

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary time– 24 October 2021

Jeremiah 31:7-9; Psalm 126; Hebrews 5:1-6; Mark 10:46-52

Today's readings show that, even in the most desperate moment, we are able to find God dynamically present, a God who pierces the darkness and offers us the grace of hope and new life.

Jeremiah addresses the northern tribes of Israel, the surviving remnant after the kingdom has fallen. The prophet calls for a revival of hope, a renewal of faith in Yahweh who saves.

Jeremiah offers a poignant contrast -- the tearful departure versus the joyous return. Just as in the first exodus, Yahweh will provide a level road with an abundant supply of water.

Psalm 126 is a communal lament that echoes the despair and then the joy of the Babylonian exiles. Yahweh's goodness to these exiles seemed like a dream; even the enemy had to remark, "The Lord has done great things for them" (Psalm 126:2).

For Mark, the cure of the blind Bartimaeus has great symbolic value. This account follows the blind ambition of James and John, and introduces the transition of Jesus' ministry to Jerusalem. For Mark, discipleship is the ability to hope for glory in and through suffering. The true disciple is the one who can see the exaltation of Jesus in and through his passion and death.

Disillusionment is part of the human experience. The light can seem to turn into darkness when there is loss or trouble in life. Christian faith is the ability to see through depression and despair, to see a God waiting to save. Hope is the capacity to see anew.

-- John Craghan, Th.D., S.S.L.

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Jeremiah 31:7-9; Psalm 126; Hebrews 5:1-6; Mark 10:46-52

Enlightened Sight. The blind man will not be silenced today. Insistently he calls on Jesus by name. He asks for pity; he asks for sight. Jesus makes it happen. Instead of returning home to a renewed life, he throws off his cloak and jumps into action and follows. Even when sightless, he saw with eyes of faith. Because of this encounter with Jesus, his insight is richer.

- ◆ What do I need to beg of Jesus? For myself? For someone else?
- ◆ How can I keep listening for Jesus already active in my life? In the lives of others?
- ◆ What “cloak” that holds me back will I throw off to follow Jesus?

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time– 31 October 2021

Deuteronomy 6:2-6; Psalm 18; Hebrews 7:23-28; Mark 12:28-34



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Mission: Live Catholic teachings,

Participate in Sacramental and Liturgical Celebrations, Serve our Community

ST. PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

2020 State Rte. 146 E, Vienna, IL – 62995

Parish Council Chair: Steve Pobst

Trustees: Matthew Slife, Jared Bergmann

Sundays – 8:00 am

Weekdays – Fri 6:00 pm

What Do You Want?

In the [Gospel Reading](#) blind Bartimaeus will not stop yelling for Jesus to have pity on him, until Jesus finally calls for him.

At this point the funny parts of the story start. Why doesn't Jesus go over to Bartimaeus? Why wait for the blind man to find his way to Jesus? And when Bartimaeus does find his way to him, Jesus asks him what seems like the dumbest question: “What do you want me to do for you?” What on earth would anybody suppose Bartimaeus wants? He's blind!

And when Jesus heals him and Bartimaeus can see, Jesus says that Bartimaeus's faith has saved him. But why? What does Bartimaeus's receiving his sight have to do with his being saved?

Here we need to notice what Bartimaeus actually says to Jesus in answer to Jesus' question to him. Bartimaeus does not say to Jesus, “I want my sight.” He says, “I want to see.” To want sight is to want a capacity which can be used for all kinds of purposes—raising sheep, making money. But to want to see is to want the connection with reality that the exercise of sight makes possible. Wanting to see is wanting to know the true nature of reality, hidden in one way from a person when he is blind.

Once we see what Bartimaeus asks for, the funny parts of the story make more sense. When Jesus calls Bartimaeus to himself, he gives Bartimaeus a small period of time to consider what he *really* wants before Jesus asks him. Then the presence of the Lord and that question serve as a call to Bartimaeus to commit himself to just one heart's-desire—and Bartimaeus finds it: I want to *see*.

Seeing isn't limited to seeing the blue of the sky or the road to home. It is also a matter of seeing the truth about things, or even of seeing the Truth himself.

So Jesus gives Bartimaeus all that he asks for. Bartimaeus sees not only the world around him but also his Lord. And in seeing Jesus, Bartimaeus accepts the Giver together with the gift of sight. Although Jesus gives Bartimaeus the option of going away, Bartimaeus stays by Jesus and follows him.

Bartimaeus came to Jesus and he saw the Lord, because seeing was what he really wanted. And that's why Jesus tells him that his faith has saved him.

--Eleonore Stump from SLU Sunday Site

Vol. 22 #43 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time—October 24, 2021

Schedule of Masses

Sun	Oct 24	8:00 am Mass	Billie Anderson
Fri	Oct 29	6:00 pm Mass	General Intentions
Sun	Oct 31	8:00 am Mass	David Dickey

Birthdays

Oct 25	Billie Porter
	Kevin Retz
Oct 30	Brenda Morse

Liturgical Ministers

	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Servers</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
Oct 24 8 am	M Slife	B Morse	V Anderson	Vol	*Jo Nelson, Je Nelson
		<u>Cantor</u>	S Pobst		
Oct 31 8 am	M Slife	L Coleman	B Palmer	C&B Bergmann	*Jon Slife, Ryan Weeks
		<u>Cantor</u>	J Starrett		

STEWARDSHIP OFFERING Oct 17, 2021

Envelope \$ 740.00(29), Loose \$29.00 PSR \$80.00

Total \$849.00

THIS WEEK’S SCHEDULE

Sun	Oct 24	World Mission Sunday	
		Mass.....	8:00 am
		PSR classes.....	9:00 am
Fri	Oct 29	Box of Joy assembly Parish Hall...	4:30 pm
		Mass.....	6:00 pm
Sun	Oct 31		
		Mass.....	8:00 am
		PSR classes.....	9:00 am
		Trunk or Treat Vienna Park	5:00-7:00 pm



THANK YOU AGAIN FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT FOR THIS YEAR’S DRAW-DOWN PARTY AND RAFFLE. If you volunteered to sell tickets, prepare food, donate to prizes, set up for the party or cleaned up...we could not have done it without you. Special thanks to Madonna Slife who led us in this fund-raising endeavor. Our four winners of \$1000 each were Joe and Marsha Nelson, Brian Bailey, Christine Ross and Pat Kalicki.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY is today. Catholics worldwide will participate in the annual celebration of World Mission Sunday. In prayer at Mass and through the contributions to this special collection, the faithful support the Missions and missionaries who build up the Church in Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands, Latin America, and parts of Europe.

ALL SAINTS DAY IS NOVEMBER 1, MONDAY. While this is a non obligatory Holy Day, Father Christian is making a special effort to provide us a Mass that day at 8:00 a.m. On All Souls Day, November 2 he will provide a mass at 6:00 p.m. Our Parish Book of Remembrance will be available in the Church Foyer for you to list your loved ones, who died.

CONFESSIONS ARE AVAILABLE approximately 30 minutes before each Sunday Mass.

PLEASE JOIN US FRIDAY, OCT. 29 at 4:30 pm in the Parish Hall to enjoy snacks and assemble and fill our *Boxes of Joy* from your many donations. We will finish in time to attend 6:00 pm Mass.

TRUNK OR TREAT is Sunday Oct. 31 in the Vienna Park from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 pm in the Vienna Park.

FAITH ALIVE VOLUNTER WORKER APPRECIATION DINNER will be November 8 at the Shawnee Worship Center at 6 pm. Please RSVP to Madonna Slife or Arlene Dueker if you would like to attend.

NOV 5TH IS EUCHARISTIC ADORATION 5-6:30 PM

NOV 6TH IS 1ST SATURDAY MASS AT 8:30 AM. The Liturgy Planning committee will be meeting with Fr. Christian for breakfast at the Vienna Diner following this Mass.

WELLNESS COMMITTEE WILL MEET ON NOV. 9 in the Parish Hall at 6 p.m.

VOCATION CORNER October 24th – “Wherever God has put you, that is your vocation. It is not what we do, but how much love we put into it.” – *St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta*