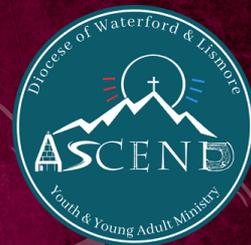




# To the Heights



4TH SUNDAY IN LENT (LAETARE SUNDAY)

Download from [www.waterfordlismore.ie/resources](http://www.waterfordlismore.ie/resources) or subscribe to receive by email!



James Tissot, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

Year A

## Sunday Mass Readings

**Hear** Click the Bible image for this week's readings if you don't have a Bible handy!



FIRST READING:

1 Samuel 16:1,6-7, 10-13

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Psalms 22(23)

SECOND READING:

Ephesians 5:8-14

GOSPEL:

John 9:1-41



[www.waterfordlismore.ie/youth-ministry](http://www.waterfordlismore.ie/youth-ministry)



[ascendwaterfordlismore.ym](https://www.instagram.com/ascendwaterfordlismore.ym)



[AscendWaterfordLismoreYM](https://www.facebook.com/AscendWaterfordLismoreYM)



[Ascend Youth Ministry](https://www.youtube.com/AscendYouthMinistry)



## "Lord, I believe."

## Reflect



1. How long had the man in this Gospel been blind?
2. How did Jesus carry out this healing?
3. What day did Jesus perform this healing?
4. Who did this raise a problem for?
5. Why reason did the Pharisees have for the man's blindness?
6. How did they react to the healed man?
7. What did Jesus ask the man when He found Him later?
8. How did the man respond?
9. Who was still blind in this Gospel?

## Game Changers

The Catholic Church's Liturgical Calendar is crammed full of inspirational saints and heroes, or as we like to call them, **Game Changers!**

Check them out on our web page!

- |          |                           |
|----------|---------------------------|
| 20 March | St Joseph                 |
| 21 March | St Enda                   |
| 23 March | St Turibius of Mongrovejo |
| 24 March | St Macartan               |
| 25 March | The Annunciation          |



Stations of the Cross

BASED ON THE WAY OF THE CROSS

RESOURCE PACK



DIocese of WATERFORD & LISMORE



**CHECK IT OUT:**



Catholic Family Holiday Festival in Tramore, Co. Waterford. 10th - 13th April 2023. Inviting families to celebrate Easter together and to dive deeper into our relationship with Jesus. Great talks, Seminars and Workshops. Age appropriate content for children and young people. Evening concerts and a fun social programme. Wonderful celebrations of Holy Mass. Participants can also attend on a day-visitor basis. All combined with an opportunity to holiday in the sunny southeast. To express interest in attending or for more information go to [www.arisefamilyconference.ie](http://www.arisefamilyconference.ie)



*Open the eyes of my heart Lord,  
I want to see you!*

**SPIRITUAL BLIND SPOTS**

It's hard to imagine what life would be like for someone born blind - to never have seen colour or faces, sunsets or smiles; and especially at the time of Jesus to feel so isolated in society. The Pharisees considered blindness or any affliction like that to be a result of sin - either the person themselves or their parents had sinned and lost God's favour.

Jesus didn't think like that. He knew that wasn't God's way, His way. His heart ached for this man's suffering and He reached out, in a very physical way in this miracle, and healed him of His blindness. Even though He worked a miracle to restore this man's sight, it was not enough for others to believe in Him, to see Him for who He was, who He is: God Incarnate, the Messiah. The man's sight was restored, but the greater joy was his faith: he believed in Jesus and worshipped Him. Those who had seen all their lives could not see with the eyes of their heart: they closed their eyes and ears to the possibility of the Messiah in their midst. They drove the healed man from their presence and rejected the Healer. How desperately sad! Where would we be in this story? Do we feel we need healing, like the blind man? Do we question Jesus' actions? Are we closed to the idea that He can heal, that He is God of my life? Are we afraid to ask the question? Lord, help us to see!

**TUNE OF THE WEEK**



Miracles

(Jesus Culture)



**WEEKLY CHALLENGE:**

*Physical healings are miraculous, incredible, wonderful! But what about Spiritual healings? a healthy body can still be far from God, His Love and real peace. Take some time over the next few days or weeks to make a good examination of conscience. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you as you try to remember any areas of your life where you failed in your relationship with God, others or yourself. Find out when your local church has confessions and decide to go. you can pray for the priest in advance too! It's not easy, but it's totally worth it!*

**Spiritual Blindspots (Fr Mike Schmitz)**



**Act of Sorrow for Confession**

*O my God, I thank you for loving me. I am sorry for all my sins; for not loving others and not loving You. Help me to live like Jesus and not sin again. Amen*

**Puzzle**

**FIND THE WORDS FROM TODAY'S GOSPEL IN THE WORDSEARCH!**

- beg
- believe
- believe
- birth
- blind
- Jesus
- Lord
- opened
- paste
- Pharisee
- prophet
- restored
- sabbath
- see
- Siloam
- sinner
- spittle
- worship



E V E I L E B D B B Y W S Z C J  
 P D D A A Y C G B F E S P Q E M  
 D E Z O C F V M X X E G I T V M  
 Y D S G X R M C G E A C T Y V V  
 V D U N E G P Y T X H R T S Y B  
 E B P N P H A R I S E E L S K A  
 M V N I M V S U F S W G E X Z M  
 T I B A H Z T A T K H C E O M F  
 S N B T J S E O P X K D N B A E  
 J T E H P O R P A S F Q W U O V  
 X G S X C E H O U E W G W R L E  
 Y L O V D T R S W P D Z J G I I  
 Y L L B A P E Z I F O D Q Y S L  
 Z B D B I J E B L I N D R Y S E  
 H Q B Q V R Y V U I R F S O S B  
 X A T X S S T O P E N E D B L J  
 S A Y U H Z A H X L Y A P C U I  
 R C A Z U J X B Y C M P Y J N J

*Pick one line from the gospel to reflect on this week!*



**WHAT'S ON**

**Revive the Wonder:** 3 part series on the mystery of the Eucharist. Tuesdays 14th, 21st, 28th March in St Oliver's Parish Church, Clonmel at 7.30pm with guest presenter each week followed by time of prayer. More info on [www.waterfordlismore.ie](http://www.waterfordlismore.ie)

**Youth 2000 Munster Retreat:** St Brendan's College, Killarney, Co. Kerry March 24th - 26th March for ages 16 - 35. More info on [www.youth2000.ie](http://www.youth2000.ie)

**Night Vigil of Eucharistic Adoration and Reparation:** Foyer of Charity, Dunmore East, X91 FC65. Sat March 25th @ 8pm - Sun 26th 9.30am, Mass at 10am Sun 26th

**Family Day** at Holy Family Mission, Sunday 26th March 10am - 3pm. Prayer, Talk, Mass, Music, Fun and Games for all the Family! Bring a packed lunch! Booking is essential: email [info@holymission.ie](mailto:info@holymission.ie)

**Catholic Mothers Association:** Retreat Day in Glencomeragh House, Saturday 13th May. To book please call Sinead on 086 0528282

**Retreat for Men** at Holy Family Mission, April 28 - 30. Main speaker Fr Philip Mulryne OP (former Man Utd player). €250 full board accomm. More info: (052) 6133181 / [info@holymission.ie](mailto:info@holymission.ie)



JOHN 9:1-41

# SPIRITUAL BLIND SPOTS

BUT WHO CAN DISCERN THEIR OWN ERRORS? FORGIVE MY HIDDEN FAULTS. KEEP YOUR SERVANT ALSO FROM WILLFUL SINS: MAY THEY NOT RULE OVER ME. PSALM 19:12-13

HAVE YOU EVER HEARD OF A BLIND SPOT IN DRIVING? WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

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HAVE YOU EVER SEEN A FLAW CLEARLY IN SOMEONE ELSE THAT THEY COULDN'T SEE IN THEMSELVES?

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HAVE YOU EVER BEEN BLIND TO SOMETHING ABOUT YOURSELF THAT OTHERS COULD SEE?

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WATCH THIS VIDEO FROM FR MIKE SCHMITZ: "SPIRITUAL BLIND SPOTS" AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW



What Psalm did Cardinal Newman base his homily "Hidden Faults" on?

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What is meant by "unknown faults"? How would you describe this term in your own words?

---



## Fr Mike offers three ways of dealing with spiritual blind spots:



**1** Don't \_\_\_\_\_!

What sins / faults are we called to repent of?

---



**2** Be \_\_\_\_\_ to blind spots!

How does this analogy work for driving? When do you need to check your blind spots especially?

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**3** Be \_\_\_\_\_!

What is our usual initial reaction when someone cuts us off in traffic?

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What might actually have happened to cause that?

---

What do we need to bear in mind about the people who surround us (in spiritual terms)?

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# SPIRITUAL BLIND SPOTS

JOHN 9:1-41



Being patient with ourselves: I'm only responsible for the things I'm \_\_\_\_\_ for; I'm only in control of the things I can \_\_\_\_\_; I'm only aware of the things I am \_\_\_\_\_ of!

## What about our **known** faults and sins?



What might be helpful, do you think, in dealing with our own sins and faults that we know about? How can we practically bring them before the Lord for healing and forgiveness?

Do you find it easy to go to Confession? Why or why not?



## Now Read John 9:1-41



It's hard to imagine what life would be like for someone born blind - to never have seen colour or faces, sunsets or smiles; and especially at the time of Jesus to feel so isolated in society. The Pharisees considered blindness or any affliction like that to be a result of sin - either the person themselves or their parents had sinned and lost God's favour.

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MISSION!

PHYSICAL HEALINGS ARE MIRACULOUS, INCREDIBLE, WONDERFUL! BUT WHAT ABOUT SPIRITUAL HEALINGS? A HEALTHY BODY CAN STILL BE FAR FROM GOD, HIS LOVE AND REAL PEACE. TAKE SOME TIME OVER THE NEXT FEW DAYS OR WEEKS TO MAKE A GOOD EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE. ASK THE HOLY SPIRIT TO GUIDE YOU AS YOU TRY TO REMEMBER ANY AREAS OF YOUR LIFE WHERE YOU FAILED IN YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD, OTHERS OR YOURSELF. FIND OUT WHEN YOUR LOCAL CHURCH HAS CONFESSIONS AND DECIDE TO GO. YOU CAN PRAY FOR THE PRIEST IN ADVANCE TOO! IT'S NOT EASY, BUT IT'S TOTALLY WORTH IT!



PRAYER TIME!

### Act of Sorrow:

O my God, I thank you for loving me. I am sorry for all my sins; for not loving others and not loving You. Help me to live like Jesus and not sin again. Amen



## CREATE A PLAYLIST TO LISTEN TO AS YOU REFLECT ON SEEING OURSELVES AND SEEING JESUS



- Miracles (Jesus Culture)
- He is Faithful (Brian & Katie Torwalt)
- Open the eyes of my heart (Paul Baloche)
- Nothing is Impossible (Planetshakers)
- Amazing Grace [My Chains are Gone] (Chris Tomlin)
- Waymaker (Leeland)
- God you're so good (Passion)
- Your Great Name (Natalie Grant)

 Making a Good Confession Fr Mike Schmitz

 4:28 MINS How do I go to Confession? ODB Films

 Examination of Conscience (NET USA)

 8:44 MINS Going to Confession for the first time in a long time