28 October 2018 - 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

From the Desk of the Pastor ....

An ‘oracle of consolation’ regarding the restoration of Israel finds its fulfillment in the person of Jesus, our merciful High priest. His healing of the blind man witnesses to the inauguration of the kingdom of God.

Often the blind can see more than those who have sight. However much this may sound a contradiction, we know that there are more ways of “seeing” than through our eyes. In Today’s Gospel, we encounter a man called Bartimaeus. He had never set eyes on Jesus - we are told he was blind. Yet he had more faith in Jesus than many of those who saw him. The fact that we have two good eyes does not mean that we see what is important in life. Sometimes the problem is not what we cannot see, but that we won’t see.

Bartimaeus cried out, “Master I want to see!” and Jesus told him, “Go your way, your faith has saved you”. The Gospel tells us that he “Immediately, received his sight and followed him on the way”.

Lord, many People today sit at the roadside of life begging, not for money but for love, for attention, for companionship, for a feeling that they are important that their life has a meaning.

In a sense they could be blind, for they cannot see a way out of their predicament. Perhaps they are embarrassed to cry for help. Perhaps they are afraid of being silenced by the indifference of others. Perhaps they need a kind person to stop and ask: “What can I do for you?”

Lord that I may see! See my brothers and sisters in their need; that I may hear their silent cries, which I may not pass by. For I too was a beggar (panhandler), but you enriched me, I too fell off the wagon so many times, and people ‘gave up’ on me, but you heard my cries I too was blind and you enlightened me.

PARISH COMMUNITY NEWS

Thursday, November 1, All Saints Day, is a Holy Day of Obligation masses will be at 9:00 am, 11:00 am in English and 7:00 pm in Spanish.

All Saints Day is a special feast day on which Catholics celebrate all the saints, known and unknown. While most saints have a particular feast day on the Catholic calendar (usually, though not always, the date of their death), not all of those feast days are observed. And saints who have not been canonized — those who are in Heaven, but whose sainthood is known only to God — have no particular feast day. In a special way, All Saints Day is their feast.

All Souls Novena

Our annual All Souls Novena begins on November 2nd at the 9:00 am mass. Novena remembrance envelopes are available in the vestibule of the church. You may write the names of your deceased loved ones on the envelopes which will be placed on the Altar during all masses in the month of November.

All Souls’ Shrine: On the Feast of All Souls we will have a special shrine for all our departed loved ones. You are welcomed to bring a small photograph to include in the shrine. The shrine will be located in the baptismal side altar. The shrine will be on display during the All Souls Novena. Please remember to write your name and phone number on the back of the photograph. For those who do not have a photograph you are invited to write the names of your loved ones on the notebook next to the shrine.

Prayer for our beloved deceased: In your hands, O Lord, we humbly entrust our brothers and sisters. In this life you embraced them with your tender love; deliver them now from every evil and bid them eternal rest. The old order has passed away, welcome them into paradise, where there will be no sorrow, no weeping or pain, but fullness of peace and joy with your Son and the Holy Spirit forever and ever. Amen

LAST WEEK’S COLLECTION COLECTA DE LA SEMANA PASADA

Oct 16th - Oct 21st, 2018

Tuesday’s Spec coll. .......... $ 72.00
Tuesday On-line giving .......... $ 131.00
Weekend Offering .......... $ 3,115.00
Weekend On-line giving .......... $ 255.00
World Mission Sunday .......... $ 1,284.00
Mission On-Line giving .......... $ 5.00

BROKEN: Today’s readings are about those whom society often looks down on, those who are physically disabled, who have been imprisoned. We read about those whose losses are so great that they cannot stop weeping. Hebrews reminds us that even those in the exalted position of priest are themselves beset by weakness. Weakness is at the very heart of the priest’s ability to minister to others. Finally it is a blind man, shouting from the side of the road, shushed by those around him, told not to make a scene, whom Jesus sees. His sight is returned because of his faith, and his first choice as a sighted person is to follow Jesus. The lesson of today’s readings is that God is focused on the marginalized, on the outsiders, on those whom we too often try to silence. God is focused on those parts of ourselves, our weaknesses that we try to hide by turning our attention to anything else. The readings are all about the less-than-perfect. They talk about weakness, deep crushing sorrow, brokenness that is part of our humanity, and the love of God for us all.