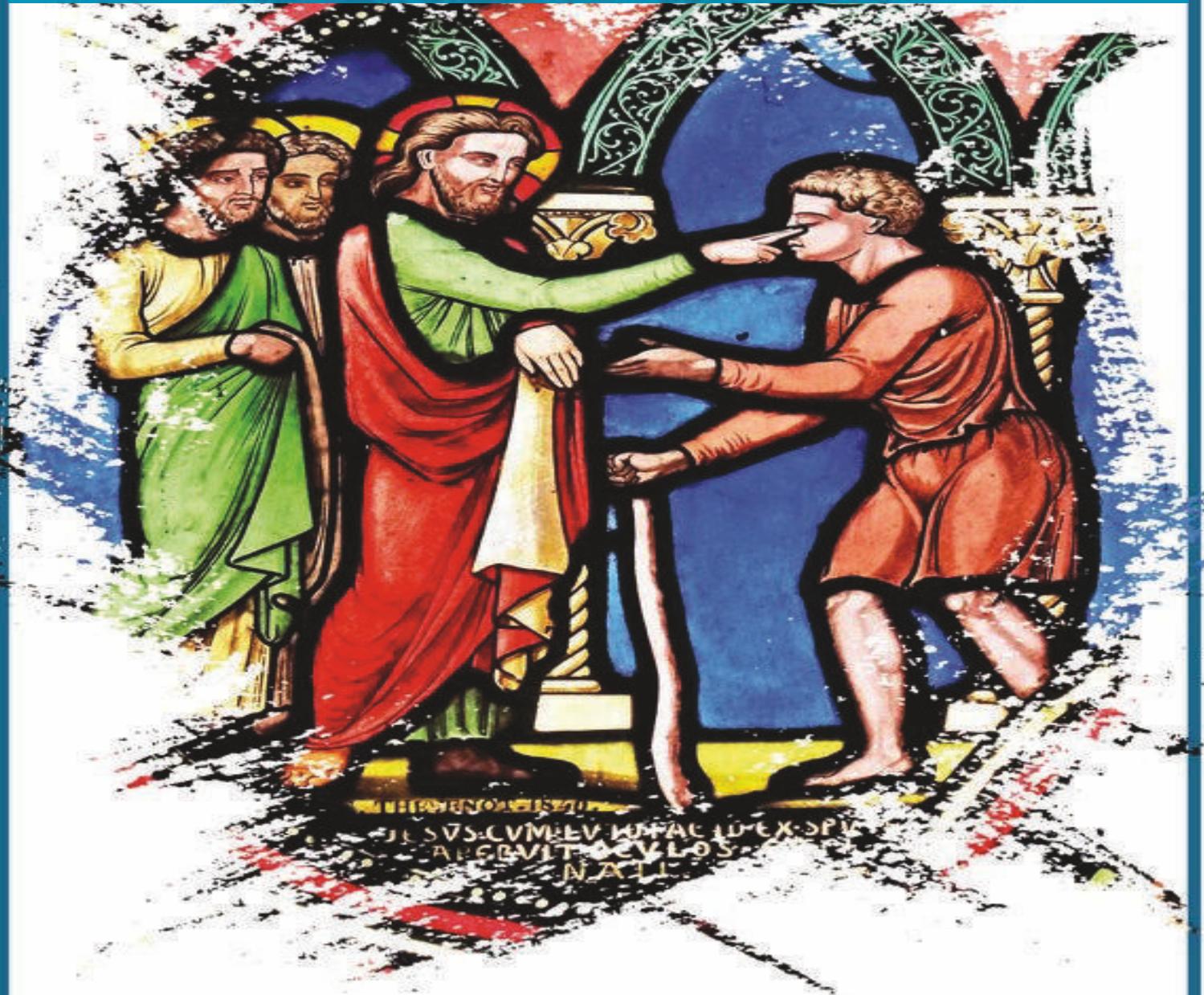


October 24, 2021



"GO YOUR WAY; YOUR FAITH HAS SAVED YOU."
- MK 10:52

30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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CHURCH OF THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT

2119 Stillwater Ave E St. Paul, MN 55119 651-738-0677 church@blessedsacramentsp.org
Mass Times: Saturday Anticipatory: 4 pm Sunday: 8:30 am & 11:00 am Daily, T-F 8:30am

Church of the Blessed Sacrament

Blindness of Spirit

They called the blind man, saying to him, "Take courage; get up, Jesus is calling you." He threw aside his cloak, sprang up, and came to Jesus.

Jesus said to him in reply, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man replied to him, "Master, I want to see." Jesus told him, "Go your way; your faith has saved you." Immediately he received his sight and followed him on the way. —Mark 10:49-52

When I moved to Tucson a few years ago, one of the realities I had to adjust to was the large number of homeless people found in nearly every part of the city. The weather — especially the minimal rainfall and mild winters — make this a natural landing place for those who might not easily find a home in other parts of the country. As much as I hate to admit it, I still sometimes find myself feeling embarrassed or disconcerted by the extended hands or incoherent mumbling. This is a challenging reality, especially when I remember that as Christians — and particular in my vocation as a religious brother — we're called to be people of encounter.



With all this in mind, it's easy to understand the discomfort that Jesus' followers seemed to have felt in this Sunday's passage from the Gospel of Mark. After all, the blind man, Bartimaeus, was causing a spectacle, shouting at Jesus. But even after the people in the crowd told him to be quiet, he kept calling out "all the more, 'Son of David, have pity on me.'"

To really get a sense of the importance of this story — which is much more than just another account of one of Jesus' miracles — we have to think about where it falls in the Gospel of Mark. The healing of the blind Bartimaeus is, in fact, linked to the healing of another blind man, recounted only a few chapters earlier (8:22-26). These two stories form "bookends" for one of the most important sections of Mark's Gospel in which Jesus tries to help His followers understand who He is and what His mission really is. But, as we've discovered over the past several Sundays, the Apostles and the other disciples don't seem to be able to comprehend Jesus' message or to understand the true cost and meaning of discipleship. After all, these are the same men who openly opposed Him when Jesus tried to teach them about His coming suffering and death.

But then, this Sunday we are given the story of this blind beggar who seems to be able to see what the Apostles cannot. In fact, the physical healing of Bartimaeus is a powerful reminder that, when we open ourselves to God's grace, we can be healed of that blindness of spirit that sometimes prevents us from following Jesus with freedom and joy, which is an important part of discipleship.

Saint Mark beautifully describes Bartimaeus' excitement when Jesus finally calls for him, "He threw aside his cloak, sprang up, and came to Jesus." There is an energy in his response that wonderfully exemplifies the enthusiasm that should be a hallmark of our discipleship. When the Lord calls, we must be ready to respond. And because of his faith and willingness to act, Jesus rewards the blind man by not only restoring his physical sight but by empowering him to live out his faith in the community of disciples. Pope Benedict XVI reflected on this when he remarked:

"Bartimaeus represents one aware of his pain and crying out to the Lord, confident of being healed... In the encounter with Christ, lived with faith, Bartimaeus regains the light he had lost, and with it the fullness of his dignity: he gets back onto his feet and resumes the journey, which from that moment has a guide, Jesus, and a path, the same that Jesus is travelling. The evangelist tells us nothing more about Bartimaeus, but in him he shows us what discipleship is: following Jesus "along the way," in the light of faith."

The invitation for us this Sunday is to humbly reflect on the ways we might be spiritually blind by asking ourselves what habits, attitudes, and ideologies hold us back from becoming the disciples that Jesus is calling us to be.

Bro. Silas Henderson, S.D.S.

IN LOVING
MEMORY

During the month of October you are encouraged to write in our "Book of Life" names of all family members, friends and parishioners who have died, whether long ago or recently. The "Book of Life" may be found right inside the main church doors. The "Book of Life" will remain in church throughout the month of November to help us remember to pray for all our faithful departed.

We are in the month of October, the month of the Holy Rosary. Let us make use of this month to grow in our filial love and devotion to Blessed Virgin Mary, our Heavenly Patroness. Following her example, let us also try to experience her maternal love and turn to her at every moment of our lives for the true wisdom and guidance in our spiritual journey. I strongly encourage you to pray the Holy Rosary for the whole month of October. I also invite you to consider making a commitment to be part of our 24/7 rosary chain. Let us reactivate this wonderful pious practice offering the Holy Rosary for the establishment of peace in the world, end of abortions and the pandemic, Covid-19. Please make a commitment and sign up to pray the rosary for the month of October. Thanks for your consideration and let us complete the chain.

FROM THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

Library update

We are looking for someone who can manage our parish library. The individual who had been managing this has stepped down, and before we are able to re-open the library, we need to be careful to fill this volunteer position. If you are interested in managing this function and have had previous experience, please contact Joy in the office. The library has yet to re-open from when we closed it down due to COVID, and we want to be cautious of not rushing to re-open this too quickly. God bless.

Exercise caution while in the parking lot

Too many drivers are distracted and do not always see you when they are driving in our parking lot. You may see them but they do not always see you. Both the glare of the sun, and the uptick in vehicle travel creates what can be a dangerous combination, so please always be mindful of your surroundings while in the parking lot. Also, please remember not to keep valuables inside your vehicles. God bless.

Where did the Zinnias go?

Special thanks to Father Benny, and to Kathy Zawislak and others who planted, tended to and watered our beautiful zinnias this year. It is now a stark reminder that winter is just around the corner with their removal, but it is important to give thanks to God for such beautiful flowers out front this year.

Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)

Don't forget about considering signing up to make your contributions automatically to the parish by means of using the EFT method. If interested, please call the office and John or Joy can walk you through this very easy process. Expect blessings.

SOCIAL CONCERNS FOR OCTOBER



World Mission Sunday is celebrated during the month of October. Every parish, school and order celebrates World Mission Sunday and our baptismal call to bring the Gospel to all. This collection supports over 1,100 vulnerable communities. Join our brothers and sisters throughout the world to

support mission diocese, everywhere. We will continue to accept donations through the remainder of October. Just be sure to mark your check "World Mission."

ADORATION CHAPEL NEWS

I know I would not be able to work one week if it were not for that continual force coming from Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

Mother Teresa

As we expand the hours our Adoration Chapel is open, we are pleased to announce that we have now filled our Wednesday mornings hours. We are always in need of prayer partners with a special need for a prayer partner for Fridays at 9 pm. Please call Kathy at 651-247-5185 or the parish office, if you are interested.



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- PARISH ADMINISTRATION 651-738-0677**
- Rev. Benny Mekkatt, Pastor ext. 11
- John Florin, Business Administrator ext. 10
- Joy Hoffman, Administrative Coordinator ext. 12
- Deacon Jerry Saladin.....952-607-9636
- PASTORAL MINISTRY 651-738-0677**
- Carol McKenna,ext. 15
- FAITH FORMATION & SAFE ENVIRONMENT 651-738-0677**
- Connie Hill, Director ext. 14
- MUSIC**
- Jan Meulemans, Director.....651-307-7865
- PRAYER LINE**
- Please call Carol McKenna.....612-594-1290
- CHURCH EMAIL: Church@blessedsacramentsp.org**
- PARISH COUNCIL: parishcouncil@blessedsacramentsp.org**

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- BAPTISM** - Participation in the Baptism preparation program is a prerequisite for Baptism. Schedule with the Parish Office.
- RECONCILIATION**— Saturday 3:00-3:45pm; after 8:30 am Mass on Friday or by appointment on other days
- MATRIMONY**- Make arrangements with the pastor at least six months before the date.
- ANOINTING OF THE SICK** - Please call the parish office if you or a family member is going to be hospitalized. Also, if you are home-bound and wish to receive the Eucharist or a friendly visit, please call the parish office.
- LOW-GLUTEN HOSTS ARE AVAILABLE**- Please come to the Sacristy before Mass to arrange to receive one.

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- Blessed Sacrament Adoration, M-F, Please see signage for hours.
- The Rosary is said just prior to all weekend Masses.

Sunday, October 24

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Jer 31:7-9/Heb 5:1-6/Mk 10:46-52
8:30am † Art & Anne Peisert
11am Parish Mass

Monday, October 25

Weekday
Rom 8:12-17/Lk 13:10-17

Tuesday, October 26

Weekday
Rom 8:18-28/Lk 13:18-21
† Jeremy Berchem

Wednesday, October 27

Weekday
Rom 8:26-30/Lk 13:22-30
† Kenneth King

Thursday, October 28

Saint Simon & Jude, Apostles
Eph 2:19-22/Lk 6:12-16
† Cruz Espendal Ancestors

Friday, October 29

Weekday
Rom 9:1-5/Lk 14:1-6
† Ralph Chiocco

Saturday, October 30

Weekday/BVM
Rom 11:1-2a, 11-12, 25-29/Lk 14:1, 7-11(Morning Readings)
4pm † Dennis Nick VanAuken

Sunday, October 31

Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
Dt 6:2-6/Heb 7:23-28/Mk 12:28b-34
8:30am † Barbara Luna
11am Parish Mass

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Church of the Blessed Sacrament

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

October 24- October 31

- Sun, Oct 24: 9:30-10:45am Coffee & Donuts
NO Faith Formation
- Mon, Oct 25: 6:30-7:30 Movement & Christian Meditation
- Tues, Oct 26: 9:30-11am CGS
- Wed, Oct 27: 9-11am or 6-8pm Synod Small Group Mtgs
- Sun, Oct 31: 9:30-10:45am Coffee & Donuts
9:45am Faith Formation Classes
- Mon, Nov 1: Parish Offices Closed
All Saint's Day Mass 6:30pm ONLY

FINANCE

Gifts of Treasure

October 16/17 2021

Sunday Envelopes & Plate	\$ 5,324.00
Building/Utilities:	\$ 10.00
Adoration Chapel:	\$ 100.00
World Mission:	\$ 889.00
TOTAL	\$ 6,323.00



BINGO

Turkey Bingo

Saturday, November 20

5:00pm \$10 to play all night

Turkey Bingo time is drawing near! The Women's Club is seeking people to sponsor each jackpot. You could sponsor it as a memorial for a loved one or an event like a birthday or anniversary and we will announce that sponsorship with each game. The Women's Club is trying to get 8 jackpots of \$25 and 2 jackpots at \$50. We will be collecting sponsorships after all weekend Masses starting October 30 through November 14. Please call Joy in the parish office, if you have any questions.

A BIG Thank You to all who donated blood at our last blood drive!
We were able to donate 29 units!!
Thanks for making it a big success!



Bishop Andrew Cozzens is named the new Bishop for the Diocese of Crookston.

His installation as the eighth bishop of Crookston will take place December 6, at 1 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Crookston.

A Mass of Thanksgiving for Bishop Cozzens will be held Sunday, November 28, 12 p.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Paul, with a reception following for people to greet him from 1-4 p.m.

ARCHDIOCESAN SYNOD UPDATES

Synod Small Groups this Week

Connect with others in a small group. On October 27, the topics are “Youth ministry” and “Young adult ministry.” The morning session is 9:00 am to 11:00 am and begins with continental breakfast. In the evening, come as a teen, young adult, or family. Dinner is served at 5:45 pm. Activities for kids of all ages and Synod discussion for teens and adults from 6:00 to 8:00 pm.

Families, please RSVP to Connie in the office for the evening session on October 27.

FAITH FORMATION

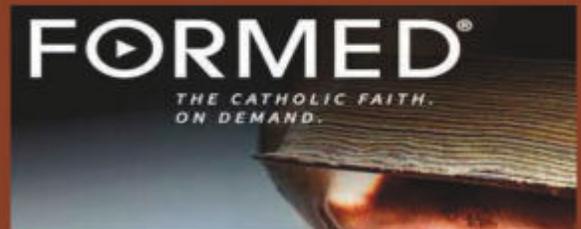
✚ Although we have no formal classes or Children’s Liturgy of the Word this weekend, Faith Formation never stops. Parents, you are your kids’ primary educators of the faith. However, if you do not feel qualified to teach the faith, fear not. None of us are! Take heart, *the best lesson in faith is showing our kids that we have some.*

✚ Attending Mass is our best formation. Mass is one big gift made up of many gifts. The greatest gift of all is Jesus, Himself, in the Eucharist. How do we receive the gifts that God gives us?

✚ Perhaps your mealtime discussion after Mass this weekend is to think of the many prayers of Mass and how they are a gift to us. For example, the “Mystery of Faith” is really a mystery! (*“We proclaim your death, O Lord; and profess Your resurrection; until You come again.”*) Be childlike. Have awe in God as a mystery and the Giver of all good things.

GET FORMED!

Did you know? Our parish has purchased a subscription to FORMED, an online library of thousands of well-done Catholic movies, documentaries, and educational programming. It’s easy to sign up by going to our website homepage and clicking the button, “Register for free.” Enter our zip code, 55119 and you will be sent an email link to start watching.



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- Select our parish by entering zip code 55119
- Enter your name and email address
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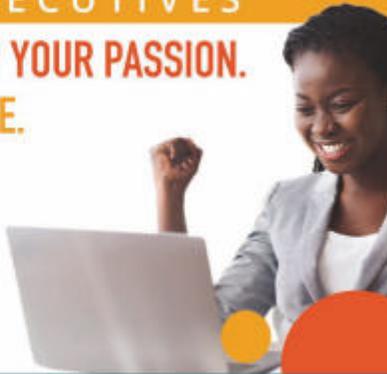
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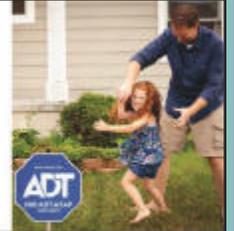


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