



CELEBRATING AT HOME
30TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

What do you want me to do for you? (Mark 10:46-52)



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Sign of the Cross

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

Preparing to hear the Word

We are the body of Christ.

**We are a people,
gathered and grounded
in the Word of God,
the love of Christ,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.**

Christ is here,
present among us.

Scripture Reading (Mark 10:46-52)

As Jesus left Jericho with his disciples and a sizable 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, 'Jesus, Son of David, have pity on me.' And many of the people 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.

Reflection - *What do you want me to do for you?*

There are all kinds of blindness - physical, lack of insight or perception, an unwillingness to see a confronting reality, and so on. For many weeks now we have travelled with Jesus and the disciples as they head towards Jerusalem. Many times, the

disciples have seemed almost wilfully blind to understanding the mission of Jesus. Time and again, their own egos seem to get in the way - arguments about which is the greatest, wanting to be people of high status, powerbrokers and princes and rulers in the kingdom.

On this journey Jesus has been instructing the disciples about his mission and their call to be true followers of his. As we have seen, they have largely resisted both.

We are nearing the end of the journey. Today's Gospel episode, the cure of blind Bartimaeus, is the last before Jesus enters the Holy City.

Bartimaeus may be blind, but he sees more clearly who Jesus is than the sighted disciples. In terms of faith, it is the disciples who are blind, and it is Bartimaeus who sees.

Even in his blindness Bartimaeus recognises who Jesus is. When Jesus calls him, his reaction is full of energy and enthusiasm. He throws off his cloak, jumps up and makes his way to Jesus, in contrast to the rather hesitant attitude of the disciples.

Jesus restores Bartimaeus' sight with the words, 'Go, your faith has saved you.' But Bartimaeus does not go; he stays and follows Jesus.

Not only has Jesus restored Bartimaeus' sight, he has also removed the taint of sinfulness which surrounded people with disabilities in those days.

This story is a parable about discipleship.

Bartimaeus is an image of the true disciple. He recognises his blindness and asks for healing. He comes to Jesus with great faith and enthusiasm and not much else. With sight restored he becomes a follower of Jesus on the journey to Jerusalem.

The presence of Jesus in our lives heals and restores us to our true calling as the People of God so that we can truly follow Jesus in our lives.

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What Jesus asks Bartimaeus, he asks us, too:

What do you want me to do for you?

Prayers of Intercession

Free us from the blindness of fear.
Make us the light of your love.

Free us from the blindness of selfishness.
Make us the light of your presence.

Free us from the blindness of hate.
Make us the light of your compassion.

Lord's Prayer

Formed by the teaching and example of Jesus,
we pray:

**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.**

Closing Prayer

Eternal God,
**strengthen us by your Word,
sustain us by your Spirit,
and transform our prayer into action
for the sake of the world.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Blessing

As you bless us, O Lord,
may we be your blessing for each other. Amen.



A photograph showing several hands in white robes holding a single lit yellow candle. The scene is dimly lit, with the candle's flame providing the primary light source, creating a warm and solemn atmosphere. The hands are positioned in a way that suggests a shared prayer or a liturgical act.

Light and Love in the darkness

This resource is presented by the Carmelites of Australia & Timor-Leste at a time when we cannot gather together as we usually do to celebrate the Eucharist. We are conscious that Christ is present not only in the Blessed Sacrament but also in the Scriptures and in our hearts. Even when we are on our own we remain part of the Body of Christ.

In the room you decide to use for this prayer you could have a lighted candle, a crucifix and the Bible. These symbols help keep us mindful of the sacredness of our time of prayer and can help us feel connected with our local worshipping communities.

This text is arranged with parts for a leader and for all to pray, but the leader's parts can be shared among those present.

As you use this prayer know that the Carmelites will be remembering in our prayer all the members of our family at this time.



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