

Servant of the Lord

Isaiah 42:6-8, 16-18

Old
Testament
Story Time

Once again the prophet Isaiah proclaims to the people of Israel how the Lord God will one day send His servant to save His people. The description of this Servant of the Lord begins with these words:

“Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one with whom I am pleased. Upon him I have put my spirit; he shall bring forth justice to the nations.” (Isaiah 42:1)

How will the people recognize this Servant of the Lord when he comes? The prophet Isaiah provides examples of the sort of things this servant will do! While delivering justice to the people, the Servant will open the eyes of the blind and bring prisoners out of their confinement living in dungeons and in darkness.



In the Old Testament, a lack of vision often symbolizes the inability to properly see the Lord God. The greatest prison is living in sin and separated from God. The Lord God is truth and light, and darkness represents sin and separation from God. Therefore, when this Servant comes he will not only restore the sight for those who are physically blind, but he will also restore their relationship with the Lord God.



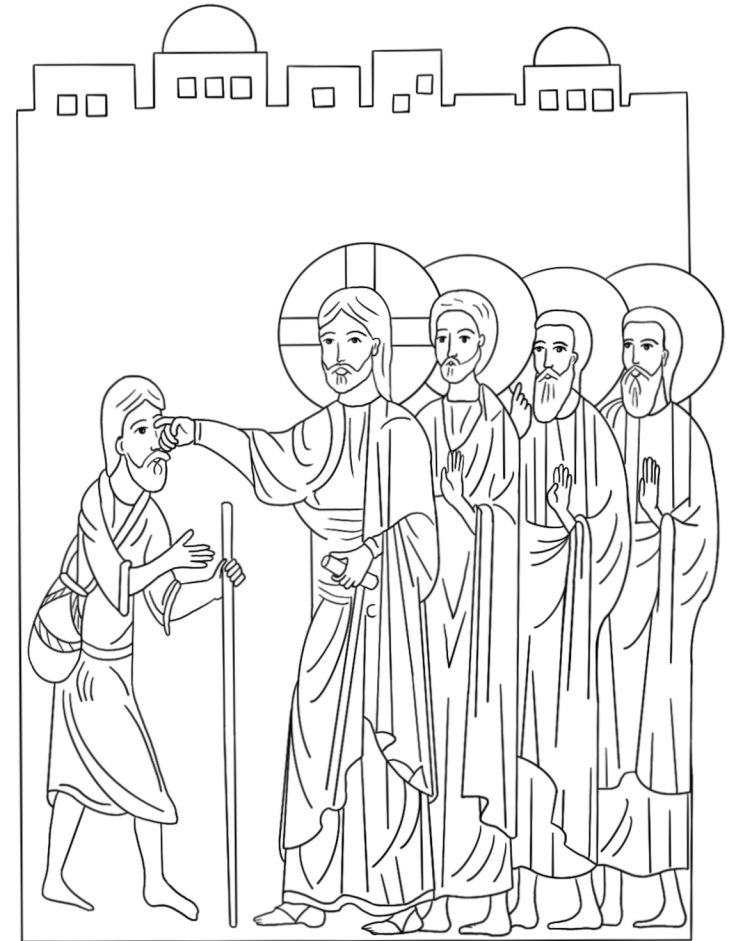
The prophet Isaiah implores the people of Israel to heed all these words from the Lord God in order to restore their sight and see clearly. They are encouraged to turn away from idols and false gods and return to the loving relationship with the Lord.

Cedar Kids



The Way of Blessed Estephan Douaihy

6th Sunday of Great Lent,
The Healing of the Blind Man, Vol 1, No.29



“Lord, my God, show your mercy,”
cried the blind man to our Lord.
“You allowed me to hear you.
Let me know behold your face.”





Gospel Corner

Mark
10:46-52

Today we hear the following from the prophet Isaiah in the Old Testament:

I will lead the blind on a way they do not know;
by paths they do not know I will guide them.
I will turn darkness into light before them,
and make crooked ways straight.
These are my promises:
I made them, I will not forsake them.

(Isaiah 42:16)



Then in the Gospel reading, we actually learn of a situation where Jesus physically fulfills this prophecy that was foretold long before He came to earth. He did so when he healed a blind man named Bartimaeus.

Bartimaeus was a blind man begging on the side of the road. When he heard that Jesus was near he called out, and he continued calling out to Jesus even when others tried to silence him.



Jesus saw the faith of this blind man and healed him right away. Then the Bible tells us, "Immediately he received his sight and followed him on the way."

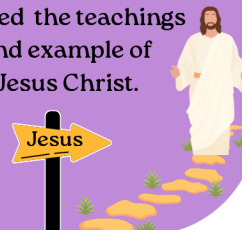
Have you ever had people try to silence your faith or love for Jesus? Let us pray for perseverance to stand strong in our faith like Bartimaeus even when people try to stop us. Additionally, let us pray that the Lord would open the spiritual eyes of our friends and those that try to silence us that they would come to know Jesus who is "the way, the truth and the life."

Did you know?

The WAY

At the Last Supper, Jesus told the Apostles that He is "the way, the truth, and the life."

Before we were known as Christians or Catholics, the faithful people of the early Church were called followers of "the Way." They were called this because they followed the teachings and example of Jesus Christ.



What you can do



Pray for the strength to follow Jesus no matter what oppression comes your way.


Pray for the people you know who don't have faith in Jesus.


You can pray anywhere, but if you have a chance to bring these requests to Jesus in Adoration, do that!


Using my Other Senses

The next time you are in Divine Liturgy, take a moment to experience it the way that Bartimaeus would have experienced life before Jesus healed him.

Close your eyes while you are sitting or standing in your pew and pay attention to what you hear, smell, and touch. Write your observations below.

 I hear...

 I smell...

 I touch...