



man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him'. The man himself said, 'I am the man'.

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see'. Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you'. The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

Longer form, 9:1-41

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CHRIST'S TRANSFORMING LIGHT

Learning to read between the lines is not a skill that comes naturally to most of us. Today's readings show just how difficult and challenging it can be to look into the heart of things to see them as God does. Samuel knew that he had been commissioned to anoint one of Jesse's sons as the new king, but which one? As Samuel is reminded, we tend to look at appearances but God looks at the heart. Ultimately, it is the Lord who will teach Samuel that David is the chosen one.

The letter to the Ephesians invites us to join in the journey of discovering what the Lord wants of us. It requires honesty and trust, to bring ourselves as we are to the light of Christ. While fear might hold us back, there is the encouraging reminder that what is brought to the light of Christ is not condemned, but transformed and turned into light.

The episode of the man born blind is a marvellous example of how difficult and yet freeing, it is to come into the light of Christ. The man gradually moves from seeing Jesus as a man, then as a prophet, and finally coming to believe in him as Lord. He was originally treated as an outsider because of his disability. After being questioned three times, his growing insight and faith lead him to be cast out yet again, but now he is no longer alone; now the Lord stands beside him.



FIRST READING

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

A reading from the first book of Samuel

In the presence of the Lord God, they anointed David king of Israel.

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 22. R. v. 1

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd; / there is nothing I shall want. / Fresh and green are the pastures / where he gives me repose. / Near restful waters he leads me, / to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**
2. He guides me along the right path; / he is true to his name. / If I should walk in the valley of darkness / no evil would I fear. / You are there with your crook and your staff; / with these you give me comfort. **R.**

3. You have prepared a banquet for me / in the sight of my foes. / My head you have anointed with oil; / my cup is overflowing. **R.**

4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me / all the days of my life. / In the Lord's own house shall I dwell / for ever and ever. **R.**

SECOND READING

Eph 5:8-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep,
rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 8:12

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!

GOSPEL

Jn 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth.

He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind

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www.youtube.com/c/StKevinsParishEastwood



www.facebook.com/EastwoodCatholic

NB: New Parish PO Box address: PO Box 437 West Ryde NSW 1685. For your information

MASS TIMES, RECONCILIATION AND DEVOTION

Weekday Mass: Monday - 7:30am (Communion Service, except on Feast Days);

Tuesday to Thursday - 7:30am (followed by Holy Rosary); Friday - 5pm

Weekend Mass: Saturday Vigil - 5:30pm (livestreamed); Sunday - 8am, 9:30am, 6pm

CCC Mass: Sunday at 11:30am (English/Cantonese)

Eucharistic Adoration: Friday 4pm-5pm

First Friday Devotion: Monthly at 4pm

First Saturday Mass and Devotion: Monthly at 9am

Exposition and Benediction: First weekend of the month at all Masses

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Friday 4pm-4:45pm and Saturday 4:30pm-5:15pm

SCAN OUR
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Fourth Sunday of Lent/Year A

19th March 2023

PRAYER REQUESTS:



Deceased: Cassie Kempnich, Milly Farrell, Pasquale Sorbilli; Des Ebejer; Jonathan Ellsmore; Gerald Crown; Denis Hoey; Francis Murray; Casey, Landon, O'Connor, Pigott & Stewart families; Geoff and Patricia Clarke; Ron & Jan Brayan; John, Bonnie Bowdern & family; & all souls in purgatory.

Sick: Lyn Crown, Burkardt Foertsch, Graham Rumble, Ben Isaacs, Sam Wong, Robert Lauw, Tenille Moujalli, June Phelan, Anne McIntyre, Adhy Guna S., Daisy Gouw, Nur Gouw

UPCOMING FEAST DAYS AND MEMORIALS:

MASS OF THE SOLEMNITY OF ST JOSEPH, Monday 20th March at 7:30am

MASS OF THE SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD, Sat 25th Mar at 9am

HOLY WEEK LITURGY AND MASS TIMES:

Thu 23, 30 Mar	6:00pm	Parish Lenten Group
Fri 24, 31 Mar	5:30pm	Stations of the Cross
Tue 28th Mar	6:00pm	2nd Rite of Reconciliation
Sun 2nd Apr	Usual Mass Times	Palm Sunday
Thu 6th Apr	10:30am 6:00pm	Chrim Mass at St Mary's Cathedral Mass of the Lord's Supper
Fri 7th Apr	10:00am 3:00pm	Good Friday - Stations of the Cross The Lord's Passion (Holy Land Appeal)
Sat 8th Apr	10:00am 6:00pm	EASTER BASKET BLESSING (info on website) Holy Saturday - Easter Vigil
Sun 9th Apr	Usual Mass Times	Easter Sunday



PARISH NEWS:

- We welcome Valerie and Sophie into the family of God. Congratulations on your Baptism!
- We remember our long time parishioner, Milly Farrell, on her first year death anniversary last March 4. Please include Milly and her family in your prayers.
- At the Vigil Mass this weekend, please welcome back Rahul, Alex, Ewan and Jina, our RCIA participants, now called 'the elect,' for their 2nd Rite of Scrutiny.
- Stations of the Cross during Lent, every Friday after the 5pm Mass. Please join us.
- Parish Lenten Group, led by Fr Pawel, Thursdays at 6pm in the Church. All welcome.
- Concert in Haseler centre - THIS Sunday, 19th March at 2.30pm. ALL WELCOME. Handbills at front table in the church foyer - or see www.kevinwood.org
- Monthly Men's Prayer Breakfast: Men of St Kevin's, you are warmly invited to join a group of fellow parishioners in the Haseler Centre (parish hall) on Sat Apr 1, 7am- 8:30am
- Men's Weekly Prayer Group: Tuesdays at 7pm at the Holy Family Chapel. All welcome.
- Next Baptism Info Evening: Tuesday, 4th Apr at 8pm in the Parish Office Meeting Room.

Retreat for Engaged and Married Couples: 'When Love Gets Boring,' with Fr Mirco Integlia happening on Sat 1st April, 2pm-4pm, parish hall. Fr Mirco is a chaplain and lecturer in Philosophy at ACU. COST: FREE. Donations welcome. Light refreshments available. For catering purposes, register by Email: parish@stkevinseastwood.org.au or Ph 9874 2533.

Lenten Retreat organised by Olivia Cullen, St Kevin's Family Educator: Experience God's love and peace this Lent by joining us for a special retreat on **Tue 28th or Fri 31st March** at the beautiful **Franciscan Friary in Kellyville**. There will be time for quiet reflection in the chapel and gardens, an opportunity to pray the stations of the cross & conclude by making a resurrection garden to take home and display as an Easter centrepiece. Morning Tea & lunch provided. **RSVP essential. Places limited. Suggested donation: \$20** (to cover costs of garden materials, meals, donation to the friars). Email: olivia.cullen@syd.catholic.edu.au or scan the QR code to register.



Holy Spirit Parish North Ryde invites you to a special Stations of the Cross at Macquarie Park Cemetery & Crematorium, on Palm Sunday, 2nd April 2023, at 2.30pm. See poster for details.

AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE:

Day of the Unborn Child: Feast of the Annunciation Mass and Procession, Sunday 26th March, St Mary's Cathedral - 10:30am Mass presided by Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP. Street Procession starts at 12nn. Benediction at 1:30pm. See poster for details.

PRAYER TO ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL:



St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle; be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray and do you, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY:

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you or anyone you know have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, contact Safeguarding & Ministerial Integrity Office (02) 9390 5810 or E: safeguarding-enquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support & guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to police.