

The Eyes of the Heart Are Healed to See the True Light

This fourth Sunday of Lent presents Christ “light of world” who heals a “born blind man.” (Jn 9:1-41) Jesus makes mud and smears it on the eyes of the blind man. This gesture alludes to the creation of man. God shaped the soil and animated it by his breath. (see Gen 2:7) “Adam” means “earthly.” Healing the man, Jesus brings about a new creation. To give sight, in a sense, is equivalent to give life.

The deeper meaning of this miracle of light is that not only the body’s eyes can see, but also those of the soul. For this reason, the blind man saw not only people and things, but the truth of God and man. He could look into the depths of the mystery of Christ, see his truth and his love and exclaim: “*Lord, I believe,*” (Jn 9:38) prostrating himself before him in a gesture of worship as soon as he was healed. From that moment for this man a journey of faith has begun.

The Church today proposes to us the journey to which Jesus had invited the healed man. It is a journey of growth in the knowledge of the Mystery of Christ, and in the experience of Him, who is light and leads us to the fullness of vision, even in the midst of the obstacles and the grey areas of life.

It is a path that we can accomplish by following the exhortation of Saint Paul in the Second Reading: “*You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth. Try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord.*” (Eph 5:8-14).

It is a journey in which we are called to be witnesses of the light and love that come from faith. To experience love, and in this way to let the light of God in the world, each and every one of us are invited to this, as taught by Pope Francis: “*Our lives are sometimes similar to that of the blind man who opened himself to the light, who opened himself to God, who opened himself to his grace... The blind man who was healed attains to faith, and this is the greatest grace that Jesus grants him: not only to see, but also to know him, to see in him “the light of the world”*” (March 30, 2014).

This miracle invites us to ask the Lord to heal the eyes of our soul, then to be converted to Him, to contemplate Him and to follow Him.

Fr. John Khoái

Weekly Diary : 12th —17th March 2018

Monday 12th : 08.00 am. Mass, followed by Novena
 Tuesday 13th : 08.00 am. Mass, followed by Eucharistic Adoration.
 : 10.30 am. Anointing Mass at Arcare Hope Island.
 Wednesday 14th : 09.30 am. Mass, followed by Rosary.
 Thursday 15th : 09.30 am. Mass, followed by Rosary.
Friday 16th : 09.30 am. Mass, followed by Rosary.
: 5.30 pm. Stations of the Cross.
Saturday 17th : 09.30 am. Solemnity of St Patrick, bishop, followed by Rosary.
Saturday 17th : 5.30 pm. : 5th Sunday of Lent Year B
Sunday 18th : 07.00 am. + 09.00 am. : 5th Sunday of Lent Year B

The 1st Evening Sunday Mass of April will be on the 01st at 5.30 pm. : Sunday of the Resurrection B.

Mass Duty Roster : 17th /18th 2018

<u>Mass Co-ordinator</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Extraordinary Ministers of Communion</u>	<u>Servers</u>
5.30pm Pierrette & Rino	Rachelle Broughton Clive Broughton	June Molloy, Rino Serra, Pierrette Serra Helen Topham, Dot Baker	Mia Braun
7.00am Trudy Andrews	Christine McDougall Danielle Carter	Rose Hessen, Margaret McNamara, Michael Nicholson Colleen McCormack, Celine Lobb	Brianna & Ashley
9.00am Ronnie Wilson	Jane Howard Rose Lopez	John Lynch, Marie Roberts Pam Nelson, Denise Moar	Matthew Cook



Holy Family Catholic Parish
Runaway Bay



4th Sunday of Lent Year B 11th March 2018—Issue No. 263

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING 1 Samuel 16:1b. 6-7. 10-13 *David was anointed king.*

The Lord said to Samuel, “Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” When the sons of Jesse came, Samuel looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed is now before the Lord.” But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.”

Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen any of these.” Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.” Jesse sent and brought David in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.” Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 23:1-3a. 3b-4. 5. 6 **R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. **R.**

He leads me in right paths for his name’s sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me. **R.**

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. **R.**

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long. **R.**

SECOND READING Ephesians 5:8-14 *Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.*

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it is said, “Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

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Reconciliation at 4.00pm
1st Saturday of the month.

Baptism Preparation at
7pm 1st Thurs of the month

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION John 8:12 Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL John 9.1-41 *The man who was blind washed his eyes and came back able to see.*

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then the man who was blind went and washed, and came back able to see. The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight."

They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided.

So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet." They did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities, who had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing."

They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out. Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshipped him.

Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

COMMUNION ANTIPHON Jn 9:11.38 The Lord anointed my eyes. I went. I washed. I saw and I believed in God.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND DECEASED

RECENTLY DECEASED: Joan Hillier

ANNIVERSARIES: Mary McAloon, Paul O'Connor, Liwanag C de Luna, Justin Tobin

SICK LIST: Philomena McAloon, Margaret Kwong, Letty O'Sullivan, Elizabeth Cologurie, Ann Morrison, Mary Cruickshanks, Gwen Zeitzen, Tony Collett, Val Wolfenden, Ben Cebuliak, Marilyn Rodgers, Frank Hewitt, Anthony Donellan, Dolores Kilian, Nora M Cadawas, Robert Duff, Mary Ann Boeheme, John Nekvapal, Rita Ryan, Maureen Currie, Brian Walker, Harry Hunter, Margaret Wiersma, Madeline Hodgetts, Erin Mehmet, Nancy Kelly, Tamara Toms, Cathy Hewitt, Baby Charlie Shirran, Bernie Pack, Kevin O'Donnell, Elizabeth Norris, Stephen Deshaies, Patricia Ryder, Kathy Pearman, Ken Hannam, Kelly Blount, Gail Callaghan, Pistang Retute, Vanessa Pritchard, Carol Johnston

PRAYER: O Lord Jesus Christ, rest your weary ones, bless your dying ones, soothe your suffering ones, pity your afflicted ones, shield your joyous ones, and all for your love's sake. Amen. (St Augustine)

Last Weekend's Thanksgiving Program

Next Week's Counting Team: No. 3 (19/3/18)

1 st Collection	2 nd Collection	Piety Shop	St Anthony's
\$1307.05	\$1744.15	\$22.50	\$92.75

If we are generous in our giving, and if all of us are prepared to share the load, then together we can help our Parish to move forward. (Fr. John Khoái)

Roslyn Pilcher

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PASCAL TRIDUUM CELEBRATIONS 2018

Holy Thursday 29th March

**7.30 pm. Celebration of the Lord's Supper
to 11.00 pm. Adoration in the Marian Room**



Good Friday 30th March

Day of Abstinence and Fast



08.00 am: Rehearsal of the Ceremony

10.00 am: Stations of the Cross

3.00 pm: Celebration of the Passion of the Lord

Easter Vigil 31st March

8.00 am. Decorating the Church

9.00 am. Rehearsal of the Easter Ceremony

6.00 pm. Easter Solemnity



First Sunday of Easter 01st April

7.00 am. Solemn Easter Mass

9.00 am. Solemn Easter Mass

5.30 pm. Solemn Easter Mass



**Holy Family Catholic Parish
Runaway Bay**

