

**1. Read (Seek)** — Read the verses slowly and prayerfully several times. Write down any words or phrases that seem to stand out:

**2. Meditate (Find)** — Now begin to reflect on the verses and ask God what it means and how he wants to speak to you through the passage. **God what are you saying to me through this?**

**3. Pray (Ask)** — Respond from your heart to what God has been saying to you. **What do you want me to know?** Write down your prayer to him or record whatever he says to you.

**4. Contemplate (Taste)** — Be quiet before the Lord enjoying His presence. **How is God calling you to act in response to what he has shown you?**

[1] CCC 436  
 [2] Modern Catholic Dictionary pg. 446  
 [3] CCC 65  
 [4] Hebrews 9:12  
 [5] Hebrews 7:25  
 [6] Modern Catholic Dictionary pg. 438  
 [7] [www.loyolapress.com/jesus-prophet-priest-and-king.htm](http://www.loyolapress.com/jesus-prophet-priest-and-king.htm)  
 [8] Luke 1:32-33  
 [9] John 19:19

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# Quick Connect

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## Gospel Reading – John 9:1-41 – Daily Roman Missal

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.”

### Spiritual Reading

*From a treatise on John by Saint Augustine, bishop*

The Lord tells us: I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life. In these few words he gives a command and makes a promise. Let us do what he commands so that we may not blush to covet what he promises and to hear him say on the day of judgment: “I laid down certain conditions for obtaining my promises. Have you fulfilled them?” If you say: “What did you command, Lord God?” he will tell you: “I commanded you to follow me. You asked for advice on how to enter into life. What life, if not the life about which it is written: With you is the fountain of life?” Let us do now what he commands. Let us follow in the footsteps of the Lord. Let us throw off the chains that prevent us from following him. Who can throw off these shackles without the aid of the one addressed in these words: you have broken my chains? Another psalm says of him: The Lord frees those in chains, the Lord raises up the downcast.

Those who have been freed and raised up follow the light. The light they follow speaks to them: I am the light of the world, he who follows me will not walk in darkness. The Lord gives light to the blind. Brethren, that light shines on us now, for we have had our eyes anointed with the eye-salve of faith. His saliva was mixed with earth to anoint the man born blind. We are of Adam’s stock, blind from our birth; we need him to give us light. He mixed saliva with earth, and so it was prophesied: Truth has sprung up from the earth. He himself has said: I am the way, the truth and the life.

### Jesus: Priest, Prophet, King – Lesson and Discussion

*“He is a prophet”*

“Jesus fulfilled the messianic hope of Israel in his threefold office of priest, prophet, and king.”[1]

**What is a prophet?** The biblical term, prophet, refers to one who spoke, acted, or wrote under the extraordinary influence of God to make known the divine counsels and will. Their primary role was to proclaim the word of God; additionally most prophets could also foretell future events. Their role was to both proclaim and make the proclamation credible.[2]

**How is Jesus a prophet?** If the primary role of a prophet is to proclaim the word of God, then Jesus is the truest prophet that could ever be. St. John of the Cross comments, “In giving us his Son, his only Word (for he possesses no other), he spoke everything to us at once in this sole Word - and he has no more to say...because what he spoke before to the prophets in parts, he has now spoken all at once by giving us the All Who is His Son.”[3]

**What is a priest?** A priest is a mediator who offers a true sacrifice in acknowledgment of God’s supreme dominion over human beings and in expiation for their sins. In today’s Gospel, Jesus acts as a priest by restoring the blind man’s sight.

**How is Jesus a priest?** Jesus, who is God and man, is the first, last, and greatest priest of the New Law. The writer of the Letter to the Hebrews compared Jesus to the great high priest in the Old Testament, Melchizedek. Melchizedek is the one who blessed Abraham. (Gen. 14:17-24). Jesus’ two natures, being fully human and fully God make him the perfect mediator. He is the eternal high priest who offered himself as the perfect sacrifice. He is the final sacrifice, the same sacrifice we come to at every Mass. Jesus “entered once and for all into the sanctuary, not with the blood of goats and calves but with his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption.”[4] He is the greatest High Priest in “he is always able to save those who approach God through him, since he lives forever to make intercession for them.”[5][6][7]

**What is a King?** Kings are generally associated with a male who rules or governs a people occupying land. In a theological sense, the “Kings” represent the Kings of the nation of Israel under David, Solomon, and Saul. When the Kingdom was split into two and eventually thrown into Exile, they dreamt of restoring the Kingdom, and the one King that would rule forever, the Messiah.

**How is Jesus a King?** In the Feast of the Annunciation, the Angel Gabriel spoke of Jesus who would “sit on the throne of David his father, and rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his Kingdom there will be no end.”[8] When the Magi went looking for Jesus they were looking for the new King. During his passion in order to mock him the Romans placed a crown of thorns on his head, and above the cross Pontius Pilot had written, “King of the Jews”.[9]