



## 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" - Jn 9:35

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ILR

- Sat. March 21   ✠ Nicola Colangelo (Rosa Colangelo)
- ✠ Tony, Margaret & Bert Van Doorn (Horton Family)
- Sun. March 22   Miss Pro Populo
- Mon. March 23   ✠ Souls in Purgatory
- Tues. March 24   ✠ Ray Kardas (Jay Yurcich)
- ✠ Edward & Margaret, Ron & Loretta & Leo & Mary Manning (Hannah Reece)
- Wed. March 25   ✠ Henry Harju (Horton Family)
- Vern & Donna Walters (Teresa Walters)
- Thurs. March 26 ✠ Isaiah (Magazzeni Family)
- Fri. March 27   ✠ Wally & Sophie Paterak (Chris Meyo & Family)
- Sat. March 28   ✠ Marion Mullin (Teresa Walters)
- ✠ Joe Bajuk (Plesko Family)
- Sun. March 29   Missa Pro Populo

Many react to what life presents to them more with the lenses of ignorance than lenses of clarity. The Gospel carries great transformative value. With it, God corrects our vision and replaces our limited sight with the fullness of his sight. God opens our eyes so that we can see that it is not about preserving what we have created but of living in the immensity and wonder of God's kingdom.

Through a simple, loving relationship with God, we can break through the tethers of prejudice, eradicate fear, dispel the darkness of hatred and sin, discover freedom, live in peace, work for justice, be effective stewards of creation, assist the migrant and the immigrant, and safeguard our economic systems and policies so that they truly serve all of God's children. What we see is often an artificial lie. Our truth is much bigger than what our limited sight believes it to be. Allow God to work in and through you. Do not be afraid. Be open and be humble enough to know that you need help. Many human beings are living with severe cataracts that produce sight that is at best blurred. Are you one of them?

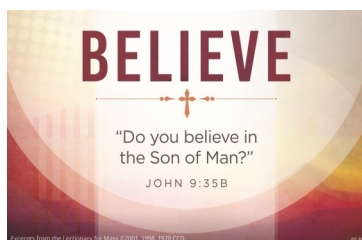
### The 6 Characteristics of an Everyday Stewardship for Lent – Gracious

Vacations can be great times for refueling the body and renewing bonds within a family and between friends. No matter how good the vacation was, it is almost always good to get home when it is over. Sleeping in our own bed, taking a shower in our own bathroom, and resting on our own couch are some of the aspects of home we can miss while on the road. That's why encountering truly gracious and hospitable people while we are away is so important.



These people are not family, but they sure can provide for us a glimpse of home. They can be waiters at a restaurant, desk hosts at a hotel, or even Uber drivers. They enrich our lives if for only a moment,

yet that moment can make all the difference. When disciples of Jesus Christ act in a gracious manner to all those they meet, they provide a glimpse of home. This home is not in a house in a particular location, but it is a home prepared for all of us for eternity. No matter how comfortable we may be in our earthly homes, it truly pales in comparison to eternity with God. In that heavenly home, there is no darkness, only light. There are no tears, only joy. There is no hate, only love.



"Do you believe in the Son of Man?" Jesus wants to motivate each one of us to see the truth. After developing a relationship with Jesus, the blind man

"sees" as someone very special. The Pharisees, due to the blindness caused by their ignorance, prejudice, and need for self-preservation, still remain blind. Presuppositions, prejudices, assumptions, and our needs can easily blind us to truth. We see what we want or need to see and not what is really there. In addition, our stubbornness continues to convince us that we are right and that our vision is perfect. Only God can complete the picture. Look around at our world. So much of what is happening today is due to the reluctance of folks to allow themselves to be stretched and brought to see what is really there.

We are ambassadors for heaven by how we offer ourselves to others. Our stewardship of hospitality allows others to see a glimpse of what God promises to us. Unless we truly step up and act in a gracious manner, will those we encounter ever know the Truth? I hate it when I am on the road and fail to meet people full of joy and welcome. At least I can look forward to coming home. What do those along the way look forward to in the next life that you can't show them a glimpse of in this one?