

**October 28, 2018**  
**Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**From the Desk of Fr. Anthony C. Ekanem, MSP:**

Today's Gospel story is more of a discipleship story, a call story than a story of healing. "Jesus stopped and said, call him." This invitation though came with physical healing in St Mark Gospel narrative; it also represents an insight necessary for any disciple. Take a look at the details about the blind man's condition and attitude toward Jesus: the energy and insistence of his petition, how he threw away his cloak, sprang up and went to Jesus.

We have almost eliminated many of the diseases that cause blindness and have invented all kinds of devices to improve our seeing. We see ordinary glasses, bifocals, magnifying glasses, field glasses, telescopes, microscopes all around. Even with invention of Lasik surgery today, procedures are quicker and safer. We can see more and farther than ever before in our history. But that is not enough.

Because we are not blind we might think that the Gospel story has no relevance for us. It is precisely because we can see that it has relevance for us. The real question is: how well do we see? Bartimaeus was suffering from physical blindness. But there are other forms of blindness. We acknowledge this when we use expressions such as, 'I was completely in the dark,' or 'It suddenly dawned on me,' or 'It was right in front of me but I couldn't see it.'

For St. Mark, the whole point of this story is not healing of the physical but of the spiritual blindness.

Bartimaeus, who was physically blind, had more faith in Jesus than many of his disciples who had perfect eyesight. That is why he insisted, "Son of David, have pity on me." Not even the crowd who rebuked him could stop him. Is our faith as strong as that?

I wonder how many people are feeling uncomfortable as we are praying the Rosary along the way or advocating for life in this month of October. One of the saddest things Jesus said about His contemporaries was this: "They have eyes but fail to see." They witnessed the great thing He did, yet had no faith in Him. Lack of faith is a more serious kind of blindness than physical blindness.

When Bartimaeus was cured he could have gone off to live his own life, forgetting about Jesus. Instead he became an immediate and enthusiastic disciple of Jesus. He followed Jesus along the road to give testimony who this man Jesus was. It is not enough to say, 'I am baptized and confirmed,' We must make a difference in our willingness to follow Jesus with a spirit of enthusiasm, no hesitation, no doubt in our profession of our faith in our neighborhood or in our family. Today, Bartimaeus serves as our model for us. 'Lord, I want to see.'

**Thank you** for your generous response to the collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith last weekend on World Mission Sunday. Our parish raised \$ 1,161.00. You may stay connected year round to the Pope's missions, continuing the commitment of World Mission Sunday, by visiting [MISSIO.org](http://MISSIO.org)

**Collection : Last Sunday, October 21, 2018 was \$3,806.00**

**2nd Collection: Today our 2nd collection is our monthly Church Property Insurance collection.**

**Food collection:** Next Sunday will be our monthly food collection for the needy in our community please remember them this week as you shop for your groceries.

**The Holy Rosary in the Month of October:**

**Saturdays; 4:30 pm:** Joyful Mysteries; 1st Mystery -The Annunciation ; for the Love of Humility; 2nd Mystery- The Visitation; for charity toward your Neighbor; 3rd Mystery-The Nativity; for the Love of God; 4th Mystery- The Presentation; for a spirit of Sacrifice; 5th Mystery- Finding in the Temple; for zeal for the glory of God.

**Sundays; 10:30 am:** Glorious Mysteries; 1st Mystery-The Resurrection; for a strong Faith; 2nd Mystery-The Ascension; for the virtue of Hope; 3rd Mystery-The Descent of the Holy Spirit; for zeal for the glory of God; 4th Mystery - The Assumption; for the grace of a happy Death; 5th Mystery - The Coronation of the Blessed Virgin Mary; for a greater love for Mary our Heavenly Mother.

**Today's Focus: Persistent Persistence:**

*From the Hebrew slaves freed from Egypt to faithful people calling out to Jesus for healing, we encounter many stories of persistent faith. Let us make our own story the same.*

**Living and Praying with the world:**

Persistent and loving God, you constantly seek us out. You have done great things for us and we are glad indeed. Help us to be as persistent in following you as you are in loving us.

**November 1st; All Saints Day; it is a Holy day of Obligation; Masses will be celebrated as follows:**

**Wednesday, October 31st -in English 5:00 pm / 7:30 pm in Spanish**

**Thursday, November 1st -in English 8:15am & 12:05 pm and 7:30 pm in Spanish**

**November 2nd; All Soul's Day: Masses will be celebrated at 8:15 am & 12:05 pm in English & 7:30 pm in Spanish.**

**Our Renew + Rebuild Parishioners Plaque will be here within the next few days and will be in the vestibule of the church for all to see ~ thank you for your patience in regards to the long wait.**

**RCIA- Classes in English have started and are on Mondays at 7:00 pm in the Rectory- After this weekend there will no longer be any registration for this school year.**

**November 2018:**

**3rd Religious Education Classes 9:20-11:30 am Family Catechesis I**

**10th Religious Education Classes 9:20-11:30 am**

**17th Religious Education Classes 9:20-11:30 am**

**24th NO Religious Education Classes- Thanksgiving Weekend**

**Mass Schedule for the week of**

**October 28, 2018 to November 4, 2018**

**Mass are daily at 8:15 am and 12:05 pm in English and in Spanish on Thursdays at 7:00 pm**

**Below are the Special Intentions for this week**

**Sunday, October 28, 2018:**

7:30 am- For the Parishioners

9:00 am- Joaquim Neto

Sr. Ann Marie Lagan

11:00 am- Elizabeth Russ

Jenny Brown

**Monday, October 29, 2018:**

12:05 Michalina DeLuca

Grace DeLuca & Family

**Wednesday, October 31, 2018:**

12:05 pm- Rita & Frank Navarro

Carmen Navarro

5:00 pm- For all the Deceased Members of St. Mary's (Eve of Holy Day of Obligation)

7:00 pm- For all the Deceased Members of St. Mary's (Eve of Holy Day of Obligation)

**Thursday, November 1, 2018; All Saints Day:**

Holy Day of Obligation

8:15 am -For all the Deceased Members of St. Mary's

12:05 pm- For all the Deceased Members of St. Mary's

7:00 pm- For all the Deceased Members of St. Mary's

**Friday, November 2, 2018; All Souls Day:**

8:15 am- For all the Deceased Members of St. Mary's

12:05 pm- For all the Deceased Members of St. Mary's

7:00 pm -For all the Deceased Members of St. Mary's

**Saturday, November 3, 2018:**

5:00pm- Rita & Ramon Navarro

Carmen Navarro

7:30 pm Legion of Mary

**Sunday, November 4, 2018:**

7:30 am- For the Parishioners

9:00 am- Jesus Carlota Zuniga Ruiz

Joaquina Tobar

11:00 am- Juvenil Antao

Esther & Eduardo Rodrigues