

The Holy Drama of Grace
Fourth Sunday of Lent (Year A)

This is the conclusion to the story of the healing of the man born blind. It is the fifth of seven signs (miracles) in John's Gospel that point to the divinity of our Lord. This healing especially confirmed Jesus' teaching from the previous chapter: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life" (John 8:12). Jesus was the Light Who came to dispel all darkness, and now He illustrates this fact by opening the eyes of the blind man. This story is quite long and detailed. The details it includes makes it much more than a miracle. It is also a dramatic story revealing both the consequences of rejecting Jesus, as well as the blessings received by one who turns to Jesus in faith.

We begin with the detail that this man has been blind since birth. It was a common misconception at that time that such a birth defect might have been caused by the sins of the parents. In part, this came from a misreading of Exodus 20:5-6 in which God said that He inflicts punishment "on the children of those who hate me, down to the third and fourth generation." Jesus makes it clear that this was not the case; this man's blindness was a result of the natural disorder experienced by humanity as a result of original sin. If humanity had never been cast out of the Garden of Eden, disease and natural disorders would have never existed. For this reason, we should understand that we are all "blind" in the sense of being born into the state of original sin and are, therefore, in need of the grace of spiritual sight.

The healing of this man is done purely on Jesus' initiative. This shows that God's healing action in our lives is always His initiative. But Jesus clearly offered this man healing because He knew the man would eventually come to faith in Him, which is the far more important healing that took place in this story.

After the man is healed, a very interesting drama unfolds. The Pharisees hear of the healing and begin to interrogate the man. Afterwards, they also interrogate the man's parents and then the man for a second time. Throughout their interrogations, two things happen. First, the Pharisees slowly become more agitated, more irrational and end by completely rejecting both this miraculous sign and Jesus Himself. The man, however, begins with what appears to be a bit of ignorance about Jesus, but as he is interrogated and challenged to explain his healing, he deepens and clarifies his convictions, ending in the deepest faith when he cries out to Jesus, "I do believe, Lord." Then we are told that the man worshiped Jesus.

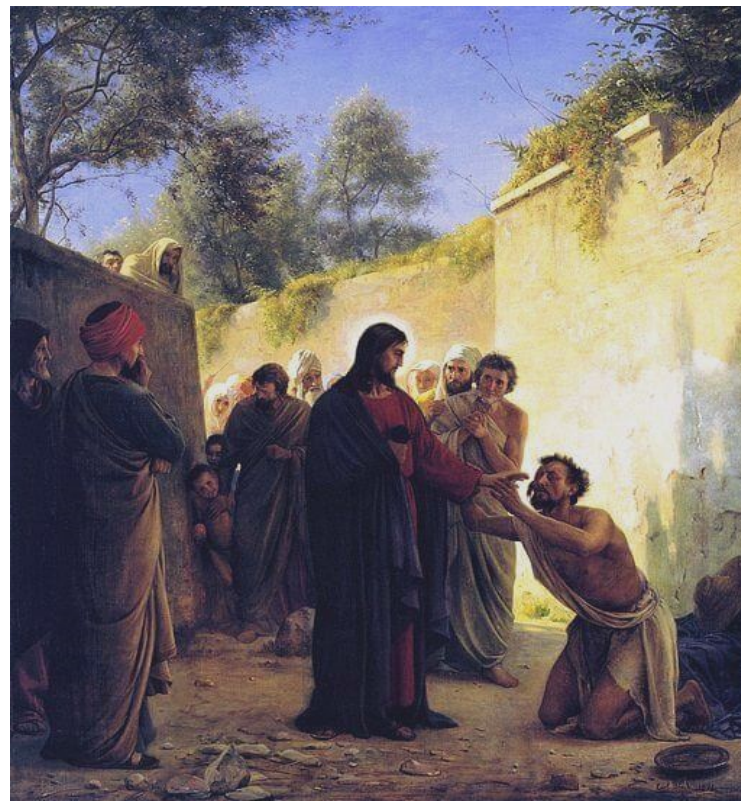
The dramatic unfolding of this story teaches us that when we are given the grace of God by hearing His holy Word spoken and witnessing His mighty hand at work, we must make a choice. Either we will respond in faith and slowly be drawn deeper into that faith, or we will rationalise it away and reject God's saving action in our lives. It is not possible to simply remain indifferent to the Gospel when we hear it spoken or when we see its effects changing us or others.

Reflect, today, upon the two paths this sign from Heaven had on those present to this miracle. You too, are present to this miracle through your reading of it. How will you respond? Will you imitate the Pharisees and discount the deep spiritual truths this action conveys? Or will you open yourself to the transforming power of this healing? Commit yourself to the path of this blind man. Say to our Lord, "I do believe, Lord." Apply those words to every action of Jesus in your life and allow that faith to lead you into worship of Him Who is the Light of the World.

Quote of the Week

"See the light in others, and treat them as if that is all that you see."

Author Unknown



Prayer

My miraculous Lord,

I want to see.

Help me to be healed of my blindness.

Help me to see You at work

in every ordinary activity of my life.

Help me to see Your divine grace


in the smallest events of my day.

And as I see You alive and active,

fill my heart with gratitude for this vision.


Jesus, I trust in You.

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HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES

At Holy Cross Family Ministries (HCFM), we believe every family needs and deserves access to high-quality prayer and faith experiences and resources. We are a mission-driven family of Catholic ministries. Our mission is clear: We are dedicated to inspiring, promoting and fostering the prayer life and spiritual well-being of families throughout the world. Families are served through faith-based video series, prayer retreats, world-wide Rosary distribution, and numerous interactive and in-person engaging prayer experiences! Eighty years after Father Peyton began our ministry, the essence of Father Peyton's ministry is relevant and vibrant to families today. Father Peyton still inspires people all over the world by his holy life and the example of his strong and tender devotion to Our Blessed Mother. <https://www.hcfm.org/>



Rosary Prayer Group

Come along and pray the Rosary with us, each Friday morning after the 9:15 am Mass at Our Lady of the Manger Church. Weather permitting, we pray outside in the gardens, however during times of inclement weather, the Rosary is prayed inside the Church. All are welcome.



**WELCOME TO SACRED HEART PARISH
HINDMARSH-FINDON**

Website: www.sacredheartparishhindmarsh.com.au
Facebook: www.facebook.com/sacredheartfindonparish

IN THE CHARISM OF THE HEART OF CHRIST
'May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be everywhere loved'



19 March 2023



*Fourth Sunday
of Lent*

Year A

Responsorial Psalm

*The Lord is my Shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.*

Gospel Acclamation

*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!*

Today's Readings:

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

Psalm 22

Ephesians 5: 8-14

John 9: 1-41

Mass Intentions

6.00pm Vigil

Richard Saliba & Rita Gatt

9.00am SHC

Holy Souls in Purgatory
Donny Altamura (13th)

11:00am OLM

Parish

Our Churches

Sacred Heart Church (SHC)

252 Port Road, Hindmarsh

Our Lady of the Manger (OLM)

176 Crittenden Road, Findon

PARISH VISION STATEMENT

As a people who believe and trust in the love of God for us, revealed in the heart of Jesus, we live out this love in a welcoming and inclusive community that provides life-giving support and service to all people.

YOU ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US FOR MASS

- ◇ Tuesday 21 Mar 12:15 pm Mass at Sacred Heart Church (SHC) Hindmarsh
- ◇ **Wednesday 22 Mar 6:00 pm Stations at Our Lady of the Manger Church (OLM) Findon & Candlelight Mass**
- ◇ Friday 24 Mar 9:15 am Mass at Our Lady of the Manger Church (OLM) Findon
- ◇ **Friday 24 Mar 6:30 pm Stations at Sacred Heart Church (SHC) Hindmarsh**
- ◇ Saturday 25 Mar 6:00 pm Mass at Our Lady of the Manger Church (OLM) Findon
- ◇ Sunday 26 Mar 9:00 am Mass at Sacred Heart Church (SHC) Hindmarsh
- ◇ Sunday 26 Mar 11:00 am Mass at Our Lady of the Manger Church (OLM) Findon
- ◇ Sunday 26 Mar 5:00 pm Latin Mass at Sacred Heart Church (SHC) Hindmarsh

"I am the Light of the World."

Just who was this blind man? Interestingly, he does not have a name. He is only referred to as the "man blind from birth." This is significant in the Gospel of John because the lack of a name is also seen in the story of "the woman at the well." The fact that there is no name indicates that we too should see ourselves in this story.

"Blindness" is our inability to see the hand of God at work all around us. We struggle to see the daily miracles of God's grace alive in our lives and alive in the lives of others. This Scripture beckons us to strive to see our lack of sight. We should strive to realise that we so often do not see God at work. This realisation will inspire us to desire a spiritual healing. It will invite us to want to see God at work. The good news is ultimately is that Jesus cured this man, as He willingly cures us. To restore sight is easy for Jesus, and so let us pray a simple prayer, "Lord, I want to see!" The humble realisation of our blindness will invite God's grace to work. However, if we do not humbly acknowledge our blindness, we will not be in a position to seek healing.

How Jesus heals this man is also significant. He uses His own saliva to make mud and smear it on this man's eyes, which is not immediately that appealing. But it does reveal something quite significant to us. Namely, it reveals the fact that Jesus can use something exceptionally ordinary as a source of His divine grace!

If we look at this in a symbolic way we can come to some profound conclusions. Too often we look for God's action in the extraordinary. But He so often is present to us in that which is ordinary. Perhaps we will be tempted to think that God only works His grace through heroic acts of love or sacrifice. Perhaps we are tempted to think that God is not able to use our daily ordinary activities to perform His miracles. But this is not true. It is precisely those ordinary actions of life where God is present. He is present while washing the dishes, doing chores, driving a child to school, playing a game with a family member, carrying on a casual conversation or offering a helping hand. In fact, the more ordinary the activity, the more we should strive to see God at work. And when we do "see" Him at work in the ordinary activities of life, we will be healed of our spiritual blindness.

Reflect, today, upon this act of Jesus and allow our Lord to give you the gift of spiritual sight. And as you begin to see His presence in your life, you will be amazed at the beauty you behold.

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Invitation for Electronic Giving	First Collection	Second Collection
Account Name BSB—Account Number	Diocesan Presbytery 085005—585353994	Sacred Heart Parish Hindmarsh-Findon 085005-159172373
<i>Thank you for using this option</i>	Reference: "747-Your Name"	Reference: "Your Name"



Stations of the Cross during Lent will be held on:

Wednesdays at Our Lady of the Manger, 6:00pm | Fridays at Sacred Heart Church, 6:30pm

PARISH OFFICE | PHONE 08 8346 3901

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday | 10:00am—2:00pm
Please Note: If the office is unattended, please leave a message and we will return your call ASAP
29 Grange Rd., West Hindmarsh | Mailing address: PO Box 34, Welland 5007

E: shparish@shphf.com.au **Parish Priest:** Father Lancy D'Silva CSC **Assistant Priest:** Father Santhosh Nazareth CSC

March 2023

18 Mar Konkani Mass 6pm SHC
 19 Mar 4th Sunday of Lent (Laetare)
 20 Mar Solemnity of St Joseph, Husband of Mary
 21 Mar **Training for Extraordinary Ministers, SHC 6:30pm**
 25 Mar Solemnity of The Annunciation of the Lord
 28 Mar **Training for Lectors, SHC 6:30pm**
Liturgy Meeting, SHC 5:45pm

26 Mar 5th Sunday of Lent
 29 Mar Parish Pastoral Council Meeting, OLM 6:30pm
 Reconciliation Liturgy, OLM 6:00pm
 Reconciliation Liturgy, SHC 6:30pm

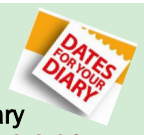
April 2023

02 Apr **Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion**
Daylight Savings Ends
 11am Italian Mass
 Chrism Mass, St Francis Xavier
 Cathedral 6:00pm

03 Apr **Holy Thursday of the Lord's Supper**
Good Friday of the Lord's Passion
Holy Saturday
Easter Sunday of the Lord's Resurrection

10 Apr Monday in the Octave of Easter
DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY
 2nd Sunday of Easter
Liturgy Meeting after 6pm Mass, OLM

19 Apr **3rd Sunday of Easter**
ANZAC Day
 26 Apr Feast of St Mark, Evangelist
 28 Apr St Peter Chanel, priest and Martyr



From the Archdiocese

Vincentian Spirituality Conference – Lefevre Catholic Community
 Vincentian Spirituality Presentation with Teresa Lynch, Training and Liaison officer supporting Vincentian Conferences across South Australia, will unpack key elements of Vincentian Spirituality through a presentation on **Sunday March 19 from 4pm-5pm** at the Lefevre Catholic Community Meeting Rooms, 253 Military Road, Semaphore. Enquiries to Fr Roderick O'Brien on P: 8449 6378. Certificates available for professional development. Please register with Fr Roderick before the event.

Lenten Retreat
Saturday 18th March 11am - 3.30pm Topic "Come Back to Me."
 Speaker: Fr Manu Kumbidiyamackal MSFS The day includes Talks, Reflection, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Reconciliation, Mass, Sacrament of Anointing. Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church 420 Seaview Road Henley Beach. Please bring your own food tea/coffee provided. Enquiries / bookings Pauline 0403002240. Cost by donation. All Welcome

Chrism Mass
 We welcome all to celebrate Mass of the Oils on Monday April 3 at St Francis Xavier's Cathedral at 6pm.
 Please note **NO** onsite car parking will be available. For more information please contact the Events Office on P: 8210 8220.

Syria-Turkey Earthquake Disaster - Caritas Australia is supporting our partners to provide urgent humanitarian aid. The 7.8 magnitude earthquake has unleashed devastation on Turkey and Syria, leaving thousands of people dead. After 12 years of war, Syria is at breaking point and desperately needs help. **Your support to help those affected by this catastrophe is invaluable.** Your generous donation means our partners in Turkey and Syria can respond swiftly to support the survivors of this unimaginable tragedy. Visit: www.caritas.org.au/syria-turkey /call 1800 024413 toll free to donate now.



Parish Fundraising Committee
 Are you interested in helping your community? Everyone is invited and welcome to join the Parish Fundraising Committee. **If you can spare a couple of hours once a month** to help plan and raise funds towards our much needed Community Centre, please contact Sandra Bahlij **0402 894 613** with your email address or sms. Please help us to support this worthy cause! We need you!



Another fundraising project we have running is **Collecting Bottles & Cans** to raise money for our Community Centre. Tuong has volunteered to collect for Findon, & we are looking for volunteers to do the same for Hindmarsh, see Sandra if you can help. Thank you!

	Start Time	Teams
March		
Fri 17th	4:40pm	Adelaide United vs Newcastle Jets
Double Header		Adelaide United vs Wellington Phoenix
April		
Fri 7th	4:30pm	Adelaide United vs Sydney FC
Sun 16th	4:30pm	Adelaide United vs Western United FC
Sat 29th	4:30pm	Adelaide United vs Central Coast Mariners

Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide
 Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion / Lectors
Nomination Forms for Parishes, Aged Care Facilities, Schools and Colleges

A meeting for **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion** will be held on: **March 21st at 6:30pm – 8pm in SHP Church** & for Lectors on **March 28th at 6:30pm – 8pm in SHP Church**

Baptisms
 We welcome into our faith Community **Trianna Callanan and Medelin Ina Ashta** who celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism at **Our Lady of the Manger Church Findon this Sunday 19th March 2023**
 Please keep **Trianna, Medelin and their families in your prayers.**

Calling all 16-35 year olds, if you are interested in travelling across the globe to attend **World Youth Day in Portugal, Lisbon** and travelling with the Disciples of Jesus group, please be in contact. We have lots more spots to fill to make a full group, so please pray and consider coming along. This event will be held between the **1st and the 6th of August 2023**, however, the full pilgrimage tour is from 26th July to 9th August. World Youth Day week is all about the universal Catholic church gathering from countries all over the world to celebrate with the Pope daily masses and sharing faith with fellow Christ followers. If this sounds like something you would like to be part of, please register at <https://bookings.wydjourneys.com/DOJ01>. Closes March 21st.

The **St Vinnies Easter Raffle** is on again! Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5. There are 3 Prizes of beautiful baskets of Easter Eggs. We thank you for supporting Vinnies.

LOST! A small 18ct gold engraved cross was lost last weekend at Sacred Heart Church / Hall. The cross is very sentimental as it was a gift. Please contact **Peter Oswald on 0402 841 270** if you find it. Thank you.

Come and See Parish Youth Group Nazareth Secondary Campus
1 Hartley Rd, Flinders Park 7:30pm to 9pm
Friday nights
 Run and supervised by the Preca Community.

"Darkness can only be scattered by light. Hatred can only be conquered by love." *Saint Pope John Paul II*

Liturgy Meetings
Tuesday 28th March @ Sacred Heart Church Hall; 5:45pm
Wednesday 19th April @ Our Lady of the Manger after 6pm Mass

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
Wednesday 29th March @ Our Lady of the Manger; 6:30pm

Holy Land Commissariat
 The collection for the support of the Church in the Holy Land will take place on **Good Friday, April 7th**. This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment, housing, Parishes, & orphanages. It is also used to maintain over 70 churches & shrines associated with the life of Jesus. Please remember the Christians of the Holy Land on Good Friday. Thank you.

Sacred Heart Parish Hindmarsh ~ Findon
 Sacred Heart Church 252 Port Road, Hindmarsh
 Our Lady of the Manger Church 176 Crittenden Road, Findon

Holy Week & Easter 2023

Wednesday March 29th Reconciliation Liturgy followed by Individual Confessions At 6.00pm at OLM Church, Findon

Friday March 31st Reconciliation Liturgy followed by Individual Confessions At 6.30pm at Sacred Heart Church, Hindmarsh

Palm Sunday

Saturday April 01st 6:00 pm Findon (Vigil Mass)

Sunday April 02nd Palm Sunday ~ Masses begin with Blessing of the Palms

9:00 am Hindmarsh
 11:00 am Findon
 11:00 am Hindmarsh (Italian)

Monday April 03rd Chrism Mass ~ Consecration of Holy Oils
 6:00 pm St Francis Xavier Cathedral ~ All welcome

Holy Thursday April 06th Holy Thursday - Mass of the Lord's Supper
 7:00 pm Hindmarsh

Please note:
 Collection of non-perishable food items for St Vincent de Paul

Good Friday April 07th Stations of the Cross
 10:00 am Hindmarsh (English)
 11:00 am Findon (to be led by the youth)

Good Friday - The Passion of The Lord
 3:00 pm Findon
 7:00 pm Compassion with Mary (Reflections)
 At Nazareth Secondary School, Flinders Park

Holy Saturday April 08th Easter Vigil
 7.30 pm Hindmarsh

Easter Sunday April 09th Easter Sunday
 9.00 am Hindmarsh
 11.00 am Findon

Individual Reconciliation by appointment with Fr Lancy & Fr Santhosh (Ph. 08 8346 3901)



Fourth Sunday of Lent

"Help us to see!"

S	R	E	N	N	I	S	L	E	T
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P	E	I	R	T	R	O	H	R	T
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BLIND SPAT PASTE
 SPITTLE SIGHT RESTORED
 PROPHET PARENTS DISCIPLES
 SINNERS DEVOUT BELIEVE



Church of Saint Leo the Great www.stleothegreat.com/childrens-corner
The Family That Prays Together Stays Together
 The Try Prayer! It Works! Contest...

Children of grades R-12 enrolled in a Catholic school, religious education program, parish, or other organization, including homeschool, are eligible to enter. Entries will be judged on content, ability to capture and interpret the theme, artistic and technical proficiency, and adherence to rules. The Contest is a simple way for teachers, catechists, and parents to encourage young people & their families to pray together. We provide an engaging prompt and reflection questions for families to discuss during dinner. Then, students use their creative skills to express their reflections in prose, poetry, artwork or video.

- PROSE** – Submit an essay of 50 to 250 words on A4 paper.
- POETRY** – On A4 paper, submit a poem of a minimum of 10 lines and a maximum of 30 lines. Poetry may rhyme or be written in free verse.
- ARTWORK** – (painting, drawing, scrapbooking, or collage) Any of these mediums can be submitted on no larger than A4 paper. Also, include a brief description of the work.
- VIDEO** – Videos may be no longer than two minutes. Ensure the file is saved and uploaded as an .MP4, .MOV, or .MPEG format and in Standard Definition. Each entry must be accompanied by an official entry form. Entry Forms are now available at the back of the Church / in the foyer for collection. **Prizes will be awarded to the best entries!**



Please submit your entries to the Parish by **no later than APRIL 30th 2023**. <https://www.familyrosary.org/tryprayer>
 Email: shparish@shphf.com.au or hand your entry to Father Lancy or Father Santhosh.

