

Dear Sacred Heart Parishioners,

One of the first things I wanted to be when I grew up was an Eye Doctor. I was inspired by Doctor Morrison, my Doctor in Wilkes-Barre PA. who examined my eyes, performed eye surgery on me and prescribed my first pair of glasses (which I still have) all before I was three years old. I remember him as a wise, kindly and calm gentleman. I trusted him with my eyes and my eyesight. I was never afraid or hesitant when I went to him for a check-up or he came to me after surgery with his clean white coat, his soothing voice and that shiny, silver disc that he wore around his head to examine how I was coming along. This is how I saw him all those years ago and see him in my memory to this day.

In the Gospel today, Jesus talks about the blind leading the blind and we all know what He means. Throughout our lives we are cautioned to “Look where you’re going”. “Watch Out”, “Pay attention to the road”. He tells us to remove whatever obstructs our vision so that we can help others remove whatever obstructs their vision. We trust the Lord to show us what in our eyes, whether a splinter or a beam, is stopping us from seeing Him, finding our way or perceiving a neighbor in need. There are at least eight accounts of Jesus healing the blind and they are found in all four Gospels. How many others not recorded in the Scriptures called out to Jesus: “I want to see!” and how many times have we prayed for the same healing help?

As the holy Season of Lent begins this week, let us use this time to be mindful of the dangerous darkness that is around us and within us and, with sincere sorrow for our sins, call upon Jesus to heal our sight and reveal His glorious light. Let us trust in Him to always be our most inspiring and loving “Eye Doctor”. The one we most want to be like when we “grow up”.

“Open my eyes, Lord. Help me to see your face.  
Open my eyes, Lord. Help me to see.”

A blessed Lent to all of you,

*Father John*