

Family Liturgy – Fourth Sunday of Lent (Year A) Sunday 22 March 2020

Preparing the prayer space

Place a purple cloth on the table or floor (purple – the colour for Lent)
Light a candle or use a battery-operated candle for safety
Place a bible on the prayer space

Prepare materials

You tube as listed on sheet: Gospel story and song
Suggested activities: your choice or other related activity
Print out sheet if required



Jesus Heals a Man Born Blind
John 9

<https://pixiv.org/656939/> free image

Gather around the prayer space as a family

Parent/Caregiver: Today we hear how Jesus helped a blind man to see again. God has given us the gift of sight – eyes to see - to see all the wonderful things that God has made in our world. We also need to open our hearts to ‘see’ in a new way in our family and in our world. We need to thank God for all that comes our way –the good things and the hard things in our life. We join ourselves to Jesus and listen to what he is asking of us today.

Opening prayer: God of power and glory, we give thanks to you for the wonderful gifts you give to us. Open our hearts to the good things in our family and in our world. Help us now to listen to your word to us. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gospel:

A reading from the holy gospel according to John (John 9:1, 6-12, 35-38)

All: Glory to you O, Lord

One day as Jesus walked along, he saw a man who had been blind since his birth. Jesus spit on the ground. He made mud and smeared it on the man’s eyes. Then he said, ‘Go and wash off the mud in Siloam Pool’. The man went and washed in Siloam, which means ‘One Who Is Sent’. When he had washed off the mud, he could see.

The man’s neighbours and the people who had seen him begging wondered if he could really be the same man. Some of them said he was the same beggar, while others said he only looked like him. But he told them, ‘I am the man’.

‘Then how can you see?’ they asked.

He answered, ‘Someone named Jesus made some mud and smeared it on my eyes.

He told me to go and wash it off in Siloam Pool. When I did, I could see’.

‘Where is he now?’ they asked. ‘I don’t know,’ he answered.

When Jesus heard what had happened, he went and found the man.

Then Jesus asked, ‘Do you have faith in the Son of Man?’

‘Sir,’ he replied, ‘if you tell me who he is, I will put my faith in him’.

‘You have already seen him,’ Jesus answered, ‘and right now he is talking with you’.

Then he worshipped Jesus.

The gospel of the Lord. **All:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

(Gospel text © Lectionary for Masses with Children (1993) Catholic Book Publishing Co. New York)

Prayerfully watch the Gospel story of Jesus healing the blind man
<https://youtu.be/Uo9ILFTVdhQ> (5 mins)

Gospel reflection and time of sharing:

I wonder what the blind man was thinking when Jesus put some mud on the man's eyes?

I wonder what the blind man was thinking when Jesus said to him to go and wash the mud off his eyes?

I wonder how the blind man felt when he was able to see for the first time?

I wonder what the blind man's friends and neighbours thought when they heard that the man could see?

I wonder how the man felt when he saw Jesus again afterwards?

I wonder what Jesus meant when he asked if the man had faith in him?

I wonder what it means if Jesus was to ask us if we had faith in him?

I wonder what 'having faith' in Jesus means for us in our lives each day?

Intercessions: Let us now spend some time in prayer asking God to listen to our needs.
(*We respond to the prayers by repeating the words 'Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer'*)

1 We pray for our Church and world leaders: that the Holy Spirit will open their eyes and hearts to listen how God is leading them in their decisions. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer

2 We pray for all people in our parishes who are not able to meet together at this time: that they will grow stronger in their faith by the listening to the Word of God through the Gospel stories. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

3 We pray for people in our world who are suffering in any way at this time: that they may find comfort knowing that others care for them and want to help them. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

4 We spend a few minutes sharing the other prayers of our heart.
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Closing prayer: God of compassion and love, you are the light of the world. Inspire us to look out into the world, praising and thanking you for all that is good and for all the ways you have helped us. Help us to reach out to each other by loving and caring for all those we meet. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Closing song: Open My Eyes Lord (Jesse Manibusan) <https://youtu.be/eo6gZAUuQ3E>

Follow up activity suggestions after the time of prayer has come to a close.

- Begin a prayer journal in a note book.
Ask the children to write a prayer thanking God for all the good things that they see/hear/feel/taste/smell in the world.
Add to this prayer journal each day.
- Act out the story
- Go to <https://sundayschoolzone.com/bible-story/jesus-healed-a-man-born-blind/> for word search