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## Blindness To Sight

Jesus gives us a very harsh warning about something that we need to avoid. But the problem is this: the very thing we need to avoid is a problem that we don't know we might have, so how are we going to avoid something that has escaped our awareness? I'm talking about spiritual blindness. Consider how we used to treat the mentally ill or the mentally challenged person. We just gathered them all into large institutions and basically forgot about them. Thank God that today we are seeing persons first as persons, and trying to see that the foundation of all treatment and help is based upon that basic fact. Only then can we offer real help to people in need. But that took a large shift in the way we saw things. Even today, some people in our society have very erroneous ideas about what it means to suffer a mental illness or a mental disability. Making a shift in the way we see is very hard. How can we recognize that we may be spiritually blind in some area of life? One thing we can do is to listen to those whom we would rather not listen to. Often it is the poet, the artist, the intellectual or the radical thinker who is seeing in a way that the rest of society is not seeing. It would be foolish of us to simply dismiss all those who think differently from us. We could be losing a lot. On our part, we need to pray for the grace of spiritual insight. Reading the signs of the times means paying close attention to what is happening in our particular culture and in other cultures around the world. God is still speaking. I pray that we may all become attentive listeners to God's word wherever we may find it.

### MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

Tues.	Mar. 04	9:00 am	RIP Gladys Solon	Ron & Jeannette Ediger
		7:00 pm	Homeless	CWL
Wed.	Mar. 05	9:00 am	RIP Frank Porco	Sally & Family
		9:00 am	Medical Personnel	League for Life
Thurs.	Mar. 06	9:00 am	Prisoners	Faith Sharing Group
Fairview Home		10:30 am	RIP Ralph Jaffray	Lawrence & Noreen Dubois
Fri.	Mar. 07	9:00 am	Mary Jane Kennedy	Ray & Anne West
		12:15 pm	RIP Suzanne Cancade	Jacquie DeCorby
Sat.	Mar. 08	10:00 am	A Wing & A Prayer	Jim and Carol
		5:00 pm	For All Parishioners	Fr. Dominic & Fr. Raju
		7:30 pm	RIP Crawford Conrad	Ken & Julie De Roo
Sun.	Mar. 09	9:00 am	Emily Potvin	Tony & Linda De Vliegere
		10:30 am	Thanksgiving	Long & Van
		12:30 pm	RIP Linda Janes De Pass	Eric & Kay
Rivers	Mar. 09	11:00 am	For All Parishioners	
	Mar. 16	11:00 am	Janusz Gnitecki	Your brother

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Ann Babiak, Melissa Bakker, Marguerite Bicknell, Jeanne Boutilier, Margaret Buckmire, Irene Copet, David Deis, Ann Delgaty, Noah Dheilily, Jared Dryden, Justin Enns, Mervin Fleury, Nora Fleury, Mary Gaab, Megan Gardham, Marcelle Granger-Gentes, Kay Gray, Pauline Hayde, Patricia Kallusky, Brett Lawrence, Tess McLaren, Kathleen MacDougall, Alisa Moran, Joan Napper, Moses Peech, Tony Petrucci, Hazel Philipott, Minnie Plaseski, Vanessa Sanko, Logan Scott, Monica Seitz, Coralie Serle, Gary Sproule, Jean Tarnowski, Doreen Thompson, Rosa Weiss, and all our shut-ins.

**A Wing & A Prayer YOUTH LENTEN ESSAY-WRITING CONTEST.** Open to youth ages 15 – 25 years. A great opportunity to write an essay on the comparative analysis of the four gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) about the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ. Besides a trophy and prizes, the winning essay will be published on our website. Contest duration: February 11 – March 15. Deadline for entries is on March 16, Palm Sunday. For contest mechanics, please go to [www.saintaugustines.ca](http://www.saintaugustines.ca)

**Keeping a Mellow Heart in a Bitter Time** parts 1 and 2, with speaker Fr. Ron Rolheiser, will be the topic on Vision TV on Monday, March 3 & Tuesday, March 4 at 6:00 pm.

### 4th Sunday of Lent

#### Catechism of the Catholic Church

**1814-1816: Faith**

**1262-1274: The grace and effects of baptism**

Mon. (Isaiah 65:17-21)  
(John 4:43-54)

Tues. **St. Casimir**  
(Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12)  
(John 5:1-16)

Wed. (Isaiah 49:8-15)  
(John 5:16-30)

Thurs. (Exodus 32:7-14)  
(John 5:18, 31-47)

Fri. **World Day of Prayer/Sts. Perpetua & Felicity**  
(Wisdom 2:1, 12-22)  
(John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30)

Sat. **St. John of God**  
(Jeremiah 11:18-20)  
(John 7:40-53)

Sun. **5th Sunday of Lent**  
(Ezekiel 37:12-14)  
(Romans 8:8-11)  
John 11:1-45)

**Easter Flowers:** If you would like to purchase an Easter flower to remember a loved one you are asked to sign your name on the sign up sheet in the vestibule or call the Parish Office.



**VOCATION VIEW:** If we can't see where we're going, we'll never get there. The Good Shepherd leads us to green pastures, refreshes our souls and brings light to a darkened world.

**THE WEEK AHEAD.....**

Mon.	03	Canterbury Senior Social Club	2:00 pm
	03	Charismatic Prayer Group	7:00 pm
	03	Confirmation	7:00 pm
Tues.	04	St. Vincent de Paul	9:30 am
	04	Legion of Mary	7:00 pm
	04	CWL Mass & Meeting	7:00 pm
Wed.	05	Lenten Confessions	1:00 pm, 4:00 pm & 7:00 pm
	05	Quest for Christ	4:00 pm
	05	RCIA	7:00 pm
Thurs.	06	Quest for Christ	6:30 pm
	06	League for Life Meeting	7:00 pm
	06	Choir Practice	7:30 pm
Fri.	07	Mass followed by Adoration	12:15 pm
	07	Holy Hour	4:00 pm
	07	Confession	4:00-4:45 pm
	07	Benediction	5:00 pm
	07	Stations of the Cross - Serra	7:00 pm
Sat.	08	Nathanael Weekend at St. Hedwig's	
Sun.	09	Spanish Community of St. Augustine's	1:00 pm
	09	Youth Lead Concert Rehearsal	4:00-6:00 pm

**FINANCES:            RECEIPTS:**

Collection for the Weekend for Sunday Feb. 24, 2008	
Offertory Collection (Brandon)	\$8390.00
School Fund Collection	\$ 25.00
Rivers Collection	\$ 487.00

**Stewardship Reflection of the Week**

The blind man was willing to let Jesus minister to him and willingly did all Jesus asked of him. The Pharisees were more resistant to his message spending their time and energy to disprove the miracle. Which are you more like, the man born blind or the Pharisees?

**Vigil Lamp**

The light burns in memory of  
Leonard Zolinski

**Brandon Area League For Life Information Alert**

"I am dedicated to spending the rest of my life undoing the law that bears my name. I would like nothing more than to have this law overturned." –Norma L. McCorvey ("Jane Roe" of Roe vs Wade)  
<http://grove.ufl.edu/~prolife/staticpages/index.php?page=quotes>

**St. Augustine of Canterbury Parish** in Brandon, Manitoba is celebrating its 125 Anniversary on Saturday, May 31 beginning at 12 noon. St. Augustine's School is also commemorating 50 years since the oldest existing portion of the school was built. Tours of the church, the Redemptorist graves, the school, games for children, food and the Eucharist are all part of this milestone. All priests, former priests, Religious, parishioners, former parishioners and friends are invited to meet at St. Augustine's at 12 noon. Mass will be celebrated in the Manitoba Room at the Keystone Centre at 7 pm with Archbishop James Weisgerber presiding.

**CWL NEWS:**

**General Meeting** will be held Tuesday March 4th. Mass will be at 7:00 pm with meeting to follow.

**World Day of Prayer** - Friday March 7th at 7:30 pm Trinity United Church at the corner of 6th Street and Richmond Avenue.

CWL is collecting **Health Kits** for Ten Thousand Villages to help aid needy people around the world. For more information contact Joyce Shewan 728-6598.

**YOUTH NEWS**

For more information and updates on activities call Sr. Maybelle at the Parish Office or email [srmaybelle\\_staug@yahoo.com](mailto:srmaybelle_staug@yahoo.com) or go to the website at [www.saintaugustines.ca](http://www.saintaugustines.ca)

**For youth aged 13-35 years:**

**Youth Lenten Journey.** March 7, Friday, 7 PM is our **DEVOTIONALS & FELLOWSHIP.** Let's pray in union with our brothers and sisters in the Lord!

**For more info on Youth Contests,** go to [www.saintaugustines.ca](http://www.saintaugustines.ca) or to our Youth Bulletin Board:

**Youth Photo Contest.** Are you good at photography? Come and join this exciting contest. Winning shots (of the church interior) will be made into collage souvenir postcards for our parish's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Contest date: March 23, Sunday, after 12.30 PM Mass. Bring your camera with you! Open to young adults ages 13-29 years. Submission date March 28.

**49<sup>th</sup> International Eucharistic Congress.** Youth ages 18-35 years old are encouraged to come for a pilgrimage to Quebec City on June 13-24. Let Jesus in the Eucharist transform us! To join, please contact Sr. Maybelle.

**People of St. Augustine's Parish** - I have discovered that the Stephen Lewis Foundation is a PRO CHOICE organization; for which Pro choice means Pro abortion. The Grandmothers for Grandmothers group, of which I was a supporter, is part of the Stephen Lewis Foundation. In good conscience I can not continue affiliation with Grandmothers for Grandmothers. Those of us who were going to perform at their fund raising concert have withdrawn from the event. To help HIV/AIDS stricken people in Africa, please support the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace. -Carol MacKenzie

**Confession:** The Bible proposes the only effective way of dealing with sin - confession. In the Old Testament, one of the ways the Israelites were supposed to cleanse themselves and maintain purity before God and in their community was confessing their sins (Num. 5:5-8). To *confess* means "to speak the same; to agree with; to admit the truth." When the people confessed to God, they were not telling Him anything He did not already know. But their confession was a demonstration of a change of heart. Refusing to confess their sins allowed sin to take deeper root within their lives and community. Admitting our sins unlocks the gate so that we can have forgiveness, joy and peace. If we confess our sins, God is faithful to forgive (1 John 1:9).

If we would know God's power to heal  
And cleanse us from within,  
We must acknowledge when we're wrong  
Confessing it as sin.

*Confession is agreeing with God about our sin.*  
Sin can clog us just as cholesterol can clog arteries.