

## **Tuesday March 24 2020, healing in the face of adversity**

Have you ever noticed, that, there are lots of stories throughout the Gospels about, healing? Today's Gospel is no exception with the man laying just inside the portico of the healing pool at Bethesda. But, what caught my eye was the timing of the healing. Jesus, knew this man had been laying there for some time, having been ill for 38 years. Can you imagine? Can you picture yourself, in his circumstances, because, we too are often overwhelmed with our own illnesses and diseases.

This man was so sick, he could not manage the crowds and what about all those who had passed him by for so many years, to reach out and help him down into the pool. Can you imagine how alone, he must have felt? And yet, Jesus, waited for the appropriate time to heal this man, not because He was too busy, or had to do something else, but to give glory to God. Like the story about His friend Lazarus. He could have gone right way, but He chose the appropriate time, to give glory to God. Because, Jesus, never does anything, for personal gain, unlike many of our world who seek the spotlight for the accolades. Remember, everything we do, should come from a place of grace, not for ourselves, but for the greater glory of God.

What strikes me about this particular passage like many others in the Gospels, is the compassion that Jesus feels for the man's situation. I have to ask myself, do I show the same kind of compassion for those who need it most? We are reminded once again that this is the same Lord who lifts us up from our despair, from our fear, from our anxieties, from our burden of sin. It is time for all of us, especially in the face of these uncertain times to confess, what is in our hearts, to God, who knows no bounds when it comes to our healing, for the love He has for each of us. No matter how, difficult, we might feel sharing these thoughts, no matter how serious our transgressions might be, we need to "ask to be made well!"

Waste no time, get down on your knees and ask, the true physician of our soul, to be healed from, whatever ails you. And, most importantly, be grateful for all that you have to offer, a neighbour, friend or street person in these difficult times and be confident, to share the Word, most precious. Do not be afraid!