

WORD FROM THE PASTOR

4th SUNDAY IN LENT - RECEIVE THE LIGHT OF CHRIST IN OUR LIVES



Brothers and sisters in Christ! This fourth Sunday of Lent is a day of joy. It is the joy of a people deported to a land of exile who hear the Good News. The prophet Isaiah announces to them that God is there in the midst of their distress. He intervenes to bring salvation to these oppressed people. It is also the joy of the catechumens who are experiencing the second stage of their baptism. School-aged children and adults have set out for this great event.

Throughout this Lent, we are invited to "change our hearts." The biblical texts for today invite us to change our perspective on people and events:

"God does not see as humans see. Humans look at the outward appearance. God sees the heart. To have the heart of God is to see the qualities and the greatness of those who are small, weak, and despised. It is to recognize that they, too, are capable of great things."

In the Gospel, we see Jesus healing a beggar blind from birth. **He opens his eyes twice. First, He restores his sight, allowing him to see people and the world around Him. Then, He opens his eyes of Faith.** All of this happens gradually. Like this man, we are called to pass from darkness to Faith. We too are often blind or visually impaired. This man born blind is a symbol of humanity plunged into darkness. But through Baptism, humanity discovers the Light of Christ. For these new converts, it is an illumination.

Faced with this healed and saved man, there are all those who are blind in their minds and hearts; there are those who sink deeper into their blindness, the blindness of sin. **Like the owl, they are blinded by the daylight. The Light of God, the Light of Truth, frightens them.** But we must not be afraid of the Light of Jesus Christ; He presents Himself to us like the sun that will illuminate our lives. **To live Lent is to welcome the Light that comes from Jesus.** This Light is the Light of Faith. It helps us to see people and events with God's eyes. Like the blind man healed, we will become witnesses of Christ. **We will be able to proclaim our faith with pride: "I believe in God who is Light, I believe in God, He is my Father." Amen**

Very Rev. Fr. Lucien Eugene Pierre Ph.D., Pastor, VF

Dean of Northwest Broward Deanery of the Archdiocese Miami – March 15, 2026