

Pre-Mass catechesis

Lent 4

March 21/22

Our parish mission begins this weekend. We will have the opportunity to experience how the Eucharist can bring us life. We will also learn how to deepen our relationship with the Lord. We are now half-way through the Lenten season. We are called to live in the light of Christ. This will be expressed in dramatic fashion at the Easter Vigil. Paul tells us to “awake o sleeper and arise from the dead and Christ will give you light.”

Each of us can be blind at times. We are sometimes blind to the needs of those around us. We can be blind to God’s presence. We can even be blind to ourselves, not recognizing the gifts and talents God has given us.

The Eucharist challenges our assumptions about life. In our prayer through the Eucharist, our eyes of faith can be opened to hear God’s word and to feel his presence. When we consume the Eucharist, we become what we eat. Christ becomes one with us and we are able to experience the world in a different light. The Eucharist can become a catalyst for change, not only in our lives, but throughout our society as well.

By our participation in the liturgy, our eyes can be opened to the needs of others and how we are called to be children of God. The Mass gives us courage to go out into the world and make a difference. Through our celebration, we become more “adult” in how we approach life. Like the man born blind, we learn to stand up for ourselves and stop being fearful of what may happen and focus on what God is doing here and now.

Jesus is the light of the world. Do we allow Christ to enlighten and enliven us? Do we have the courage of the man born blind to challenge the status quo and work to effect change in our lives and our society?

May the Eucharist open our hearts to seeing the world with the eyes of faith and the heart of Jesus.