



Live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth.

EPHESIANS 5:8B-9

Born Free

MIGUEL DULICK

Today's gospel, the healing of the man born blind, is a terrific story that includes many details. Notice that Jesus, who has his own agenda, "so that the works of God might be made visible through him," does not even wait for the man to ask to be healed. But the man is a willing subject, allowing mud and saliva to be smeared on his eyes, agreeing to go to Siloam and wash. And, he's a quick learner. At first, all he knows is "the man called Jesus" healed him. Soon, however, he's calling Jesus "a prophet." Then, as a "division" ("schism" in the original) opens among the authorities and even in his own family, he defends Jesus' divine calling when the Pharisees mock Jesus as a "sinner." Finally, expelled from the synagogue, the man finds Jesus waiting for him with the ultimate revelation: he sees before him the Son of Man, "and he worshiped him."

Now, maybe we weren't born blind, but I venture to say a lot of us are short-sighted. Do I "see the works of God"? Starting from "the man called Jesus," do I keep going forward in faith, defending Jesus when he is mocked by people, to a deeper, fuller reality than even my own family may not understand? All the way to adoration, worship, a total handing over of my whole self to the Son of Man? Or, as Thomas would later say, when his own eyes were opened, "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:28). ●



**LEARN ABOUT
THE AUTHORS
OF OUR PARISH
COMMUNITY**

Reflect

This week, I will pray for my eyes to be opened to something important for me to see.



St. Joseph's Church

was consecrated on the 29th of January 1928.
It is the oldest standing Roman Catholic Church on the island.

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Mass Schedule

Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m.

Baptism	By appointment: one month in advance
Weddings	By date: one year in advance (approx.)
Sacrament of Reconciliation	Sunday morning: 8:30 a.m.
Filipino Mass – Saturday	21 st March 2026: 11:00 a.m.
Kids & Youth Ministry	15 th March 2026
Children's/Family Mass	22 nd March 2026
Pastoral & Finance Council	20 th April 2026 – 6:30 p.m.
Coffee Social	26 th April 2026
Second Collection	12 th April 2026

DIocese of HAMILTON IN BERMUDA
Most Rev. Bishop, Wiesław (Wes) Śpiewak
www.romancatholicbermuda.bm

Parish Team Leaders

Mrs. Elizabeth Card – Pastoral Council Chairperson	Mrs. Annette Barclay St. Vincent de Paul Society Representative
Walette Cross Stewardship Representative	Natalia Walker & Justin Tavares Religious Education - Kids & Youth Ministry
Mrs. Mary Harvey - Parish Administrator & Finance Committee Team Leader	Mrs. Jane Farge - Music Ministry



Today's Hymns

Entrance:	Church of God, Elect & Glorious	#508
Offertory:	O God You Search Me	#678
Communion:	One Love Released	#802
Recessional:	Shelter Me, O God	#689

Leader of Song: Aiden Stones



We, The St. Joseph's Parish family, take this opportunity to thank you for coming to worship with us today. May our loving Lord always be with you, and with your families.



Sunday – 22nd March 2026

Proclaimer of God's Word
Sacristan
Eucharistic Minister
Collection Counters
Altar Server
Music

Youth Reader
Stephen Card
Joanne Smith
Mary & Simon Stones
Liam/Seamus Stones
Jane Farge

Prayers: Please keep our sick and shut-ins in your prayers, especially Ilene Bremar, Andrew Card, Eleanor Correia and Mary Maybury.

MASS INTENTION:

Sunday, 15th March *Francisca Domondon

ATTENDANCE & COLLECTION

MASS – 9:00 a.m.	Attendees	Collection
Friday, 6 th March - Stations of the Cross	5	-
Sunday 8 th March - Regular - Maintenance	45	434.00 199.00
Bingo		100.00
TOTAL:	50	\$733.00

Thank you for your kindness and generosity, it is appreciated. Banking information:
St. Joseph's Parish – Account Number: 20006060757062100 –



STATIONS OF THE CROSS FRIDAY at 7:00 p.m.



If you would like to donate towards the Easter Flowers in memory of your loved ones, the envelopes are at the back of the church; please remember to put their names on the envelope. The Intentions will be listed on Easter Sunday.



ON THURSDAY, 19th MARCH, MASS AT 7:00 P.M., WE WILL CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH, followed by a social in the Parish Centre. Our celebrant will be Bishop Wes. If you would like to donate towards the refreshment table, your kindness and "goodies" are always appreciated (and enjoyed!). **Please come out to honour St. Joseph, our patron.**



DIOCESAN LENTEN ALMSGIVING – SPECIAL COLLECTION: There will be a special collection for The Family Centre on the **weekend of the 21st/22nd of March 2026** as part of our Diocesan Lenten Almsgiving. Envelopes are available for this collection but if you wish to donate online you may do so to our diocesan account with Butterfield Bank; Account Name: ORCC Special Account, Account Number: 20006060021098100, include "FAMILY CENTRE" in the memo line.

BISHOP'S CORNER

Dear Fellow-Catholics,

The Vatican's children's hospital, Bambino Gesù, is considered the leading paediatric hospital in Europe and the 6th best in the world,

according to the US magazine Newsweek's 2026 World's Best Hospitals ranking. Created in collaboration with the data gathering company, Statista, the ranking highlights leading hospitals around the world in 12 medical fields, including paediatrics. The 2026 edition evaluated 2,500 hospitals in 32 countries.

The ranking is compiled with information gathered from a comprehensive international survey of healthcare professionals, independent data on the quality of care and patient safety, and indicators derived from their assessments and reported clinical outcomes.

"This recognition stems from the daily teamwork of the entire hospital community: doctors, nurses, healthcare professionals, technical and administrative staff, researchers, volunteers, and religious personnel who, together, take care of children and their families," said Tiziano Onesti, President of the Bambino Gesù Hospital, in a press release published by the establishment. He emphasized "It is the quiet dedication of these women and men - in the wards, laboratories, offices, reception, and support services that makes highly specialized care possible, combined with attention to the human and relational aspects of treatment."

Additionally, the press release underlines how Bambino Gesù is today the leading paediatric centre in Europe in terms of the number of affiliations with European reference networks for rare diseases (affiliated with 20 out of 24 networks). It records almost 3 million outpatient services, 100,000 visits to the emergency room, and over 33,000 surgical procedures every year.

It is good to know that the institutional Church is also able to do good work 😊

Have a joyful "pink" Sunday of Lent and a blessed week!

Bishop Wes

SEEING WITH NEW EYES

The 4th Sunday of Lent Year A brings us stories about seeing in a new way. God helps us look beyond what is on the outside. These readings remind us that God sees people differently than we do. He looks deeper and knows what really matters. In the first reading, David is chosen to be king, even though he is the youngest and smallest. Everyone thought his older brothers would be picked. But God shows that he sees things others miss. The Gospel also tells about seeing—Jesus heals a man born blind. This healing helps him believe in Jesus.

What is the main message of the 4th Sunday of Lent?

The main message is about spiritual sight and faith. Jesus brings light to those who believe in him, while those who reject him remain in darkness.

Why did Jesus use mud to heal the blind man?

Jesus used mud to show his power to heal through simple, earthly things. It also points to God creating man from the earth, showing Jesus' authority as the Son of God.

What does the healing of the blind man symbolize?

It symbolizes spiritual awakening and faith. Just as the man's physical eyes were opened, our spiritual eyes are opened when we believe in Jesus.

How does the 4th Sunday of Lent relate to Baptism?

The blind man is healed after washing in the pool of

Siloam, which symbolizes Baptism. Through Baptism, we are cleansed of sin and given new spiritual sight.

Why were the Pharisees upset about the healing?

The Pharisees were upset because Jesus healed on the Sabbath, which they saw as breaking the law. They were spiritually blind to the miracle and refused to see Jesus as the Messiah.

What is spiritual blindness?

Spiritual blindness is the inability to see or accept God's truth. It happens when people are closed off to faith or are unwilling to change their hearts.

How can we avoid spiritual blindness?

We can avoid spiritual blindness by being open to God's word, praying for understanding, and seeking forgiveness for our sins. Staying humble and willing to learn helps us grow in faith.

How does the first reading connect to the Gospel?

The first reading shows that God looks at the heart, not appearances. In the Gospel, Jesus sees the blind man's faith, while the Pharisees judge by outward rules and appearances.

How does the 4th Sunday of Lent call us to change?

It calls us to examine our own blindness and seek spiritual sight. We are invited to grow in faith and live as children of light.

Why does the 4th Sunday of Lent focus on light and darkness?

Light and darkness are symbols of truth and ignorance. Jesus, as the Light of the World, brings truth and guidance, while darkness represents sin and separation from God.

What does it mean to live as children of light?

It means to live with faith, truth, and love. By following Jesus, we reflect God's light to others and walk in goodness and righteousness.

REFLECTION:

- How does God use ordinary things in your life to bring grace and healing?
- What distractions keep you from seeing God's work?
- How can you live as a child of light?
- Do you judge others by appearances or by their hearts?
- How can you trust God's purpose in times of struggle?
- What does spiritual blindness look like in your life?
- How can you grow in faith and spiritual sight?
- Are you open to God's choices, even if they surprise you?
- How can you respond to Jesus with courage and faith?
- What steps can you take to see others with love and mercy?

Consider how these messages apply to your life. Perhaps you can reach out to help someone on their Lenten journey it is not too late!

Source: Young Catholics

Dear Padre,

I am left-handed. Why doesn't the church allow the sign of the cross to be made left-handed?

A Catholic who is unable to make the sign of the cross with the right hand is certainly permitted to do so with the left. There is no rule against it. When Pope Saint John Paul II injured his right arm, he used his left hand to impart his blessing.

The sign of the cross is a sacramental, one of the symbols that identifies you as a Roman Catholic. Just like all such symbolic gestures, there is an expected uniformity. To use a secular example, at a University of Texas football game, fans of the Longhorns give the “hook-‘em horns” sign. You wouldn't give the “thumbs-up” sign instead. It would be confusing.

It's true that at one time, the left hand was associated with evil. Jesus sends the goats to sit at his left and the sheep to his right. (See Matthew 25:33.) And, throughout the Scriptures, we read that Jesus sits at the right hand of God. (See Mark 16:19.) The word “sinister” is from the Latin *sinister*, meaning “left.”

Left-handedness is no longer associated with evil. If you wish to make the sign of the cross with your left hand, you may. But do consider why you are doing it. Most left-handed people have no trouble using their right hand for many simple tasks. If your purpose is a bit rebellious, maybe realize that signifying unity with your brothers and sisters in Christ is more important. ●



ALFONSO / CATHOPIC

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

MARCO IACOBUCCI EPP / SHUTTERSTOCK



A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

Dear brothers and sisters, let us trustfully bring our ailments before Jesus, and also those of our loved ones; let us bring the pain of those who feel lost and without a way out. Let us cry out for them too, and we will be certain that the Lord will hear us.

GENERAL AUDIENCE, ROME, JUNE 11, 2025

Monday

MARCH 16

Lenten Weekday

Is 65:17–21

Jn 4:43–54

Tuesday

MARCH 17

Lenten Weekday

Ez 47:1–9, 12

Jn 5:1–16

Wednesday

MARCH 18

Lenten Weekday

Is 49:8–15

Jn 5:17–30

Thursday

MARCH 19

St. Joseph, Spouse

of the Blessed

Virgin Mary

2 Sm 7:4–5a,

12–14a, 16

Rom 4:13, 16–18,

22

Mt 1:16, 18–21,

24a or Lk 2:41–

51a

Friday

MARCH 20

Lenten Weekday

Wis 2:1a, 12–22

Jn 7:1–2, 10,

25–30

Saturday

MARCH 21

Lenten Weekday

Jer 11:18–20

Jn 7:40–53

Sunday

MARCH 22

Fifth Sunday

of Lent

Ez 37:12–14

Rom 8:8–11

Jn 11:1–45 or

11:3–7, 17, 20–27,

33b–45