



PARISH BULLETIN 525

Sunday, March 15, 2026.

4th Sunday of Lent

Gospel: Jn 9:1-41.

As Jesus passed by he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him. We have to do the works of the one who sent me while it is day. Night is coming when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva, and smeared the clay on his eyes, and said to him, "Go wash in the Pool of Siloam" —which means Sent—. So he went and washed, and came back able to see.

His neighbors and those who had seen him earlier as a beggar said, "Isn't this the one who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is," but others said, "No, he just looks like him." He said, "I am." So they said to him, "How were your eyes opened?" He replied, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and told me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went there and washed and was able to see." And they said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I don't know."

They brought the one who was once blind to the Pharisees. Now Jesus had made clay and opened his eyes on a Sabbath. So then the Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see. He said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and now I can see." So some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, because he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a sinful man do such signs?" And there was a division among them. So they said to the blind man again, "What do you have to say about him, since he opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

Now the Jews did not believe that he had been blind and gained his sight until they summoned the parents of the one who had gained his sight. They asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How does he now see?" His parents answered and said, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. We do not know how he sees now, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him, he is of age; he can speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone acknowledged him as the Christ, he would be expelled from the synagogue. For this reason his parents said, "He is of age; question him."

So a second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, "Give God the praise! We know that this man is a sinner." He replied, "If he is a sinner, I do not know. One thing I do know is that I was blind and now I see." So they said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples, too?" They ridiculed him and said, "You are that man's disciple; we are disciples of Moses! We know that God spoke to Moses, but we do not know where this one is from." The man answered and said to them, "This is what is so amazing, that you do not know where he is from, yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if one is devout and does his will, he listens to him. It is unheard of that anyone ever opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he would not be able to do anything." They answered and said to him, "You were born totally in sin, and are you trying to teach us?" Then they threw him out.

When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered and said, "Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, the one speaking with you is he." He said, "I do believe, Lord," and he worshiped him. Then Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see might see, and those who do see might become blind."

Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not also blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you are saying, 'We see,' so your sin remains."

Commentary by the Pastor:

Suffering is hard to understand. Especially the suffering of the innocent – it surpasses our rationalization! Suffering is also hard to accept. Some never accept it, some receive the grace of intention or higher ideals, some through service and sacrifice for others. But the question always remains: How long...!???

Let us imagine the suffering of a man blind from birth, but also imagine the joy when he gained sight! He was willing to do anything to see, even to smear mud on his eyes and face, in which surely there were those who mocked him and called him a fool. From all that trouble, in his encounter with Jesus, he came to confess His Divinity and the faith that worships its God. The long and detailed events described by St. John in his Gospel have precisely this purpose – the confession of faith in Jesus' Divinity. This is the Divinity of the one who is also the Lord of the Sabbath and who, as the Righteous One, Prophet, and Son of God, pure and without sin, has the authority to forgive sins. That is why we repeat His assertion at the beginning of Lent: "Worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only! "

This is both a reminder and an encouragement for continuing Lent: Let us persevere in what we do well. Let us renew what we have fallen in and start anew. Let us strengthen our faith with prayer, penance, and acts of mercy. In suffering, we cry out: I believe; help my unbelief! And let us never distance ourselves from Jesus, for only His Heart, "pierced by a spear, " is the "source of all comfort"!

Holy Masses

MONDAY – SATURDAY
(16.3. - 21.3.)

7:00 BILIĆ
8:00 NAGY
9:00 KOČIŠ
12:00 BALATINAC
19:00 PETRIČEVIĆ

Confessions (6.2.)

MONDAY – SATURDAY
(16.3. - 21.3.)

6:30 – 9:30
11:00 – 12:30
18:30 – 20:00

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Thursday, March 19th	SOLEMNITY: SAINT JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
Sunday, March 15th	4th Sunday of Lent, Year "A"

SOLIDARITY WITH BiH: For the faithful in BiH, last week €2,220 and 10 convertible marks were collected, and we warmly thank everyone!

PARISH ADORATION: We also thank all individuals and communities for their prayers, presence, and organization of parish adoration. May the Lord be merciful to us and shape our hearts according to His Heart!

FATHER'S DAY: Today, at the 9:30 am Mass, we celebrate Father's Day, on the eve of the solemnity of St. Joseph on March 19. We pray for fathers to be like St. Joseph, and we will celebrate his feast here with Masses according to the weekday schedule.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: On Wednesday, March 18 at 8 pm, in the Old Printing House hall on the 1st floor, there will be a meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council. All members are invited!

PARISH FAMILY COMMUNITY: On Thursday, March 19, on St. Joseph's Day, there will be a meeting of our Parish Family Community with a married couple and a priest from the Marriage Weekend Community, on the topic of communication between husband and wife. We invite all registered members and new ones to join us for this relevant, interesting, and life-related topic.

FATHER GABRIĆ DAY: On Friday, March 20, is the death anniversary of our Father Ante Gabrić, missionary in India. We pray for his beatification.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: On Saturday, March 21, starting at 3:00 pm, the Stations of the Cross will be held for the Zagreb victims of the Partisan crimes of 1945—over 10,000 killed in 130 graves and pits. Departure is in front of the Franciscan church in Dubrava, Avenija G. Šuška 2, and ends at St. Jerome's church at 5:00 pm. More information on the posters.

FIFTH LENTEN SUNDAY: Next Sunday, at the 9:30 am Mass, our First Communicants will be presented. We invite families and godparents to this celebration.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF 2 CONCERTS:

BASILICA: On the sixth anniversary of the earthquake, next Sunday, March 22, the Basilica and the Academic Choir Palma will organize a solemn concert in the Basilica at 8:15 pm. Free admission.

LISINSKI: On the same occasion, on Tuesday, March 31, there will be a charity concert "Heart in the Heart of Zagreb." Mozart's Requiem will be performed by the HRT Symphony Orchestra and HRT Choir, free of charge. Tickets, as support for the completion of the restoration, can be obtained in the sacristy, at Lisinski, and online.

OLIVE BRANCHES: On Saturday, March 28, the youth from SKAC will go to Modrave for pruning and collecting olive branches for Palma and Jordanovac, for which we are very grateful. Anyone wishing to join them, either at Modrave or in distributing the branches, can find all information on the website: skac.hr.

(<https://www.skac.hr/modrave/idemo-u-rezidbu-grancica-na-modrave-ides-s-nama/>)

ROSARY AT KAMENITA GATE: Mondays at 8:00 pm.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Monday to Friday from 9:30 to 10:30 am and from 5:00 to 6:00 pm.

"LESS IS MORE" – LAY COLUMN No. 475 – *written by: Ana Marija Čupić*

In today's Gospel, we heard how Jesus heals a man who was blind from birth, opening his eyes, while the Pharisees around him doubt, argue, and cannot believe the miracle that happened. Interestingly, the man who was blind begins to see clearly—not only with his eyes but also with his heart, where his faith grows: first, he speaks of Jesus as a man, then as a prophet, and finally he confesses, "I believe, Lord!" On the other hand, those convinced they know everything remain closed to the truth.

If we think about it, this Gospel actually reminds us that true blindness is not always in the eyes but in the heart. Often in life, we find ourselves in situations where we fail to recognize small signs of God's presence and action. Lent is a time when God wants to "wake us up" a little—not always through something spectacular, but through small moments like encounters, a word that touches us, silence that encourages reflection on our lives, the deeds we do, and penance during this Lenten season.

Perhaps the phrase, "I was blind, but now I see," invites each of us to remember moments when God illuminated something in our lives—whether a relationship, a decision, or a situation.

Let us ask the Lord that each of us may see with the eyes of faith and heart, so we can recognize His presence in our lives!