



BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

October 24, 2021

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Lectionary: 149

Gospel Mk 10:46-52

As Jesus was leaving Jericho with his disciples and a sizable crowd, Bartimaeus, a blind man, the son of Timaeus, sat by the roadside begging. On hearing that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, son of David, have pity on me." And many rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he kept calling out all the more, "Son of David, have pity on me." Jesus stopped and said, "Call him." So they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take courage; get up, Jesus is calling you." He threw aside his cloak, sprang up, and came to Jesus. Jesus said to him in reply, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man replied to him, "Master, I want to see." Jesus told him, "Go your way; your faith has saved you." Immediately he received his sight and followed him on the way.

Spiritual Reflection:

Notice that today the people who are preventing Bartimaeus are not the Scribes and Pharisees, but rather Jesus' followers. This passage should serve as a warning for all of us.

Spiritual Questions:

1. Why do you think the followers of Jesus were not very inviting to Bartimaeus?
2. Why do they have a negative attitude towards Bartimaeus?
3. How welcoming is your parish?
4. How welcoming are you?
5. What can you do to make people feel welcoming?