish hall at 7:15 p.m. Everyone is encouraged to join.

♦ **ACIES 2023**

This year’s ACIES will take place on Sunday, 26th March at 1:00 p.m. at Church of Our Lady of Immaculate Conception, Seria. During this ceremony all Marian devotees and members of the Legion of Mary will consecrate themselves to Mary by renewing their Legionary Promise.

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS—LENTEN ACTIVITIES

♦ **YOUTH 30-HOUR FAMINE & FUND RAISING BREAKFAST SALE**

This will be held in St John’s from Thursday, 23rd March at 7:00 p.m. to Saturday, 25th March at 8pm. Registration is open for 12 years and above. Please register by today, 19th March. Registration fees are \$25 per person or \$40 for 2 people. For more info and registration, please scan this QR code or at the front of the Church.

In raising funds for the 30-hour famine, there will be another special **breakfast sale** after the 9:00 a.m. Mass **today, 19th March**. Please come and support the youth.

♦ **DAILY MASS & STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

During the season of Lent, daily Mass on Fridays will be celebrated at 5:30 p.m. followed by the Stations of the Cross.

CONFESSIONS

Half-an-hour before Sunday Mass.

DEVOTIONS

HOLY HOUR—Every Wednesday after the 5:30 p.m. daily Mass.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION—Every FIRST Friday of the month, after the 5:30 p.m. daily Mass.

NOVENA TO OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP—Every Saturday after the 5:30 p.m. daily Mass.

| DAY | MASS & OTHER EVENTS | READINGS | TIME |
|-------------------------|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| Monday 20 | ST JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (SOLEMNITY) | 2 Sam 7: 4-5, 12-14, 16 Rom 4: 13, 16-18, 22 Mt 1: 16, 18-21, 24 | 5:30 PM |
| Tuesday 21 | 4TH WEEK OF LENT | Ez 47: 1-9,12 Jn 5: 1-3, 5-16 | 5:30 PM |
| Wednesday 22 | 4TH WEEK OF LENT <i>HOLY HOUR</i> | Is 49: 8-15 Jn 5: 17-30 | 5:30 PM |
| Thursday 23 | 4TH WEEK OF LENT | Ex 32: 7-14 Jn 5: 31-47 | 5:30 PM |
| Friday 24 | 4TH WEEK OF LENT <i>STATIONS OF THE CROSS</i> | Wis 2: 1, 12-22 Jn 7: 1-2, 10, 25-30 | 5:30 PM |
| Saturday 25 | ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD (SOLEMNITY) <i>NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP</i> | Is 7: 10-14, 8: 10 Hebr 10: 4-10 Lk 1: 26-38 | 5:30 PM |
| Sunday 26 | FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT | Ez 37: 12-14 Rom 8: 8-11 Jn 11: 1-45 | 9:00 AM 6:00 PM |