



# MIRAR

*Lourdes Theology Page-connecting school,  
family and parish*

## Readings of coming Sunday, 3/2/08 Cycle A 4<sup>th</sup>. Lent

Theme: Seeing

**Readings:** 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Ephesians  
5:8-14; John 9:1-38

In the first reading from the first book of Samuel, the prophet is sent to find and anoint God's choice for the next King of Israel. Samuel keeps making the wrong choice and God tells him that he needs to learn to see as God sees not as man sees.

### **Ephesians**

Paul reminds his converts that while they were once in darkness they can now see in the light of the risen Christ. When we see things through the lens of Christianity they take on new and much deeper meanings.

### **John**

This long chapter of John's gospel is the story of a man born blind. He is not given a name in the story because he represents each of us and how our lives are without Christ and the insight into human life that Jesus brings. Jesus heals him by anointing his eyes and then sending him to wash. It is the ministries of fellow Christians and the waters of baptism that give us new sight.

## Ideas for lessons

### **Grades: Second to Fifth**

Explain that we are looking forward to the Gospel reading of the next Sunday. Read the story. Take a blindfold and let the children take turns wearing it while someone else leads them around. Discuss what that is like and then how wonderful it is to see again. Help them understand the story of how the blind man felt by describing what they felt.

### **Middle School**

Explain that we are looking forward to next Sunday. Read the gospel story. Have the children act out the story either assigning parts or letting them draw slips of paper for parts. Then discuss how they felt being the different persons in the story.

### **High School**

Read the gospel story and discuss then have the students reenact it and discuss. Take it to a deeper level and ask what insights Christ gives us into life.

### **Parents Nook**

Parents should ask the children to share their insights about the story and then talk about the ways people can be blind.

### **Saints Corner**

On March 3rd we celebrate the feast day of Catherine Drexel the second canonized saint from the United States of America. She was born in Philadelphia in 1558.



She founded the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, and took vows as the first member in 1891. For 44 years she guided her new order, founding schools in New Mexico and Arizona, and throughout the eastern half of the country. In 1917 she founded what became Xavier University in New Orleans.

In 1935 she suffered a severe heart attack, and spent the remaining 20 years of her life in retirement and prayer. In this icon she stands beside a girl from San Ildefonso Pueblo in northern New Mexico. The girl is dressed for the traditional summer corn dance.

Taken from Trinity Stores Web page.

Katharine Drexel was born into a wealthy Philadelphia family. As a young woman she became aware of the suffering of Native Americans on the newly established reservations in the western part of the United States. She began using money from her inheritance to establish schools on the reservations and to send food and clothing to the people. In time she expanded her efforts to include impoverished African-Americans in the southern and eastern states.

From the time she was 21 years old, Katharine had wanted to become a religious sister. Six years later the bishop of Omaha, Nebraska, encouraged her to found a religious community to work among Native Americans and African-Americans.