

# Getting Ready for Sunday!



Fourth Sunday of Lent  
19 March 2023

## **John 9:1-41**



**A Man Born Blind Receives Sight**

As we journey through Lent towards Easter we are challenged to see how we can become more like Jesus by making changes in our lives.

We first of all need to look at our lives with clear and fresh eyes so that we can admit what needs changing in our lives. We need to be very honest with ourselves as we choose the change we most need to make! Giving up sweets is good for our health and will power, but instead it may be more important to first give up:

- intimidating others....
- talking behind peoples backs....
- being lazy.....
- not using our gifts and talents well.....
- not sharing with others.....
- bitterness...jealousy....

We have a choice to make is we take the message of the Gospel passage to heart:



Are we willing to really see the truth or do we choose to be blind to the truth so that we don't have to move out of our comfort zone?



We will be healed of our spiritual blindness if we try to see the truth and to live by it!



As he 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?’



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 he went and washed and came back able to see.





The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, Some were saying:

*It is he.*

*Is this not the  
man who used to  
sit and beg?*

*No, but it  
is someone  
like him.*



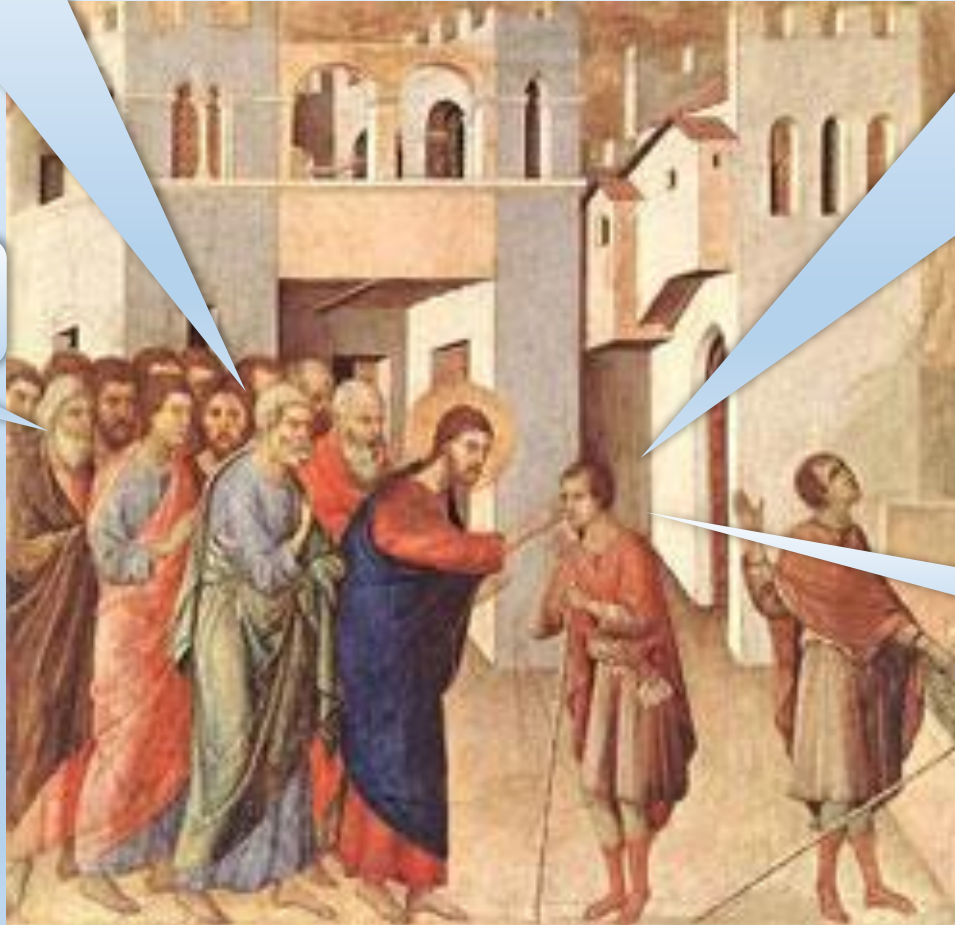
*I am the man.*



# But they kept questioning the healed man:

Then how were your eyes opened?

Where is Jesus?



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.

I do not know where Jesus is.

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.

The Pharisees set about questioning the healed man about Jesus. They tried to find fault with Jesus and with His right to heal. However, the man who had been blind knew the truth about Jesus.

They questioned the healed man: What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.

This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.

How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?

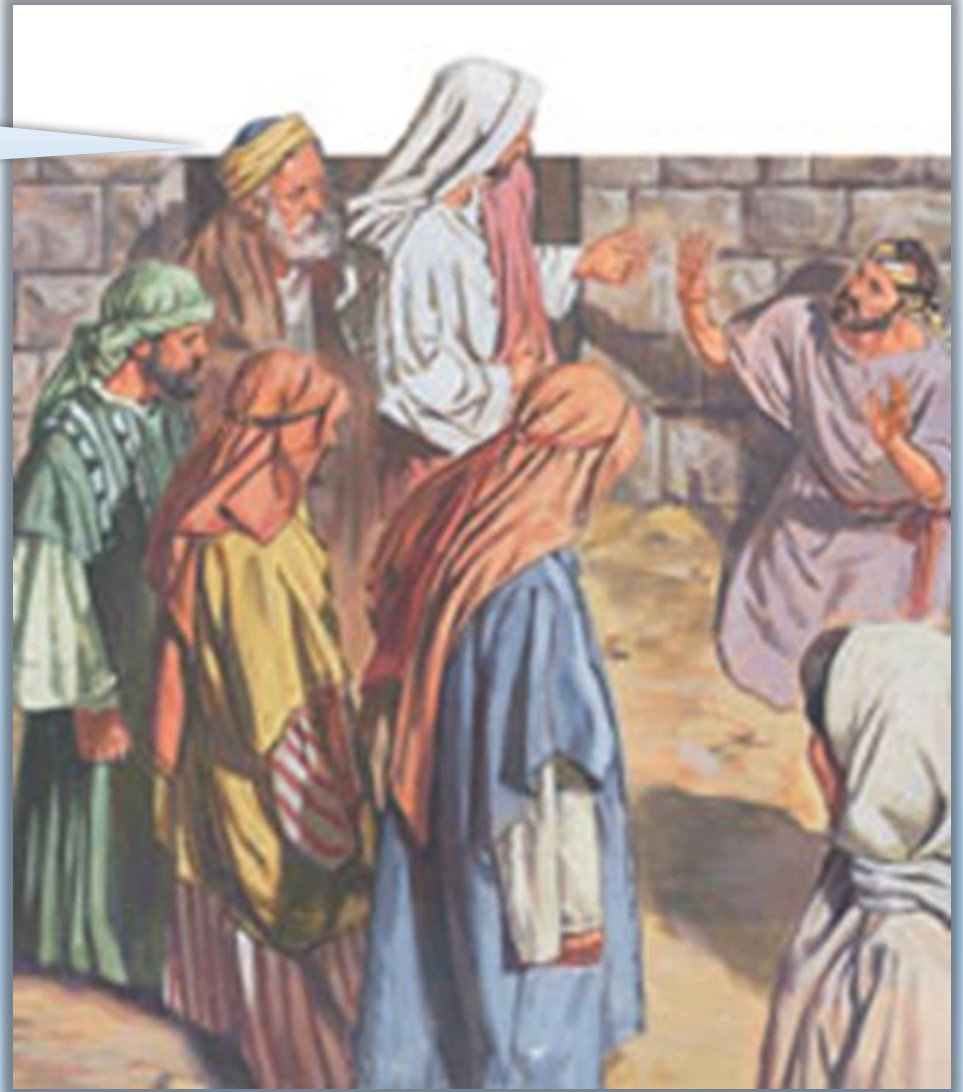
He said, 'He is a prophet.'





The Jews 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..... He is of age; ask him.

His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue.

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.'

The Pharisees did everything that they could to convince the people that Jesus was a sinner and a trickster!

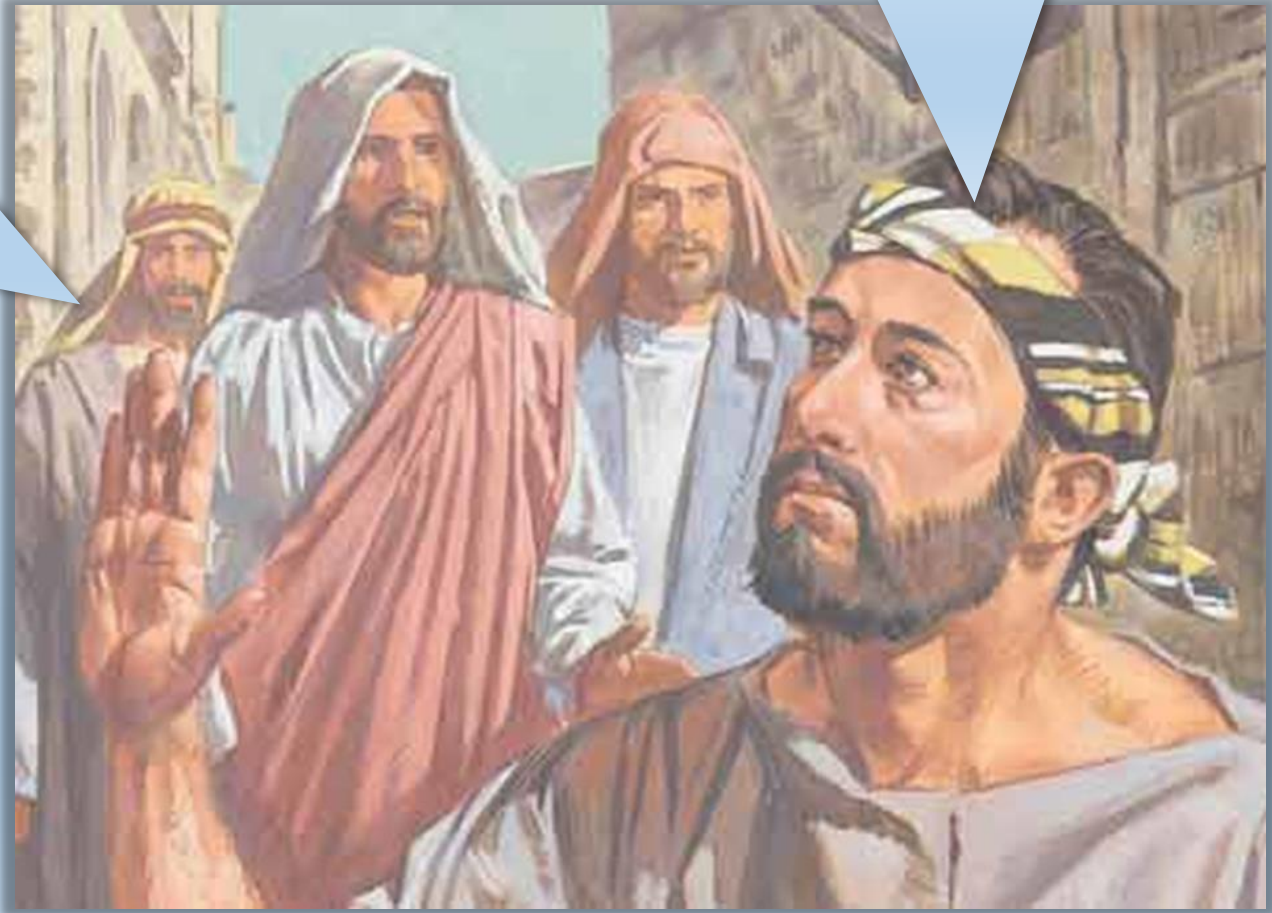


He answered, 'I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.' They said to him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?'



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 healed man answered:

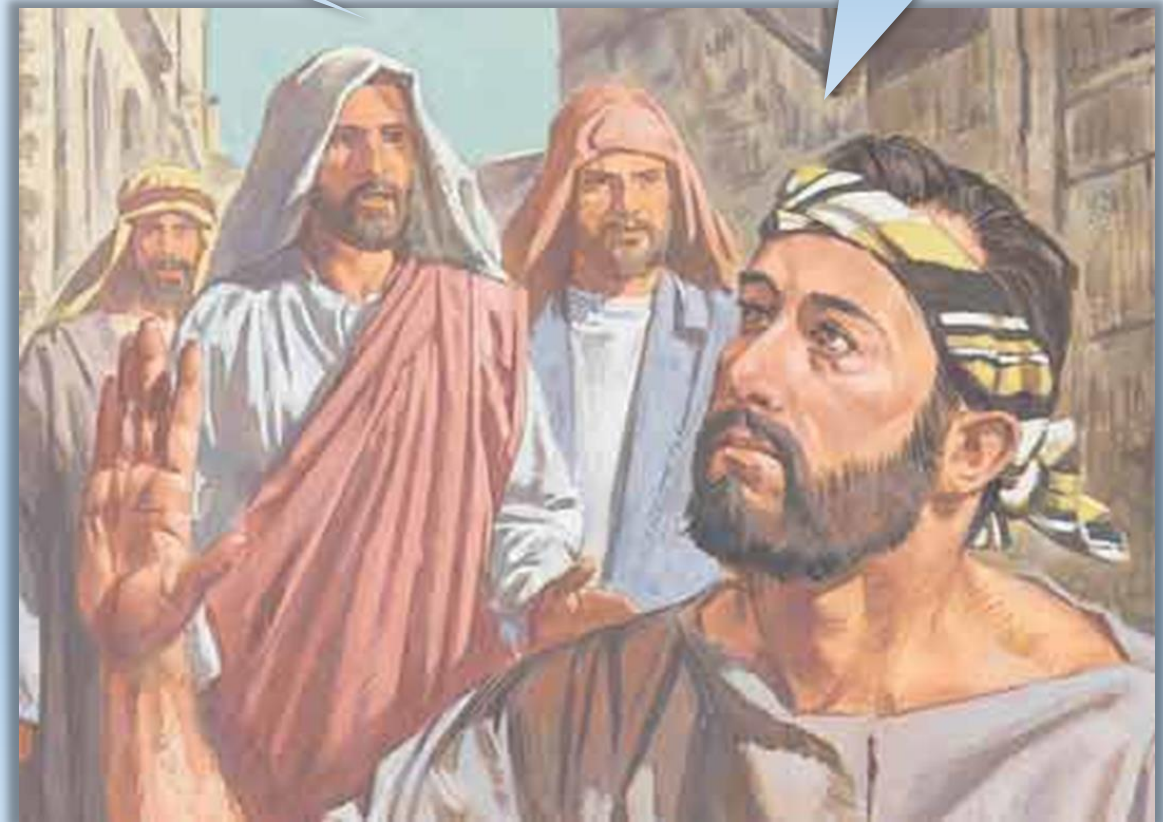
Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will.

The man who was healed knew Jesus, while the Pharisees only wanted to know about Him!



You were born entirely in sins,  
and are you trying to teach  
us?

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.



**And they drove the healed man  
out of the town!**



Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and went find the healed man:

Do you believe in the Son of Man?

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.'

And he worshipped Jesus.

Jesus said, 'I came into this world for judgement 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 not have sin. But now that you say, "We see", your sin remains.'



## Bible Search

Read John 9:1-41 in your family Bible

This is the Gospel reading at Mass this Sunday.





# Consider



*What blindness do you need to wash from your eyes?*

# Praying to Jesus



*Pray for the grace to see Jesus in unexpected places this week.*

