

focus on sunday

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 27th October 2024



We are continually in need of God's healing power in Christ to cure our blindness to his ways and our deafness to his word. If our faith is strong enough for us to say 'Jesus, have pity on me' then we may be sure that he will save us.



Lord,
I want to
SEE



In Mark's Gospel the disciples often suffer from spiritual blindness and we hear today that it is the blind man, Bartimaeus who sees clearly. In addition to the gift of physical sight that he receives, he actually 'sees' clearly before his healing when he courageously calls out to Jesus, and he 'sees' clearly after his healing when he follows Jesus 'on the way', on the path of discipleship. In this short story, Bartimaeus is presented as a model of faith. To be a true disciple one must overcome blindness. To understand, to "get it" is precisely to confess one's blindness and say, "My teacher, let me see again" (10:51). On our faith journey, sometimes we see things clearly, and sometimes we are blind to the bigger picture. Dark clouds can come down, perhaps we are struggling, we can stray off the path. Jesus walks with us on the rocky path of discipleship, inviting us always to see more clearly.

Most of us can identify with the experience of faith as a gradual process in which sometimes things look blurry and other times we come to see clearly. There is often a gradual unfolding of things. Jesus does not give up on us as we make our journey; we are invited to embrace the mystery and the opportunities as they come our way, for growth, for new insight, for greater sight. What have been some of the 'aha!' moments on your faith journey? When have you realised that you can see more clearly? What insights came to you? Who was there to guide you 'on the way'?

Jane Mellett

Extract from *The Deep End – A Journey through the Sunday Gospels in the Year of Mark* by Triona Doherty & Jane Mellett, Messenger Publications, Dublin 2023.

Liturgical texts: concordat cum originali: *Dermot Farrell, Archbishop of Dublin. Other texts: cum permissu: †Dermot Farrell, Archbishop of Dublin. Excerpts from the English translation of the Roman Missal, © 2010, International Committee on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Used with permission. The Jerusalem version of the Scripture is copyright Darton, Longman & Todd & Doubleday & Co. Inc. Responsorial psalms are copyright The Grail & Geoffrey Chapman Ltd. Published by Logos Publications, 26 Tolka Valley Business Park, Ballygogan Rd, Glasnevin, D11 WK38 Phone (01 830 6751).

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.

PENITENTIAL RITE

Lord Jesus, you healed the sick:
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Lord Jesus, you forgave sinners:
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord Jesus, you give yourself to heal us and bring us strength:
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life. Amen.

THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us; For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty ever-living God, increase our faith, hope and charity, and make us love what you command, so that we may merit what you promise. Through our Lord Jesus Christ.....

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Jeremiah 31:7-9

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

The Lord says this:
Shout with joy for Jacob!
Hail the chief of nations!
Proclaim! Praise! Shout:
"The Lord has saved his people, the remnant of Israel!"
See, I will bring them back from the land of the North and gather them from the far ends of earth; all of them: the blind and the lame, women with child, women in labour: a great company returning here. They had left in tears, I will comfort them as I lead them back;



I will guide them to streams of water, by a smooth path where they will not stumble. For I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my first-born son.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 125

R. What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.

- When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs. [R]
- The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them! What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad. [R]
- Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land.
Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap. [R]
- They go out, they go out, full of tears, carrying seed for the sowing: they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves. [R]

SECOND READING Hebrews 5:1-6

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Every high priest has been taken out of mankind and is appointed to act for men in their relations with God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins; and so he can sympathise with those who are ignorant or uncertain because he too lives in the limitations of weakness. That is why he has to make sin offerings for himself as well as for the people. No one takes this honour on himself, but each one is called by God, as Aaron was. Nor did Christ give himself the glory of becoming high priest, but he had it from the one who said to him: You are my son, today I have become your father, and in another text: You are a priest of the order of Melchizedek, and for ever.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the light of the world, says the Lord, anyone who follows me will have the light of life. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mark 10:46-52

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

As Jesus left Jericho with his disciples and a large crowd, Bartimaeus (that is, the son of Timaeus), a blind beggar, was sitting at the side of the road. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout and to say, 'Son of David, Jesus, have pity on me.' And many of them scolded him and told him to keep quiet, but he shouted all the louder, 'Son of David, have pity on me.' Jesus stopped and said, 'Call him here.' So they called the blind man. 'Courage,' they said, 'get up; he is calling you.' So throwing off his cloak, he jumped up and went to Jesus. Then Jesus spoke, 'What do you want me to do for you?' 'Rabbuni,' the blind man said to him, 'Master, let me see again.' Jesus said to him, 'Go;

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Look, we pray, O Lord, on the offerings we make to your majesty, that whatever is done by us in your service may be directed above all to your glory. Through Christ our Lord.

AFTER THE CONSECRATION

The mystery of faith.

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.