

Friday 2nd December 2022

Reading 1, Isaiah 29:17-24; Responsorial Psalm, Psalm 26:1, 4, 13-14;

Gospel, Matthew 9:27-3

This short Gospel reading contains two important messages for us to reflect on.

Firstly, our faith. "Do you believe...?" Jesus asks the blind men. Then, "According to your faith..."

Faith, belief, trust, words that are intrinsically linked. We are told in Psalm 24 "Be brave and strong and trust the Lord." A priest once told me that faith is a Fantastic Adventure In Trusting Him. This makes faith sound wonderful, which it is. Faith is not easy, we do need at times to be brave, but the rewards are immense.

Belief is in our minds; faith is in our minds and hearts. It involves a real relationship with God and a commitment to carry out His mission. True faith gives us strength and courage in difficult times; the amazing knowledge that God loves us so much, and a greater awareness of our many blessings. Being on a continuous faith journey is indeed an exciting adventure. We need to open up to the Lord as lack of trust causes us to block Him.

The second message concerns blindness. This is an awful disability, never to see the beauty of the world, or the faces of your loved ones. In Biblical times it was often thought that people suffering such disabilities were sinners being punished by God. Thank goodness we have had our eyes opened about this.

As well as physical blindness there is also spiritual blindness. We, today, can be blind to so many things going on in our lives, our community and our world. If we are to do as Jesus asked when he said "Love thy neighbour" then we need to share one vision, one spirit and one mission. We need to open our eyes and be an active Catholic. One who is willing to support others in whatever way our health and finances allow. One who lives by the Gospel.

We pray, Lord, that we may put our trust in you.



Reflection written by: Leonie Ducker, St. Joseph's, Blaydon