

Homily – Fourth Sunday of Lent (Year A) (From Blindness to Light)

My dear brothers and sisters, today the Word of God speaks to us about **seeing and blindness**—not just physical sight, but spiritual sight. In the Gospel, Jesus heals a man who was blind from birth. But interestingly, the real blindness in the story is not the blindness of the man—it is the blindness of the Pharisees who refuse to see the truth. This Sunday invites us to ask ourselves an important question: **Are we truly seeing with the eyes of faith, or are we spiritually blind?**

In the first reading, God sends Samuel to choose a new king for Israel. Samuel looks at the strong and impressive sons of Jesse and thinks they must be the ones chosen by God. But God tells him something very important: **“Man sees the appearance, but the Lord looks into the heart.”** Eventually, God chooses David, the youngest and least expected son. This teaches us that God does not judge the way the world judges. People look at status, appearance, wealth, or success, but God looks at humility, sincerity, and love.

This message is very practical for our daily lives. Sometimes we judge people too quickly. We look at someone's job, clothing, education, or background and decide their value. But God reminds us today: **look at the heart.** There may be people around us who appear ordinary, but they are rich in kindness, faith, and generosity.

The Gospel tells us about the man born blind. Jesus heals him by putting mud on his eyes and asking him to wash in the pool of Siloam. After washing, the man receives his sight. But instead of celebrating the miracle, the Pharisees begin to question and criticize. They are more concerned about rules and their own authority than about the beautiful work God has done.

Here we see two different attitudes. The blind man is simple and open to God. Step by step, his faith grows. First he calls Jesus **“the man called Jesus.”** Then he calls Him **“a prophet.”** Finally, when he meets Jesus again, he believes and worships Him as **Lord.** His physical healing leads him to **spiritual sight.**

But the Pharisees move in the opposite direction. They see the miracle, they hear the testimony, yet they refuse to believe. Their pride prevents them from recognizing God's work. They think they already know everything, and because of that, they remain spiritually blind.

This can also happen to us. Sometimes we think we already know everything about faith, about people, about life. Pride can close our hearts. We may refuse to admit our mistakes or change our attitudes. When we stop listening to God, we slowly become spiritually blind.

Saint Paul in the second reading reminds us: **“You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light.”** To live in the light means living in goodness, truth, honesty, and love. A person who walks in the light tries to forgive others, help those in need, speak the truth, and avoid gossip, hatred, and selfishness.

Lent is a special time for us to allow Jesus to **heal our blindness**. Perhaps we are blind to the suffering of people around us. Maybe we are blind to our own faults. Maybe we are blind to the many blessings God gives us every day. Like the blind man in the Gospel, we must allow Jesus to touch our lives and open our eyes.

How can we do this in practical ways? First, through **prayer**, asking God to help us see the truth about ourselves and others. Second, through **humility**, recognizing that we still have much to learn. Third, through **acts of kindness**, because when we serve others, our hearts become more open to God’s light.

My dear friends, every time we come to church, every time we listen to the Word of God, Jesus is trying to open our eyes. He wants us to see life with faith, hope, and love.

Today let us pray like the man in the Gospel:

“Lord, I want to see.”

If we sincerely ask for that grace, Jesus will lead us from darkness into His wonderful light. And when our eyes are opened, we will not only see better—we will also live better.

Question for Reflection:

What areas of my life might still be spiritually blind, and how is Jesus inviting me to open my eyes to His truth and light today?