



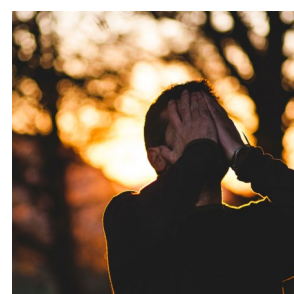
THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B SUNDAY 24TH OCTOBER 2021

In today's Gospel Jesus meets a blind man by the name of Bartimaeus. Jesus said that his mission, was 'to open the eyes of the blind'.

Jesus' mission was not so much a question of bringing physical sight to people, but of bringing them vision, of giving them another way of looking at life. It wasn't a question of opening people's eyes physically, but of opening their minds, their imaginations and especially their hearts.

Today's gospel tells us that before we ask for the power to do something, we should ask for the ability to see—to see the anger and prejudice that fuel the political divide, to see the weakness and sinfulness that allow sexual abuse to continue.

It is only when we see and understand the brokenness of our political and church systems that we will be able to rebuild them. It is only when we see and understand the world as it really is, that we will be able to make the world what God wants it to be.



We Acknowledge the traditional owners of this land the Awabakal Peoples. And pay our respects to the elders past and present, and any that may be with us today.

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM:

Foundation	Leader	In Office
1. Identity and Community		
2. Worship and Prayer.	Uta France	Mon
3. Formation and Education		
4. Mission and Outreach.		
5. Leadership and Structure.	John France & Juliet Hutchins	Sat & Sun Tues

If you have any concerns or questions you can also talk to any member of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) who are: Mal and Pam Melvey, Kerry Lendon, and Rod Hay.

PRIEST SUPERVISOR: Fr Geoff Mulhearn

PRIEST IN RESIDENCE: Fr Kevin Corrigan, Sacramental Priest

Parish Secretary: Mrs Rosanna Suckling Mon—Fri 9am-2pm

OFFICE: 60 Yambo Street, Morisset, PO Box 87,

Office Hours: 9.00 am to 2.00pm—Monday to Friday

Ph: 02 4973.6859, Fax 02 4973.2937

Morisset Parish email: morparish@mn.catholic.org.au

Parish Leadership Team Email: morparishplt@mn.catholic.org.au

Morisset Parish Web site: www.vianneymorisset.org

Morisset Parish Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/stjvparish>

Morisset Parish Instagram : https://www.instagram.com/stjvparish_morisset/

Morisset Parish Bulletin Items: morparish@mn.catholic.org.au

Morisset Parish Presbytery: Ph: 02 4973 1537

(Please submit all Bulletin Notice requests to the parish office by 2pm Wednesdays)

Email the Parish Office to Subscribe for an Electronic Bulletin .

UPCOMING WORSHIP TIMES :

Sunday 24th October 9.30am

Mass— ZOOM

Sunday 31st October 9.30am

Liturgy— Zoom

Book your place via the Book for Services button on the Parish Website, or the Eventbrite App or Website:

<http://vianneymorisset.eventbrite.com>.

PASTORAL CARE

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK WITH A PRIEST PLEASE CONTACT FR KEVIN ON 02 4973 1537 .

PARISH OFFICE

DUE TO THE CURRENT COVID RESTRICTIONS THE PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED AS ROSANNA IS WORKING REMOTELY THE BEST CONTACT METHOD IS VIA EMAIL OR YOU CAN CALL THE OFFICE NUMBER AND SPEAK TO A PLT MEMBER.

RE-OPENING

PLEASE SEE NOTICE ON PAGE 2 FROM THE PLT AND PPC ABOUT RE-OPENING FOR MASSES AND LITURGIES.

IS SCRIPTURE RELEVANT?

We can hear the readings each week at Mass or Liturgy, but often do not recognise the connections with our real-life issues.

One reason is that we may assume that the Bible is ancient history, so we don't expect it to speak to modern questions. Or, that the language of the Bible is not quite the same as today, so the verbal clues are not always obvious.

At the time of Jesus, the Law consisted of 613 commandments. When asked 'which was the greatest commandment', Jesus said that the law is summed up in the great commandments to love God, and above all, one's neighbour as oneself.

The commandment to love seems very simple, but I think that you would agree, it is the hardest of all to live out.

The challenging implications of this commandment were brought home to me when I heard an interview with Mary McAleese, who was the President of Ireland from 1997-2011. Mary is also a Catholic. She lived in Belfast as a child, growing up and as she described it, 'it was a divided society', and she talked about the steps that were taken towards the peace process. She also told the story of her Father, who was an old fashioned catholic, but was an equal opportunity employer, and tried very hard to work with his neighbours.

Her father had just bought his first Pub in Belfast, and needed to employ a housekeeper, so her parents put an 'add' in the local protestant newspaper. A lady who saw the 'add', thinking it was a protestant position, applied for the job and got an interview.

When she arrived for the interview, she noticed a statue of Our Lady in the hallway. 'I think I might have come to the wrong place', she said, 'I am a protestant, and you won't be wanting to employ me'!

Mary's father said, 'The only question we have for you is, 'Do you want to work for us?' She accepted the position and gave loyal and faithful service for many years.

Mary's father's advice to her was, that if you wanted to be a good neighbour, the first thing you should do is be welcoming.

It is very important, then, to have a very healthy love and respect for ourselves. This is where love starts, but of course it is not to end there. All true love of self, overflows in the form of love of others and God.

It takes faith to believe God already knows what lies deep within our hearts. It takes faith and a bit of vision, to believe it.

John France

CALL FOR INTEGRAL ECCLESIOLOGY

Fr Richard Lennan, Professor of Systematic Theology at Boston College, addressed the First Assembly of the Plenary Council as one of its expert advisors. He explained that we need an 'integral ecclesiology' to parallel Pope Francis' 'integral ecology'. An integral ecclesiology, or theology of the Church, will mean taking into account how as many factors as possible fit in with our relationship with God, and with who we are as a people of faith. Fr Lennan urged Catholics to 'sniff out the presence of God in the world and to celebrate that presence when we find it'.

By going to 'the peripheries' as Pope Francis constantly encourages us to do, and listening to people pushed to the edges, we can hear the cry of the poor. This cry must be paired with the cry of the earth in an integral ecology.

Both integral ecology and integral ecclesiology must inform mission.

PLANS FOR RE-OPENING

On Thursday 21st October the PLT and PPC met with Father Geoff Mulhearn to discuss our arrangements for re-opening, considering advice from the Diocese and the NSW Dept. of Health. The next 2 Sundays will be as advertised, with Zoom Mass on Sunday 24th and Liturgy on the 31st.

At this stage we are now only able to plan further until the end of November. Arrangements will be as follows:

Mass will resume in Morisset Church at 9.30 am on **Sunday 7th November**.

- Booking will be through **Eventbrite** as our capacity is limited to 40 with the 4sq.m. rule.
- **QR Code** check-in is essential.
- **Masks** are mandatory, unless you have a medical exemption, in which case proof must be carried.
- Please note that it is **not mandatory to be vaccinated** to attend Mass.
- Volunteers will be available to check attendance and to direct you to seats.
- Kneeling is not permitted as that affects the social distancing requirement.
- At this stage there will be no singing until the whole congregation can sing.
- Cleaning will be done by volunteers after each service.
- The Callinan Centre will not be open until the 2sq.m. rule is introduced.
- NSW Health has asked that we encourage Staff, Volunteers and Congregants to get vaccinated.

Our aim is to keep everyone as safe as we can so we thank you in advance for your cooperation. Please do not attend if you are feeling at all unwell and remember, that if you book in to Mass and are unable to attend, it is important to ring the Parish number so that place can be offered to someone on the Reserve list.

P. Melvey for PLT and PPC

FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF FRATELLI TUTTI

The document focuses on social friendship, solidarity and overcoming racism and xenophobia.

"Shadows over the closed world are spreading everywhere, leaving injured people by the roadside, cast out and discarded. The shadows plunge humanity into confusion, loneliness, and desolation. When we come upon an injured stranger on the road, we can assume one of two attitudes: we can pass by or we can stop to help. The type of person we are and the type of political, social or religious group we belong to will be defined by whether we include or exclude the injured stranger.

"God is universal love, and as long as we are part of that love and share in it, we are called to universal fraternity, which is openness to all. There are no 'others,' no 'them,' there is only 'us'.

The Dicastery for the Promotion of Integral Human Development has developed a new website <https://www.humandevlopment.va/en/fratelli-tutti.html>

which contains videos, photos, infographics, reflections, and other resources created to share the message of Fratelli Tutti.

Live stream Mass every Sunday at 9.30am at <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream/>

STORYTELLING FROM THE HEART: PAINTING THROUGH THE PAIN

In this online event, Richard Campbell weaves his story through his paintings for the Stations of the Cross that are at the Reconciliation Church in La Perouse.

We invite you to a very special event. Please join us on Thursday October 28 between 4.00pm – 6.00pm AEST for Storytelling from the Heart: Painting Through the Pain.

For those who attended the Mission: one heart many voices conference Mass you would have seen some of Richard Campbell's depictions of the Stations of the Cross.

Richard was born in Bowraville in 1956. His mother was Gumbaynggirr and his father was a Dunghutti man. Richard was taken from his family when he was nine years old and placed in the Kinchela Boys Home near Kempsey.

Richard shares with us his story of growing up with his family, the incredible trauma of being taken away and the way his artwork kept him going through the pain. Richard weaves his story through the creation of his paintings for the Stations of the Cross that are at the Reconciliation Church in La Perouse Sydney.

Over two hours, participants will be invited to listen to Richard share his story, join a small group discussion and reflect on what they can do in response to this story.

This is a collaboration between artist Richard Campbell, Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Sydney Archdiocese, Catholic Mission, Catholic Religious Australia and the Maitland-Newcastle Diocese.

Event Details 4:00PM-6:00PM on Thursday, 28 October 2021

Location: Online

RSVP: www.eventbrite.com.au/e/story-telling-from-the-heart-painting-through-the-pain-tickets-173939316177

DIOCESAN ADVENT REFLECTION: WAITING WITH PURPOSE

As we continue our Synodal journey an Advent resource, **Waiting with Purpose** has been created for our diocese.

Waiting with Purpose responds to the voices heard during Synod reflections of longing for different forms of prayer that include faith sharing. **Waiting with Purpose** invites us to use Mystagogical Reflection as our way of encountering Christ in the Advent gospels. It invites us to focus on the presence of Christ in our experience and in the living tradition of our faith, to connect it to life now and to be changed by it.

Mystagogical reflection meets us where we are. No preparation is needed. It's about being open to encountering Christ so we can live from Christ. It's deeply personal and communal.

Waiting with Purpose and accompanying resources will be available soon on the diocesan website: <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/liturgy/liturgical-year/>

During November there are several opportunities for anyone who is interested to 'have a go' at mystagogical reflection. During Advent there are opportunities for those who cannot gather in their local communities to experience **Waiting with Purpose** via Zoom. To register go to:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/o/diocese-of-maitland-newcastle-18080128129>

CARITASNEWS

The latest CaritasNews, Spring 2021, is now available at www.caritas.org.au/media/3pxmj2pc/caritasnews_spring-2021_digital_updated-rm.pdf

APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR THE 2022 PASTORAL PLACEMENT PROGRAM

The Pastoral Placement Program offers participants an experience of ministry in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle. The purpose of this program is to enable participants the opportunity to experience different workplaces and ministries across the diocese. These 'on the ground' ministry work placements help participants explore the opportunities that are available to them to serve God and the local community of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle.

The Pastoral Placement Program provides participants a year-long discernment journey, involving the see, judge, act philosophy, to make an informed choice about the possibility of their future ministry or career choices.

For more information and to learn to how to apply go to: <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/pastoral-placement-program/>

BUILDING BRIDGES: REACHING OUT TO OUR LGBTQIA+ COMMUNITY WITH JAMES MARTIN SJ

Globally, people who are LGBTQIA+ are at increased risk of depression, suicide, and verbal, physical and sexual harassment and abuse. James recognised a lack of Church advocacy on these issues following the 2016 Orlando nightclub shooting in the USA, noticing that few Catholic Bishops publicly spoke out about the massacre.

This prompted him to consider how the Church could better minister to LGBTQIA+ Catholics, discussed in his book, *Building a Bridge: How the Catholic Church and the LGBT Community Can Enter into a Relationship of Respect, Compassion, and Sensitivity* (2017).

Join this online conversation with James to explore how the Church in Australia can do more to welcome and truly respect and enhance the dignity of all, honouring the diversity in humanity.

Time: 10:00AM

Date: 26 October 2021

Location: Online (Zoom)

Register: <https://www.trybooking.com/BTQTX>



JOIN TOGETHER IN OCTOBER FOR
THE MONTH OF THE ROSARY

**PRAY
THE ROSARY**

3:30 PM DAILY

Via Zoom
Meeting ID: 651 3017 1629
Passcode: rosary

Contact Rose-Marie: Family Ministry Coordinator
for more information or help with zoom
0408796252

aMeN caMiNo

aMeN caMiNo Expressions of Interest are now open for 2022. Dates for 2022 are May 28 - June 1, June 18-22, July 2-6, July 9-13 & August 6-10.

For more information and to register your interest, go to <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/adult-faith-formation/amen-camino/> or contact formed@mn.catholic.org.au

SUPPORTING OUR PARISH

We thank everyone who has continued their support for our Parish during these very different times. As cash is deemed a transmission hazard by NSW Health they recommend that donations and payments be made electronically.

There is an online parish payments button on the Parish Website Home page or alternatively you can deposit directly into the Parish Account our details are: Account Name: CDF 96014 Morisset Parish BSB:062815 Account Number: 00328161 Ref: 5004 2nd Collection or 5004 PG and Giver Number.

SUPPORTING THE DIOCESE CLERGY

If you would like to make contributions to support the Diocese Clergy / 1st Collection the Bank Account Details are: Account Name: CDF 96020 Morisset Parish BSB: 062815 Account Number 00328161 Ref: 5016 1st Collection

Live stream Mass every Sunday at 9.30am at <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream/>

<u>WEEKEND ROSTERS</u>			
		<u>THIS WEEK</u>	<u>NEXT WEEK</u>
<u>Presiders</u>	9.30	Virtual Mass	Virtual Liturgy
<u>PROCLAIMER:</u>	9.30		
<u>PSALMIST:</u>	9.30		
<u>UNIVERSAL PRAYER</u>	9.30		
<u>SERVERS</u>	9.30		
<u>AV:</u>	9.30		
<u>SOUND/ VIDEO:</u>	9.30		
<u>COVID-19 SAFETY TEAM</u>	9.30		
<u>COMMUNION USHERS</u>	9.30		
<u>CLEANERS</u>	9.30		

UPCOMING FEAST DAYS MEMORIALS AND SOLEMNITIES

SAINTS SIMON AND JUDE— 28TH OCTOBER
ALL SAINTS—1ST NOVEMBER
ALL SOULS— 2ND NOVEMBER
SAINT CHARLES BORROMEO— 4TH NOVEMBER
THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA— 9TH NOVEMBER
SAINT LEO THE GREAT— 10TH NOVEMBER
SAINT MARTIN OF TOURS— 11TH NOVEMBER
SAINT JOSAPHAT— 12TH NOVEMBER
SAINT ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY— 17TH NOVEMBER

Please pray for those who are sick, in hospital or recovering at home:

Dan Joyce, Bruce Gillett, William Eggins, Bishop Bill Wright, Robert Jay.

Please pray for those who have been called to eternal life may they always be in our prayers.



PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE BULLETIN

If you would like the parish to pray for a **family member who is sick, recently deceased or you would like remembered** please call or email the parish office or complete a prayer card for each person and place in the mail box near the parish office door. Cards are available at the back of the church and at the Parish Office.

All prayer requests require permission from a family member or the person. Due to Australian privacy laws.

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,
I believe that You
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there and unite
myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen.



Live stream Mass every Sunday at 9.30am at <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream/>





FAITH MATTERS: Mystagogical connections

Earlier this year I noticed Gilbert Ost diek OFM promoting his book, *Reweaving the Ministries: The Emmaus Paradigm*, on Facebook and I asked Mandy Greaves our Diocesan Librarian to purchase a copy. My

initial thought was it should be a relevant addition to our diocesan collection as we are currently traveling through a synodal process and reconsidering new ways to approach ministry is part of the ongoing conversation.

ROSEMARY MCALLISTER PUBLISHED OCTOBER 18, 2021

As I began to read the book, I was stuck with echoes from our Lenten contemplative dialogue experience as we were delighted with Michael O'Connor's writings of *Our Christian Story*, and we watched his words come to life as a visual liturgy.

Michael's words, much like Gilbert's, speak of an early church where ministries were shared among the community, they were united with a common mission of building the Kingdom of God together.

Another aspect which resonated with me when I began reading was of Bishop Bill's reflections days from earlier in the year. Bishop Bill pointed out as does the book, the need to look to the future with fresh eyes as the face of ministry has changed dramatically over the last 50 years.

Entering into a synodal process is about journeying together and the Emmaus story is a perfect example of how the mystery of our Christian faith is revealed through significant points on the journey and of how we make meaning from these connections.

To fully understand the Emmaus story, we must start with the end in mind and work backwards. The disciples would have never spoken of the experience if Jesus did not reveal something to them.

Timothy Radcliffe in his book, *Alive in God: A Christian Imagination*, uses the analogy of the Gospels being like fireworks. When they explode in the sky, they illuminate everything that is hidden in the dark. It is this revealing that brings meaning as does the practice of mystagogical reflection, which is a focus of Ost diek's writings.

For the disciples it was the signs, symbols, rituals and the way these things made them feel that made them realise that it was Jesus who had been their companion on the road.

It was the process of mystagogy that revealed this, as they were able to name this burning desire they had in their hearts.

They had gone through a kaleidoscope of experiences, a bitter tale of lost faith and hope, a stranger's heart-warming retelling of the story, now ending in glory attested by Moses and all the prophets, and then a meal prayer revealing the stranger to them as the Lord, alive and table host for them.

Only now could they look back and put into words, in one brief yet powerful sentence, how the stranger's story had set their hearts burning on the way. That verse is a perfect description of what mystagogy does. It helps people to name their experience and see more deeply into what it means.

Naming the fire in their hearts would have not been possible for the two disciples if they had not recognised him in the breaking of the bread and their hearts would not have been set on fire if they had not joined him on the way, listened to their story and given them a new ending from it. Mystagogy builds on what has gone before, on word and table and adds a richness to our life experiences.

As we continue our synodal journey we invite you to experience mystagogical reflection.

I personally have been exposed to this type of prayer and formation for only approximately 18 months, it has brought me so much joy each time I have entered this space with the beautiful people of the RCIA forum. I encourage anyone to embrace this experience as it nourishes the soul and allows you to look at scripture, your life, and the world at large with fresh eyes; it reveals connections and will set your hearts on fire.

As Louise Gannon wrote in [Liturgy Matters](#) last week, there are several opportunities to learn and experience mystagogy throughout November in preparation for *Waiting with Purpose* this Advent.

We hope many of you will join us in this next stage of our journey.



SUNDAY PRAYER SERVICE

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

Sunday 24 Oct 2021

The Introductory Rites

Gathering

The Lectionary/Roman Missal or a Bible may be placed on a table together with a candle and a cross.

A short hymn might be sung.

Sign of the Cross

Leader:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All:

Amen.

Greeting

Leader:

Blessed be Jesus who makes us one,
and strengthens us
by the power of his Spirit.

All:

Blessed be God forever.

Introductory Remarks

Leader (in these or similar words):

Friends in Christ,
although we cannot celebrate the Eucharist this day,
we gather in God's name
for when two or more come together
God is always with us.

We worship in union with the whole Church
keeping this day of the Lord holy.

Opening Rite

LITANY OF PRAISE

Leader:

Before listening to the Word of God
let us praise the Lord Jesus Christ
who has raised us to new life.

A brief period of silence follows.

Leader:

Lord Jesus, you gather us from the ends of the earth: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Christ Jesus, you come in word and sacrament to strengthen us in holiness:
Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you bring light to those in darkness: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Leader:

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.

All:

Amen.

Opening Prayer

Leader:

Let us pray.

All pause for silent prayer.

hear our prayer and bring light
God our Father
you have called us to love you
with our whole being.

Help us to live out your commandment of love
by serving you and loving our neighbour.

We ask this through Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
for ever and ever.

All:

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Jer 31:7-9

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

I shall lead them back in mercy – both the blind and the lame.

The Lord says this:

Shout with joy for Jacob!
Hail the chief of nations!
Proclaim! Praise! Shout:
The Lord has saved his people,
the remnant of Israel!
See, I will bring them back
from the land of the North
and gather them from the far ends of earth;
all of them: the blind and the lame,
women with child, women in labour:
a great company returning here.
They had left in tears,
I will comfort them as I lead them back;
I will guide them to streams of water,
by a smooth path where they will not stumble.
For I am a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my first-born son.

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 125. R. v.3

**(R.) The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy.**

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,
It seemed like a dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs. **(R.)**
2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels
the Lord worked for them!'
What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad. **(R.)**

3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.
Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap. **(R.)**
4. They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing:
they come back, they come back, full of song,
carrying their sheaves. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Heb 5:1-6

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

You are a priest forever in the line of Melchizedek.

Every high priest has been taken out of mankind and is appointed to act for men in their relations with God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins; and so he can sympathise with those who are ignorant or uncertain because he too lives in the limitations of weakness. That is why he has to make sin offerings for himself as well as for the people. No one takes this honour on himself, but each one is called by God, as Aaron was. Nor did Christ give himself the glory of becoming high priest, but he had it from the one who said to him: You are my son, today I have become your father, and in another text: You are a priest of the order of Melchizedek, and for ever.

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Reader:

From the holy Gospel according to Mark.

All:

Glory to you, O Lord.

Mk 10:46-52

Master, grant that I may see.

As Jesus left Jericho with his disciples and a large crowd, Bartimaeus (that is, the son of Timaeus), a blind beggar, was sitting at the side of the road. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout and to say, 'Son of David, Jesus, have pity on me.' And many of them scolded him and told him to keep quiet, but he only shouted all the louder, 'Son of David, have pity on me.' Jesus stopped and said, 'Call him here.' So they called the blind man. 'Courage,' they said 'get up; he is calling you.' So throwing off his cloak, he jumped up and went to Jesus. Then Jesus spoke, 'What do you want me to do for you?' 'Rabbuni,' the blind man said to him 'Master, let me see again.' Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has saved you.' And immediately his sight returned and he followed him along the road.

Reader:

The Gospel of the Lord.

All:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

All are seated.

Reflection on the Word

A short period of reflection may be observed.

Q. Which phrase or statement in the passage bears particular significance for you?

Q. Would the impact and message of the story be different if Bartimaeus had some other affliction?

Q. Why does this account come at the conclusion of a section about discipleship?

Q. When have you ever experienced a sense of 'sitting at the side of the road'?

Q. How would you answer Jesus' question, 'What do you want me to do for you?'

Profession of Faith

Leader:

In union with the whole Church
let us profess our faith.

All:

**I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,**

At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin Mary, all bow.

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Faithful

Leader: Dear friends, let us bring our prayers before the Lord, who saves all who call on him.

Reader: That the Holy Church will become more truly the Body of Christ and embrace all people everywhere.

(pause)

In your kindness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That like Melchizedek of old, all priests and bishops will embrace their ministry of leading the faithful to a greater understanding of God.

(pause)

In your kindness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That our parish community will remain steadfast in our faith as followers of Jesus Christ.

(pause)

In your kindness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That through our prayers and actions, the poor or oppressed may experience freedom, justice and peace.

(pause)

In your kindness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That all who are sick, including those in our community and families, will find comfort in the Lord's healing mercy.

(pause)

In your kindness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That all those who have died, including those in our community and families, will be led in mercy to the Father's heavenly kingdom.

(pause)

In your kindness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Loving Father, your Words are spirit and life for all the faithful. Hear our prayers, and help us to always remain steadfast in our faith. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

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The Lord's Prayer

Leader:

At the Saviour's command
and formed by divine teaching,
we dare to say:

All:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

The Concluding Rite

Blessing

Leader:

May the Lord be with us
and protect us
now and for ever.

All make the sign of the cross during the blessing.

All:

Amen.

Dismissal

Leader:

Let us go forth, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

All:

Thanks be to God.

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