

4th Sunday of Lent -A

On the first day of creation – what did God create? LIGHT – the 1st thing.

NOT DARKNESS – God didn't create darkness

We are children of light – we are called to focus on the light

Eph. Says “Live as children of light for light produces every kind of goodness, righteousness and truth. Take no part in the fruitless works of darkness.”

Let me ask you - Don't we tend to spend all our time focusing on the darkness?
In the Gospel Jesus brings sight to the blind man – again light conquers darkness.

I want to take a minute and have us imagine what it must have been like to be the blind man:

- Born blind from birth
- Parents knew him – but they weren't taking care of him, he had to beg
- Actually, his parents probably dropped him off at the gate each day
- Cast off – rejected – ridiculed
- *Assumption that he had sinned* – even by the disciples
- His value as a person was squat

Not to be outdone we have the 1st reading

- Then you have David (what was his worth in his father's eyes?)
 - o The prophet is coming to his house – to anoint a king.
 - o You would think you'd have all your sons there
 - o Jesse doesn't even have him in the room
 - o What was David worth in his father's eyes
- Each of us has, at some point has felt rejection, hurt, broken, cast off.
- Yet each of us is beloved – IN OUR BROKENNESS, Jesus calls us home
- Jesus calls us out of darkness, into the light – like the blind man.

The blind man was physically challenged – but he's not handicapped

HE IS ABLE TO RECOGNIZE JESUS – are we?

He's living in the Light of Christ – are we?

Each of us received the light of Christ at Baptism – what are we doing with it?

- During Lent we fast and pray and wait for the light of Easter – that we might see with light of Christ and bring it to others

Within our parish – every Wednesday night since last September we have people preparing to become Catholics. Some were baptized in other faiths, some are not – They're all seeking the Light of Christ

Today, Jeff and Shiobhan take another step towards their Baptism –

During the Easter Vigil Jeff and Shiobhan will be baptized they will join us as keepers of the light – and accept the responsibility to bring that light to the world.

JEFF & Shiobhan – come forward.