



faith FORMATION

ST. JUDE CATHOLIC CHURCH // VOLUME 3 // ISSUE 7 // OCTOBER 27, 2024



In the Beginning...

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Halloween is right around the corner! This year, let's try to recapture some of the Catholic roots of the holiday. Society has a way of secularizing Catholic holy days. Even the phrase "holy day" itself has been secularized. We know them as holidays now. What other holy days can you think of that have become holidays and which have lost much of their original Catholic meaning and now focus instead on things like greeting cards/chocolates/flowers, presents and green beer?

Halloween, or All Hallows Eve, is the vigil of All Saints (Hallows) Day. It's a great day to dress up as your favorite Saint instead of a scary ghoul. If you're handing out candy, maybe add some prayer cards to your treats. Have you ever set up an ofrenda? It's a great tradition to remember loved ones who have passed. Check out [Catholic Icing](#) to learn how to celebrate the Day of the Dead as Catholics.

All Saints Day (Nov. 1) is a holy day of obligation (or opportunity as we like to say!). St. Jude will be having Mass that day (8:30am & 7:00pm), along with all of the other Catholic parishes around the world. Wherever you are, please attend Mass. On All Saints Day we look to those who have made it to Heaven as our role models and guides to a holy life.

All Souls Day rounds out the triduum. Together all three days are known as Allhallowtide. On All Souls Day we pray for the souls in purgatory. Join us for Mass on November 2 as well (8:30am). It's not a Holy Day of Obligation, but don't let that stop you from going! Mass, as has been said, should be our reason for missing everything else. Not the other way around.



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Confession

Saturday: 2:00 - 3:30PM
Also, by appointment

Daily Mass

Tuesday: 8:30AM
Thursday: 8:30AM
Friday: 8:30AM

Weekend Mass

Saturday: 4:00PM
Sunday: 8:30AM, 10:30AM

SUNDAY BIBLE REFLECTION

By Scott Hahn

Readings:

[Jeremiah 31:7–9](#)

[Psalm 126:1–6](#)

[Hebrews 5:1–6](#)

[Mark 10:46–52](#)

[LISTEN HERE](#)



Today's Gospel turns on an irony—it is a blind man, Bartimaeus, who becomes the first person outside of the Apostles to recognize Jesus as the Messiah. And his healing is the last miracle Jesus performs before entering the holy city of Jerusalem for His last week on earth.

The scene on the road to Jerusalem evokes the joyful procession prophesied by Jeremiah in today's First Reading. In Jesus this prophecy is fulfilled. God, through the Messiah, is delivering His people from exile, bringing them back from the ends of the earth, with the blind and lame in their midst.

Jesus, as Bartimaeus proclaims, is the long-awaited Son promised to David (see [2 Samuel 7:12–16](#); [Isaiah 11:9](#); [Jeremiah 23:5](#)). Upon His triumphal arrival in Jerusalem, all will see that the everlasting kingdom of David has come (see [Mark 11:9–10](#)).

As we hear in today's Epistle, the Son of David was expected to be the Son of God (see [Psalm 2:7](#)). He was to be a priest-king like Melchizedek (see [Psalm 110:4](#)), who offered bread and wine to God Most High at the dawn of salvation history (see [Genesis 14:18–20](#)).

Bartimaeus is a symbol of his people, the captive Zion of whom we sing in today's Psalm. His God has done great things for him. All his life has been sown in tears and weeping. Now, he reaps a new life.

Bartimaeus, too, should be a sign for us. How often Christ passes us by—in the person of the poor, in the distressing guise of a troublesome family member or burdensome associate (see [Matthew 25:31–46](#))—and yet we don't see Him.

Christ still calls to us through His Church, as Jesus sent His Apostles to call Bartimaeus. Yet how often are we found to be listening instead to the voices of the crowd, not hearing the words of His Church.

Today He asks us what He asks Bartimaeus: "What do you want me to do for you?" Rejoicing, let us ask the same thing of Him—what can we do for all that He has done for us?

46 And they came to Jericho; and as he was leaving Jericho with his disciples and a great multitude, Bartimaeus, a blind beggar, the son of Timaeus, was sitting by the roadside. 47 And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" 48 And many rebuked him, telling him to be silent; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" 49 And Jesus stopped and said, "Call him." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; rise, he is calling you."

MARK 10:46-49

The Gospel at Home

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Gospel Reading

Mark 10:46-52

Jesus restores sight to the blind man, Bartimaeus

Family Connection

Today's Gospel offers us a powerful example of faith and persistence in prayer. Those around him rebuked Bartimaeus for his efforts to attract Jesus' attention. When silenced by the crowd, however, Bartimaeus called out all the more. He is persistent and bold in his confidence that Jesus will show mercy on him and do what he asks. His persistence and great confidence that Jesus would help him reminds us of the confidence with which our children bring to us their needs. In their faith and trust we can find an example of the attitude with which we might approach God in prayer.

As a family, recall a request that has been made repeatedly by one family member to another. Talk about why the request continues to be made if the answer continues to be no. Then read together today's Gospel, Mark 10:46-52. After reading the Gospel, pose questions such as these to your family: Why must Bartimaeus be persistent in calling out to Jesus? (Some people in the crowd are telling him to be quiet.) What does Bartimaeus do when some try to stop him? (He calls out to Jesus all the more.) When Jesus stops and calls for him, what does Jesus do and say? (He restores Bartimaeus's sight; Jesus tells Bartimaeus his faith has saved him.) When we pray, God wants us to be so confident he will help us that we don't permit anyone to keep us from bringing our needs to God in prayer. Invite family members to identify the things they need most from God. Pray these prayers of petition together as a family, confident that God will hear and answer your prayers. Respond to each petition, "Jesus, Son of David, have pity on us." Conclude by praying the [Glory Be to the Father](#).

Glory be to the Father,

and to the Son,

and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

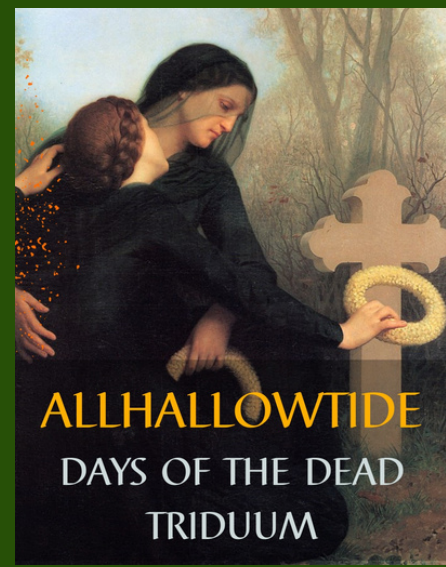
Amen.

50 And throwing off his mantle he sprang up and came to Jesus. 51 And Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" And the blind man said to him, "Master, let me receive my sight." 52 And Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed him on the way.*

MARK 10:50-52

Did You Know?

Halloween Has Catholic Origins



Although Halloween has been embraced by the secular world, its foundations are firmly rooted in Catholic tradition. Dr Malcolm Brown of the Alcuin Institute for Catholic Culture explains the significance of All Hallows' Eve.

In the modern world, and especially in English speaking countries, Halloween has become one of the most important holidays of the year, with millions of children and adults dressing up as their favourite heroes, superstars, ghouls and goblins.

While some people have connected Halloween to earlier pagan celebrations of the new year, Halloween actually has significant Catholic roots. The name itself comes from All Hallows' Eve – that is, the Vigil of All Saints' Day, when Catholics remember those who have gone before us to enter our heavenly home. Immediately afterwards, on November 2, the Church commemorates all the faithful departed still detained in Purgatory, and prays in suffrage for them.

The memory of those who have gone before us naturally leads to thoughts of mortality, and the liturgical focus on the end times during this period of the Church year adds to the atmosphere of gloom.

In a "Memorandum on the Celebration of Halloween" issued last year for his Diocese, Bishop David Konderla of Tulsa, Oklahoma, stresses the importance of "maintaining the Catholic meaning and purpose of all holy days, especially those which have been adopted and adapted by the culture around us". He explains the how customs such as dressing up for Halloween and appealing to frightful imagery can be done in a Catholic spirit, while warning that "we want to intentionally avoid those things that are contrary to our Catholic faith, but have become popularized through the secular adaptation of Halloween".

Vatican News spoke with Dr Marcel Brown, of the Alcuin Institute for Catholic Culture in Tulsa, about the Catholic roots of Halloween. "The feast of Halloween is one of those feasts on the Catholic calendar that is celebrated on the eve of a great solemnity", he said.

Dr Brown explained that the word Halloween refers to the Feast of All Saints. The word itself is taken an older English term, "hallows," meaning "holy"; and "e'en", a truncation of the word evening, in reference to the Vigil of the feast. "So really, Halloween is the feast of the celebration of the feast of All Hallows", he said. "So it's a day when Catholics celebrate the triumph of the Church in heaven, and the lives of the saints on earth".

The modern focus on the eerie or mysterious also has a Catholic aspect. "When we think of Halloween, I think we often think of ghosts and goblins, and ghoulish faces", Dr Brown said. "But even these, in the Catholic tradition, are supposed to be reminders of death and of the last things".

He continued, "So just as we commemorate the feast of All Saints on November 1st, beginning with All Hallows' Eve on Halloween, we also think about and turn our minds really, to the last things: death, judgment, heaven, and hell. And really our focus should be, since we all must die and are destined to judgment, how then we to live?"

In his Memorandum, Bishop Konderla invites to the faithful to "urge one another this Halloween to express in every detail of our observance the beauty and depth of the Feast of All Saints".

"Let us make this year's celebration", he says, "an act of true devotion to God, whose saints give us hope that we too may one day enter into the Kingdom prepared for God's holy ones from the beginning of time".

UPCOMING EVENTS

Opportunities to Grow in Faith

Saturday, October 26:

2:00pm - Reconciliation until 3:30pm

4:00pm - Mass

Sunday, October 27:

8:30am - Mass

10:30am - Mass; Children's Liturgy of the Word during this Mass.

11:30am - OCIA Inquiry Session in the Kelly Conference Room.

5:30pm - Faith Formation Classes for grades 1-8.

Monday, October 28:

7:00pm - Women's Bible Study in the Thaddeus Center. The study is "God, the Mystery of the Trinity in the Bible". If you are interested in joining, please call Peg Manuszak at 616-361-5836.

Tuesday, October 29:

8:30am - Mass

7:00pm - Men of Emmaus. All men are welcome to join us on Tuesday nights at 7:00pm in the Millennium Conference Room (just across from the parish office). No special supplies or preparation needed. If it's your first time, just show up! It's a great time for fellowship with other St. Jude men.

Wednesday, October 30:

8:30am - Senior Men's Group in the Thaddeus Center. Do you like to play cards? We are a group of senior men who play cards at St. Jude in the Thaddeus Center. We meet every Wednesday at 8:30am. If you are interested or have any questions, call Denny Biggins at 616-365-1371.

7:00pm - AA Support Group in the Thaddeus Center.

Thursday, October 31:

8:30am - Mass (ASA school Mass)

Friday, November 1:

ALL SAINTS DAY - HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

8:30am - Mass

7:00pm - Mass

Saturday, November 2:

ALL SOULS DAY

8:30am - Mass (for All Souls Day)

4:00pm - Mass (for Sunday)

"Jesus replied, 'The first is this: 'Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is Lord alone! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.'"

MARK 12:29-30

Confession

Saturday: 2:00 - 3:30PM

Also, by appointment

Daily Mass

Tuesday: 8:30AM

Thursday: 8:30AM

Friday: 8:30AM

Weekend Mass

Saturday: 4:00PM

Sunday: 8:30AM, 10:30AM

[Click here!](#)

THIS WEEK ON **FORMED**

Week of October 27, 2024



The Catholic Take on Halloween

Remembering the dead in purgatory, celebrating the Saints, and the Catholic perspective on Halloween.



Brother Francis - All Souls Day

In this episode of Brother Francis, kids can learn about All Souls Day and how we take time to remember those who have passed away.



Who is St. Jude? | Catholic Saints

Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. James Prothro discuss this lesser-known apostle St. Jude.

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Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.

Jesus Cures Our Blindness



In today's Gospel reading, a blind man called Bartimaeus called out to Jesus to cure him.

Sometimes we can be blind too. When we don't see the truth about God, or when we can't see our own faults then we have a kind of blindness.



When we find that we can't see ourselves or God clearly, we should be like Bartimaeus and call out to Jesus to help us. If we believe in Him then we will get our sight back too.

When Bartimaeus was cured of his blindness he started to follow Jesus right away. When we can see ourselves and God clearly then we will also want to follow Jesus.



Before you go to bed, ask God to help you remember your sins today and then tell Him you're sorry for them.

Answers to Psalm 126 Word Puzzle:
L, I, D, F, O, A, H, R, T, L, E, I, E, W, J, W, E, E, Y
WE ARE FILLED WITH JOY

www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 27th, 2024



Mark 10:46-52

*What did Jesus and the blind man say to each other in today's Gospel reading?
Look in the mirror to find out!*

Saint Narcissus of Jerusalem

October 29



ST. NARCISSUS WAS BORN AROUND THE END OF THE FIRST CENTURY AD. WHEN HE WAS ABOUT 80 HE WAS MADE THE BISHOP OF JERUSALEM.

HE WAS KNOWN FOR HIS MIRACLES, ESPECIALLY FOR ONCE TURNING WATER INTO OIL FOR THE CHURCH LAMPS.



HE WAS ALSO KNOWN FOR BEING STRICT ABOUT CHURCH LAWS. He's too harsh. Let's get rid of him...

WHEN HE WAS ACCUSED OF A CRIME, HE LEFT TO LIVE ALONE AND PRAY

BUT THEN HE WAS FOUND INNOCENT. MEANWHILE OTHER BISHOPS HAD LOOKED AFTER JERUSALEM.



BECAUSE HE WAS SO OLD, ANOTHER BISHOP WAS SENT TO HELP HIM. SAINT NARCISSUS LOOKED AFTER HIS PEOPLE UNTIL HE DIED AT ABOUT 116!

THE PEOPLE WELCOMED HIM BACK AS THOUGH HE HAD BEEN RAISED FROM THE DEAD!

SANT NARCISSUS SERVED GOD UNTIL HE WAS VERY OLD. HE DID NOT WAIT UNTIL HE WAS OLD TO START BEING HOLY, AND HE DID NOT STOP EVEN WHEN HE WAS OLD AND TIRED. THINK OF HOW MUCH GOOD WE CAN DO IF GOD GIVES US A LONG LIFE! WE CAN PRAY TO ST. NARCISSUS FOR PERSEVERANCE.

Psalm 126 Word Puzzle

Fill in the missing letters. Then use the letters to fill in the blanks at the very end. The number at the end of each line tells you where the letter goes.

When the ord brought back (8)
 the captives of Z on, (7)
 we were like men reaming. (11)
 Then our mouth was illed with laughter, (6)
 and our t ngue with rejoicing. (17)
 Then they said among the n tions, (3)

"The Lord as done (15)
 g eat things for them!" (4)
 The Lord has done great hings for us; (14)
 we are g ad indeed. (9)
 Restore our fortun s, O Lord, (5)
 I ke the torrents in the southern desert. (13)
 Those that so in tears (12)
 shall reap re oicing. (16)
 Although they go forth eeping, (1)
 carrying the s ed to be sown, (2)
 They shall com back rejoicing, (10)
 carr ing their sheaves. (18)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11
 12 13 14 15
 16 17 18

