

## The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

### Matthew 9:27-35

And when Jesus departed thence, two blind men followed Him, crying, and saying, Thou son of David, have mercy on us. And when He was come into the house, the blind men came to Him: and Jesus saith unto them, Believe ye that I am able to do this? They said unto Him, Yea, Lord. Then touched He their eyes, saying, According to your faith be it unto you. And their eyes were opened; and Jesus straitly charged them, saying, See that no man know it. But they, when they were departed, spread abroad His fame in all that country. As they went out, behold, they brought to Him a dumb man possessed with a devil. And when the devil was cast out, the dumb spake: and the multitudes marvelled, saying, It was never so seen in Israel. But the Pharisees said, He casteth out devils through the prince of the devils. And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. (KJV)

The present Gospel makes clear that Jesus Christ is the healer of every sickness and disease. Faith certainly has a place in the healing. Drawing near to Jesus Christ and personally experiencing Christ is involved in the healing.

The Gospel describes the healing of two blind men and the curing of a person unable to speak due to being possessed by the devil. Jesus Christ's additional healings are further described in today's Gospel.

The Church wants believers to take the Gospel seriously. Attentive listeners are deeply affected by Jesus Christ's power over the devil and every sickness and disease. Every person's soul needs healing of the sickness and disease of sin.

Every person is a sinner. Each believer benefits by approaching the Lord Jesus Christ in repentance and strong faith. Healing the soul improves the heart, mind and body.

The eyes provide the believer the view of the world. Vision penetrates to the depths of the heart, mind and soul. The blind men seeking mercy from Jesus Christ were blessed to be healed and to see the world in ways previously unknown.

Jesus Christ opens the eyes of faithful believers to see the world with understanding. Believers find personal rest and are at peace when viewing the world through Jesus Christ.

The devil succumbs to Jesus Christ's power as described in the present Gospel. Believers need not fear the devil nor be defeated by the devil if they remain united with Jesus Christ.

The length of life's journey from the baptismal font to the last breath remains unknown for each person. Remaining united with Jesus Christ is essential for entry into the heavenly Kingdom and eternal life.

Viewing the world through Jesus Christ enables the believer to discern the path to the heavenly Kingdom and eternal life. Firm unity with Jesus Christ protects the believer against attacks by the devil.

Jesus Christ is the best protection against all forms of sickness, disease and afflictions. When sickness, disease or afflictions arise in life, faith in Jesus puts them into perspective and turns them into benefits for the soul.

Believers are challenged to live in Christ at every moment of time from Holy Baptism until departure from this life. The Church offers the necessary nourishment for constant unity with Christ for life's journey.

The Gospel proclaimed in each Divine Liturgy serves to nourish the soul and guide the believer in daily life. Attentiveness to the Gospel is beneficial throughout earthly life.

Jesus Christ is ever-present and within reach of each person. Jesus Christ provides security for every moment of life. The believer need only reach out in serious prayer to be firmly anchored in Christ.

God's saints and martyrs are beneficial witnesses through the centuries of being united with Jesus Christ. The men healed of blindness and the man freed of the devil in the current Gospel stand firmly as proof of Jesus' healing power.

Believers need not continue to live with a sick and diseased soul affecting health of the mind, heart and body. Healing awaits each person in Jesus Christ. Repentance, resolute prayer and strong faith make a difference.

Life is difficult in every age. Evil is always present. Life's challenges require great resources. Jesus Christ is the guide through the ages. Jesus Christ the healer must always be kept in mind.

God's Holy Church stands as the fortress and place of refuge and healing in times of distress and concern. The blind men and the man afflicted by the devil found healing and peace in Jesus Christ.

Thank God for the Church proclaiming the Gospel in the world through the centuries. Thank God for the Gospel verifying and teaching about Jesus' healing power.

Jesus is the way to bring personal suffering to an end. Jesus is the way to the heavenly Kingdom and eternal life. God's Holy Church assures believers of Jesus' teachings and healing power.

The Church has records through the centuries of healings by Jesus Christ. Healings occur every day in every century. History validates: "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever." (Heb. 13:8)

---

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost. Holy 45 Martyrs of Nicopolis in Armenia. July 10/23, 2023. Venerable Anthony of the Kiev Caves. Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania. Father Rodney Torbic