

Parish Meeting Prayers

For use in March 2023

Introduction

Leader The account of the man born blind has a heartening message during this Lenten season: give thanks for the gift of walking in the light of Jesus, healed of our acts of blindness.

Opening Prayer

All Heal us, Lord, of the ways we are blind to your messages of love and healing through all those around us whose faith supports us. Be our light when darkness surrounds us in our world. We pray for all those struggling with hope. Strengthen them. We pray in Jesus, light of the world.

Word of God John 9: 1-41 (shortened version)

Reader A reading from the Gospel of John. *(The reading is on the reverse side.
Pause for silent reflection.)*

Optional Discuss these questions in two's or three's.
1. When have you especially enjoyed the healing light of Jesus?
2. Who in your faith community has supported you in deepening your faith?

Response (Taken from John 9: 1-41 (shortened version))

Side 1 "So he went and washed and came back able to see."

Side 2 May we recognize the times we are healed of blindness and able to see anew.

Side 1 Jesus said to him, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"

Side 2 If someone asked us that question, how would we respond?

Side 1 "Jesus said to him. 'You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.'"

Side 2 May we respond with the healed man, "I do believe, Lord."

Petitions Individuals add intentions to remember here.

Closing Prayer

All Faithful, healing God, we thank you for the gift of Jesus, and for the example of deep faith that our friends and family offer us. Grace us with the same deep faith that brings us healing and hope. We pray through Jesus in his Spirit.

Parish Operations and Mission Planning



A Reading from the Gospel of John

As Jesus passed by he saw a man blind from birth, He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva, and smeared the clay on his eyes and said to him,

“Go wash in the Pool of Siloam.”

So he went and washed and came back able to see.

His neighbors and those who had seen him earlier as a beggar said,

“Isn’t this the one who used to sit and beg?”

Some said “It is,”

but others said, “No, he just looks like him.

He said, “I am.”

They brought the one who was once blind to the Pharisees.

Now Jesus had made clay and opened his eyes on a Sabbath.

So then the Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see.

He said to them,

“He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and now I can see.”

So some of the Pharisees said,

“This man is not from God, because he does not keep the Sabbath.

But others said,”

“How can a sinful man do such signs”

And there was a division among them.

So they said to the blind man again,

“What do you have to say about him, since he opened your eyes?”

He said, “He is a prophet.”

They answered and said to him,

“You were born totally in sin, and you are trying to teach us?”

Then they threw him out.

When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said,

“Do you believe in the Son of Man?”

He answered and said,

“Who is he sir, that I may believe in him?”

Jesus said to him,

“You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.”

He said,

“I do believe, Lord,” and he worshiped him.