

He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him'. The man himself said, 'I am the man'.

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see'. Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God; he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you'. The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

Longer form. 9:1-41

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'WE ARE NOT BLIND!'

The rich theological symbolism evident from last Sunday's Gospel of John continues in today's drama between light and darkness. Jesus meets a man born blind and tells him to wash in the sanctified pool of Siloam south of the temple. The blind man returns able to see. Over several scenes in one of the most dramatic and engaging stories in all the Gospels, the man who now has vision is consistently interrogated by the religious authorities who, though they are supposed 'to see', move into spiritual blindness.

The dynamic evident in the story is that each time the man is interrogated, he goes back to his experience of being healed by Jesus. Each reflection moves him to a deeper realisation of what has happened and who Jesus is: at first he calls Jesus simply 'a man', then later, that Jesus is 'from God', until finally, the man worships him. This movement of faith into light is accompanied by a similar movement into darkness by the religious leaders. They fail to see that they have become blind to Jesus and his deeds of healing (which John calls 'signs'). 'We are not blind, surely?' they retort.

This drama is acted out in our day. Jesus' final words to his antagonists and John's audience are forever relevant. 'Blind?' questions Jesus, 'If you were, you would not be guilty, but since you say, "We see", your guilt remains.' This clarity of understanding and insight is important in a world where truth is camouflaged as falsehood and lies proclaimed as truth. We need to journey with the man born blind, to reflect on our experiences, to be with Jesus and 'see'.

Fr Michael Trainor

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT / A

FIRST READING

1 Sam 16:1, 6-7, 10-13

A reading from the first book of Samuel

In the presence of the Lord God, they anointed David king of Israel.

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

■ The word of the Lord.

Ps 22. v. 1

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd; / there is nothing I shall want. / Fresh and green are the pastures / where he gives me repose. / Near restful waters he leads me, / to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**
2. He guides me along the right path; / he is true to his name. / If I should walk in the valley of darkness / no evil would I fear. / You are there with your crook and your staff; / with these you give me comfort. **R.**
3. You have prepared a banquet for me / in the sight of my foes. / My head you have anointed with oil; / my cup is overflowing. **R.**
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me / all the days of my life. / In the Lord's own house shall I dwell / for ever and ever. **R.**



SECOND READING

Eph 5:8-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

In 8:12

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL

Jn 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth.



ST PETER CHANEL CATHOLIC PARISH

Under the Pastoral Care of the Claretian Missionaries

848 Ballarat Road, Deer Park 3023

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Asst. Priests: Fr. John Pham, CMF; Fr. Luis F. Rev, CMF

Parish Secretary - Rosemarie Mendoza

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Website: www.cam.org.au/deerpark

Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 9:00am - 3:00pm



ADORATION CHAPEL

"The Master is here and wants to see you" John 11:28

Adorers are needed for these hours:

Tuesday: 1am, 2am, 3am, 4am, 11pm

Friday: 8pm

Contact: Lucy Sgro 0424056823

NO 12:00 PM MASS on Thursday 19 March. All our Priests will be attending the Clergy Lenten

Recollection with Archbishop Comensoli

NO 12:00 PM MASS on Saturday 21 March due to Confirmation of SPC Primary School students

CONFIRMATION Let us pray for the Students from SPC Primary School who Will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday, 21 March.

Solemnity, St Patrick, bishop Tuesday, 17 March

Solemnity, St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary Thursday, 19 March

Lectors, Commentators, EO of Holy Communion special meeting with Fr Mon on Sunday, 22 March at 2:00 PM in the church. Your attendance is essential

DEATH REMEMBRANCE: Joseph Grima, Emanuel Attard, Lorenza dela Cruz, Luigi Schiena, Maria Concetta Dicarlu, Roko Koprivanac, John Xerri, Socrates Molina Jr, Ferdie Eimermacher, Socrates Molina Sr, Carmen, Frank & Joe Gauci, Emeterio Prado Sr, Presentacion Prado, Tony Cordina, Juan & Lucia Ternura, Vincent Paul Onuoha, Mario Anthony Fernando, Alloy Perera, Danilo Celestino, Robert Pavay, Fr Leon Babipulle, Fr John O'Reilly, Lily Catuaan, Nicola & Tomasina Martinis, Savatore & Carmel Origilia, Erlina Gauna, John Schroen, All Souls in Purgatory

RECENT DEATH: Namalee, Joe Portelli, Kraig Anthony Pirootta, Solomona, Paul Dickinson, Phero Hoang Gia Hue

SPECIAL INTENTION: Jerin Joel, Nobin Joel, Paul Pynadath family, Helen

HEALING: Pauline Gatt, Tony & Agatha Saliba, Arlyn, Charlie & Helen Aquilina, Arlyn Lim, Ynna Dayrit, Fatima

THANKSGIVING: Claudia Sosa, Lann Josef Concel, Jacob Mantineo, Adelina Roberts, Cherry Liya Eduardo Nepomuceno, Tita Caliza, Teresa Nguyen, Annaliza Diaz, Melvin Tumalak

THIS WEEK: 15 March 2026 - Fourth Sunday of Lent - A

	7:00pm	7:00am	8:30am	10:00am	12:00pm	6:00pm
Commentator 1st Reader 2nd Reader	Delia J Jennifer S AA Aguilar	Alister R Susan C Telmo E	Hilda D S Kumudu M Rukmal M	Julie Ann M Jennifer G Greah P	Gloria T Arlene P Evelyn N	Andrea C D Lobo C Tayag
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Joan S Charmaine R Ernesto Co Nick S L	Richelle C Stefan P	Roland D Ronald D Thi Pham Wynna D	Alvin G Lidia L Antonietta C Nonie G	Oliver T Jacqueline R Emmanuel CS Kirk D G R	Diana T Maria Sulfaro Joe C Marie
Altar Servers	Ric M	Tony Cilia	Adrian D A	Henry Fawaz	Raphael P Rev S Anelle Mary Ann	Jericho Jude Jherzielle
Choirs	Eucharistic Choir	AHFI	MWF with LIHM Sisters	Emmaus	Lea Lapid	Exxemoz

NEXT WEEK: 22 March 2026 - Fifth Sunday of Lent - A

	7:00pm	7:00am	8:30am	10:00am	12:00pm	6:00pm
Commentator 1st Reader 2nd Reader	Grace s L Antonietta C Glan S L	Richelle C AA Aguilar RJ Baculo	Mario N Kathrene T Lorraine B	Nelissa D Nonie G Roger S J	Flora S Diana T Mel O	A Tayag E Binuya R Victoria
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Ric M Delia J Nick S L Charmaine R	Richelle C Stefan P	Hilda D S Rukmal M Roland D Ferdinand T	Anna C Maria Sulfaro Joe M Marilou S J	Marvin D Kirk D G R Candida D S Tami M	Teo C Gloria T Oliver T Marie E
Altar Servers	Ric M	Tony Cilia	Adrian D A	Henry Fawaz	Raphael P Rev S Anelle Mary Ann	Jericho Jude Jherzielle
Choirs	Light of Jesus (LOJ)	AHFI	Mt Horeb	CFCA	Exxemoz	MWF with LIHM Sisters

DAYS OF RECOLLECTION:

Friday, 27 March - 6:30 pm & 7:30pm
Monday, 30 March - 6:30 pm & 7:30pm
Wednesday, 1 April - 6:30 pm & 7:30pm

Stations of the Cross. Every Friday at 7:45am and 6:15pm before evening mass during the entire season of Lent

Project Compassion Unite Against Poverty this Lent, by taking part in Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available in the foyer of the church or by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling 02 7254 5120

Sacramental Program. Classes for First Reconciliation, First Communion & Confirmation for children attending State School. Every Monday, 6:45pm, SPC Hall Contact: Brother Angelo Abela

Blessing of Project Compassion boxes on Holy Thursday. There will be blessing of Project Compassion boxes on Holy Thursday during the Mass of the Lord's Supper as part of our offering. Thank you.

Next Week: 22 March 2026
Fifth Sunday of Lent - A

A VOCATION VIEW

If we can't see where we're going, we'll never get there.
The Good Shepherd leads us to green pastures, refreshes our souls and brings light to a darkened world.