

Laetare Sunday: Seeing as God Does.

We are now at the midpoint of our Lenten journey, a moment that invites us to lift our eyes with renewed hope and joy as we draw closer to the Paschal mysteries. The readings for this Laetare Sunday speak powerfully of light and darkness, sight and blindness. They summon us to awaken from spiritual slumber, to step away from whatever clouds our vision, and to welcome the healing light of Christ, who alone restores our sight and leads us into the fullness of life.

In the first reading, God sent Samuel to anoint David, the youngest son of Jesse, as the new king of Israel. Though least in human eyes, David was powerful in God's eyes. Through this, the Lord revealed that He sees differently than we do; He looks beyond appearances and into the heart.

The responsorial psalm echoes this truth, proclaiming that the Lord is our Shepherd, and that we lack nothing. As the sheep of His flock, He continually guides, protects, and restores us by His loving grace.

The Gospel presents the healing of the man born blind—someone who had never seen the world around him. Jesus opened his eyes, and even more importantly, his heart to faith. He came to believe in Jesus as Lord and Messiah, while those who claimed to “see” remained blind. The religious leaders were held by pride, and they failed to recognize wondrous work of God unfolding before them.

We too carry spiritual blind spots—pride, prejudice, faulty judgment that keep us from seeing as God does. When we judge by outward appearances, we overlook what God places before us, and fail to hear what He speaks to us through others.

We are called to see one another through the lens of God's love and grace. Saint Paul reminds us that we were once in darkness, but now we are called to live as children of the light, producing the fruits of goodness, righteousness, and truth.

Through the Sacraments, and the Scriptures, Christ continues to guide us, teaching us where to look, what to avoid, and how to walk toward Him with confidence.

In this Eucharistic celebration, we are invited to the spiritual Pool of Siloam where Christ touches us with His grace and restores our sight, so that we may clearly see the path that leads to Him. May the Lord renew our hope and joy, deepen our faith, and open our eyes to His transforming love.

Fr. Dr. Ben, Pastor.