

The Sunday of the Blind Man

John 9:1-38

And as Jesus passed by, He saw a man which was blind from his birth. And His disciples asked Him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind? Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him. I must work the works of him that sent Me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world. When He had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay, And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing. The neighbours therefore, and they which before had seen him that he was blind, said, Is not this he that sat and begged? Some said, This is he: others said, He is like him: but he said, I am he. Therefore said they unto him, How were thine eyes opened? He answered and said, A man that is called Jesus made clay, and anointed mine eyes, and said unto me, Go to the pool of Siloam, and wash: and I went and washed, and I received sight. Then said they unto him, Where is He? He said, I know not. They brought to the Pharisees him that aforetime was blind. And it was the sabbath day when Jesus made the clay, and opened his eyes. Then again the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. He said unto them, He put clay upon mine eyes, and I washed, and do see. Therefore said some of the Pharisees, This Man is not of God, because He keepeth not the sabbath day. Others said, How can a man that is a sinner do such miracles? And there was a division among them. They say unto the blind man again, What sayest thou of Him, that He hath opened thine eyes? He said, He is a prophet. But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind, and received his sight, until they called the parents of him that had received his sight. And they asked them, saying, Is this your son, who ye say was born blind? how then doth he now see? His parents answered them and said, We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind: But by what means he now seeth, we know not; or who hath opened his eyes, we know not: he is of age; ask him: he shall speak for himself. These words spake his parents, because they feared the Jews: for the Jews had agreed already, that if any man did confess that He was Christ, he should be put out of the synagogue. Therefore said his parents, He is of age; ask him. Then again called they the man that was blind, and said unto him, Give God the praise: we know that this Man is a sinner. He answered and said, Whether He be a sinner or no, I know not: one thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see. Then said they to him again, What did He to thee? how opened He thine eyes? He answered them, I have told you already, and ye did not hear: wherefore would ye hear it again? will ye also be His disciples? Then they reviled him, and said, Thou art His disciple; but we are Moses' disciples. We know that God spake unto Moses: as for this fellow, we know not from whence He is. The man answered and said unto them, Why herein is a marvellous thing, that ye know not from whence He is, and yet he hath opened mine eyes. Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth. Since the world began was it not heard that any man opened the eyes of one that was born blind. If this Man were not of God, He could do nothing. They answered and said unto him, Thou wast altogether born in sins, and dost thou teach us? And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when He had found him, he said unto him, Dost thou believe on the Son of God? He answered and said, Who is he, Lord, that I might believe on him? And Jesus said unto him, Thou hast both seen Him, and it is He that talketh with thee. And he said, Lord, I believe. And he worshipped Him. (KJV)

Hristos Voskrese! Vaistinu Voskrese! Christ is Risen Indeed He is Risen!

Hristos a inviat! Adevarat a inviat! Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti!

The Sunday of the Blind Man

God's Holy Church continues to celebrate the Lord Jesus Christ's Resurrection. Resurrection joy permeates the Divine services. Resurrection joy merits first place in the hearts, minds and souls of believers.

The healing of the blind man in the present Gospel is an account of joy. The blind man when healed was resurrected in life. He went from the darkness of blindness to witness the Light of the World, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Healing the blind man brought Light to the darkness of minds through the centuries. The healing of the blind man is a story of permanent hope that cannot be subdued or hidden. Individuals blind to Jesus Christ find joy in their lives when embracing the Risen Christ.

Individuals opening their eyes to the presence of Christ see life differently. The darkness associated with Jesus' absence in a person's life is eradicated when the eyes, heart and mind are opened to Christ.

The soul welcoming Jesus Christ is transformed, purified and filled with peace and joy. The believer embracing and seeing the presence of Christ in daily life is filled with Hope, Life and Light.

God's Holy Church witnesses to the Resurrected Christ in the Divine services. Jesus Christ is present in the Holy Mysteries for believers to experience. Believers with eyes to see will experience the Resurrected Jesus each day of life, throughout life.

Darkness in the world cannot dim the Light of the Resurrected Christ. The Light of the Resurrected Christ has shined through the centuries. Those with eyes to see will see the Light of Christ throughout all of time.

The soul of each person hungers for the Resurrected Christ. Believers facing darkness in the world find the path to God's Kingdom by looking to the Resurrected Christ. The Church is present for believers to experience the path to the Kingdom.

The blind man in the present Gospel was blessed to personally experience Jesus. Every believer baptized into Christ and partaking of the Precious Body and Blood of Christ personally experiences Jesus Christ.

Believers experience Jesus personally and in communion with other believers in the Church. The common unity in Christ is exemplified in the partaking of the Precious Body and Blood. Those with eyes to see will appreciate the common bond in Christ existing in faithful believers.

Jesus' love for each person is manifested in His Body and Blood being available to each believer approaching the holy chalice. Witnessing the joy of partakers of the Precious Body and Blood verifies the common bond in Christ.

Jesus healed the blind man. Jesus taught the man was blind through no fault of his own. People today may similarly suffer an affliction that the glory of God may be manifested in them. The man's blindness became a blessing for him and for all in centuries after him.

We must trust that God still is doing similar miracles which we may not understand at first but will understand with the passing of time. God chose when to heal the blind man. God will choose when to reveal present day miracles for the benefit all of humanity.

Patience in life is important. The blind man was patient and suffered many years in his blindness. When Jesus entered the man's life, the man became a special and unique person remembered and benefitting others beyond number. Hristos Voskrese! Christ is Risen!

The Sunday of the Blind Man. Holy Virgin Martyr Pelagia of Tarsus,
May 4/17, 2026. Father Rodney Torbic