

## Homily

02.20.2019 – Wednesday Sixth Week in Ordinary Time

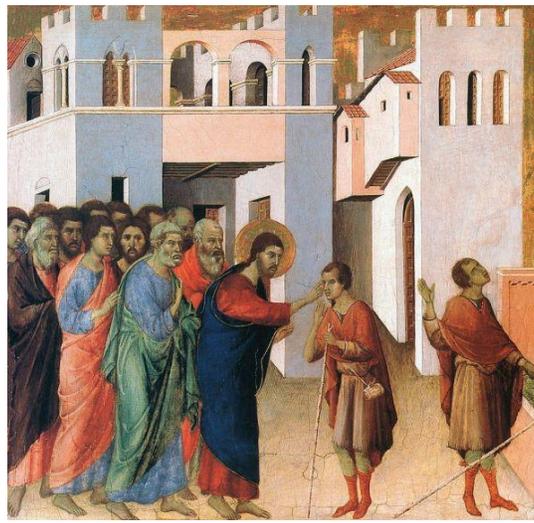
Gn 8:6-13, 20-22 Mk 8:22-26

### Today's Saints: Francisco, Jacintha:

Francisco and Jacintha were two of the children who saw the Blessed Virgin Mary at Fatima, Portugal. Our Lady entrusted to these children the message of Peace to the world. She told these children that they pray Rosary for the Peace of the World and for the conversion of Sinners. Francisco was born in 1908 and died in 1919. Jacintha was born in 1910 and died in 1920.

Let us also pray the Rosary for the peace of the world and conversion of Sinners.

### Homily:



Jesus came to Bethsaida, the fishing village of Andrew, Peter, James, and John, a blind man was brought to Jesus by some of his friends. Jesus physically identified with the blind man's incurable condition both to show his personal compassion for him and to also awaken faith in him. His sight was restored in stages as he responded in faith to Jesus'

healing touch and words. The spiritual significance of this healing is not only for the blind man but for us as well:

When Jesus cures someone it is done because of the faith they have and manifest. It is not that Jesus could not heal someone without faith; rather, it is that this is what He chose to do. He made healing depending upon complete faith.

In this miracle story, it appears that the blind man has some faith, but not much. As a result, Jesus does something very telling. He allows the man to be healed only part way so as to illustrate his lack of faith. But He also reveals to us that a little faith can lead to more faith. The man, once he could see a little, clearly began to believe some more. And once his faith grew, Jesus laid hands on him again, bringing his healing to completion.

What a great illustration for us! Some people may have complete faith in God in all things. If that is you, then you are truly blessed. But this passage is especially for those who have faith, but struggle nonetheless. To those who fall into this category, Jesus is offering much hope. The action of healing the man twice in a row tells us that Jesus is patient and merciful and will take the little we have, and the little we offer, and use it the best He can. He will work to transform our little faith so that we can then take another step closer to God and grow in faith.

The same could be said of sin. Sometimes we have imperfect sorrow for sin and sometimes we sin and have no sorrow for it, even though we know it is wrong. If that is you, then try to take at least one small step forward toward the healing of forgiveness. Try, at very least, to desire that you will grow in a desire to be sorry. That may be the bare minimum, but Jesus will work with it.

Reflect, today, upon this blind man. Ponder this twofold healing and twofold conversion the man undergoes. Know that this is you and that

Jesus wants to take you one-step further in your faith and in your repentance of sin. Are there any blind spots in your life that cloud your vision of the Lord Jesus and his kingdom of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit?

**Let us pray:**

Lord, I thank You for the incredible patience You have with me. I know my faith in You is weak and must increase. I know my sorrow for my sins must also increase. Please do take the little faith I have and the little sorrow I have for my sins and use them to draw me one-step closer to You and Your merciful heart.

**Jesus, I trust in You.**