

### **30<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY YEAR B 2021.**

#### **LORD THAT I MAY SEE:**

Jesus cures the blind in fulfillment of Jeremiah's prophecy, that in the days of the Messiah, the blind would once more see. This is the sign of hope for the Israelites after the exile in the first reading. They needed this to lift their morale. With this foundation, we investigate a very crucial important issue which we take for granted in our lives as human beings. **Hearing, feelings, sight, and taste** play a vital role in our lives. Not until we lose or miss one of them or see someone who lacks these vital senses that we come to realize how lucky we are. Our Gospel today calls us to reflect and to be aware of the sense of sight. Physical sight is important to all of us. The blind person cannot see the environment, the sunset, or people. He cannot admire the people; he cannot see the expressions they have on their faces. We assume all this.

You can understand the thrill of Bartimaeus' cure. A ***whole new world was opened to him***. There is a great teaching we get from this cure of the blind person. When he heard Jesus was passing by, nothing could **stand in his way to meet him, the crowd, his cloak, discouragement from people to be silent**, all these increased his yearning as he shouted **the more**. He drew the attention of Jesus and Jesus called him. What would you like me to do for you? What a question for this blind man. He knew exactly what he wanted. **"That I may see."** We have so many obstacles preventing us from meeting Jesus, people, material things, political affiliations, religion, and challenging situations. The question is, "Are we ready to leave them behind like this blind man and run to Jesus?" He is asking the same question to us, "What is it that you want me to do for you?" The story of Bartimaeus is as much as a **calling as it is a healing**. Note the fact that after being healed he followed Jesus on the road to **discipleship and salvation**. He had lacked direction; he was spiritually blind. What Jesus did for him he can do for you and me. We

have so much blindness which needs to be cured in our world today. **Some physical blindness can be cured with modern technology, with medication,** and glasses. We have **moral blindness** which is worse than physical. In this we are directed by **conscience, the knowledge of right and wrong.** Imagine a society without conscience. How **tragic it can be for people, killing, slaying, taking others property, unfaithfulness in marriages.** It is a pity to see the damage a person without conscience can do. This blindness should be dealt with and be cured immediately. **“Lord that we may see.” Physical blindness endangers** our bodies, moral blindness endangers our souls. There is also a **blindness of unbelief.** Faith gives us the vision to see beyond senses and leads us to our relationship with God. We are more than cells or DNA. We have a soul and purpose. Once we lose sight of this, we have no direction in life. As **sight** is to **blindness** so is **faith to unbelief.** The prayer of the blind man should be our prayer, that we may see **better with this great gift of physical sight** and that we may see everything through the eyes of faith. Without faith we are always in darkness. Seeing with eyes is better and it is not the only sight we have. We see with other parts of our human body.

-Seeing with the mind we have **insight.**

-Seeing with **imagination we have vision.**

-Seeing with the heart **we have understanding and compassion.** It is only with heart that we are able to see rightly.

We need to focus on where we are looking, we might miss the whole scenario by bad judgement, poor observation, disposition of our mind, and body, selfishness, hurry, prejudice, anger or in pain. Our vision, even spiritually could be deeply affected and distorted. Our journey from blindness should lead us to belief.

**The greatest calamity that can happen to people is not that they should be born blind but that they have EYES, YET THEY FAIL TO SEE.**