

PARISH OF ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

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March 21st/22nd 2020 – Fourth Sunday of Lent

❖ Fourth Sunday of Lent

The gospel of today's Mass contains the wonderful words of Christ: "I am the light of the world". Christ is the light of the world and the light of our lives. Let us think about how much we need his light to guide us through the darkness of life.

❖ First Reading: (1Sam. 16:6-7; 10-13)

God chose David, the least of Jesse's sons, to be king of Israel. While people look at appearances, God looks at the heart.

❖ Second Reading: (Eph. 5:8-14)

Paul tells us the Ephesians that now that Christ has enlightened them, they must adopt a lifestyle in keeping with their new state.

❖ Gospel: (John 9:1-41)

Jesus, the light of the world, not only gives sight to the physically blind, but the light of faith to the spiritually blind.

The gospel story is a lesson on the growth in faith. The climax of the story comes when the man makes a profession of faith in Jesus: 'Lord, I believe'. His journey from blindness to sight symbolizes the journey from unbelief to belief, which is a journey from darkness to light. St. Paul says: 'Once you were in darkness, now you are light in the Lord'. Sadly, while the blind man receives his sight, the Pharisees, who are physically sighted, become more and more spiritually blind.

There are many different kinds of blindness besides physical blindness.

- Selfishness blinds us to the needs of others.
- Insensitivity blinds us to the hurt we cause others.
- Snobbery blinds us to the equal dignity of others.
- Pride blinds us to our own faults.
- Prejudice blinds us to the truth.
- Materialism blinds us to spiritual values.
- Superficiality blinds us to a person's true worth and causes us to judge by appearances.

❖ MASS INTENTIONS:

SATURDAY	6.30pm	Ernie and Mary Walsh Denny and Peggy Twomey Anniversaries
SUNDAY	10.00am	Roslyn Cobb 10th Anniversary
	11.00am	Fr. Eugene Kennedy 1st Anniversary
	12.15pm	Gerald and Anne Clynes Anniversary

❖ REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

*Pray for the souls of Cathy Horgan, Frankie O'Reilly,
Mary McSweeney RIP*

*Also, Aine Gallagher (Birthday Remembrance), Pat Tobin Snr.,
Peter Crowe, John and Nora McGivern, Tony Connolly,
Gerald Higgins, Gretta McLaughlin, Des and Nellie Finnegan
whose anniversaries occur at this time and all those whose
names are on the Altar List of the Dead.*