

Lent 5A

- Last few weeks here the readings have not come from the Missalette
 - I explained the 3 year cycle – this is year C
 - When a parish has people preparing for Baptism on Easter – year A
 - Blind Bartimaeus – Light to Dark **Death to Life**
 - Samaritan Woman at the well – Water **- Baptism**
 - Lazarus is raised from the dead – Death to Life
- Pattern is there on purpose – the Church brings all of us to the realization of
What it means to be Catholic Christians
- When Jervio and Zara are Baptized they begin a new life as Christians
BUT
- Problems will still be there, they will still encounter sin and trial
- BUT as Christians they'll have a new power to deal with them – FAITH
AND – The Church to support them
- Look at Martha, Mary and Lazarus
 - They knew Jesus – they ate with Him – He was their friend
 - When Lazarus was sick, they called for Jesus, sent Him a note
 - It's what we do when we have problems – we pray – but what happened to them?
 - NOTHING – Jesus didn't come.
 - They wanted healing – God wanted to give them something else
 - Same in our prayer – there is a difference between WANT and NEED
 - So 4 days go by – No Jesus
 - Lazarus dies, they have the viewing, the funeral, the burial – No Jesus
 - THEN – when it's all over – Jesus shows up.
 - It's all over now – hopeless – but listen to Martha?
 - “If you had been here he would not have died, but even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you.” FAITH
 - J – he will rise
 - M – on the last day
 - J – I am the resurrection and the life, whoever believes in me, even if he dies will live. Do you believe that?
 - M – Yes Lord, I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God.
 - **J – Lazarus, Come Out – *Transformation from death to life happens!***
He calls us too:
Harold come out! Olga come out! Tyrone come out! Sharon ...
- On Easter its going to happen again – Jervio, come out! Zara, come out!
From darkness to light
From slavery to freedom
From sin to forgiveness
- Jervio and Zara – come here, let's pray