

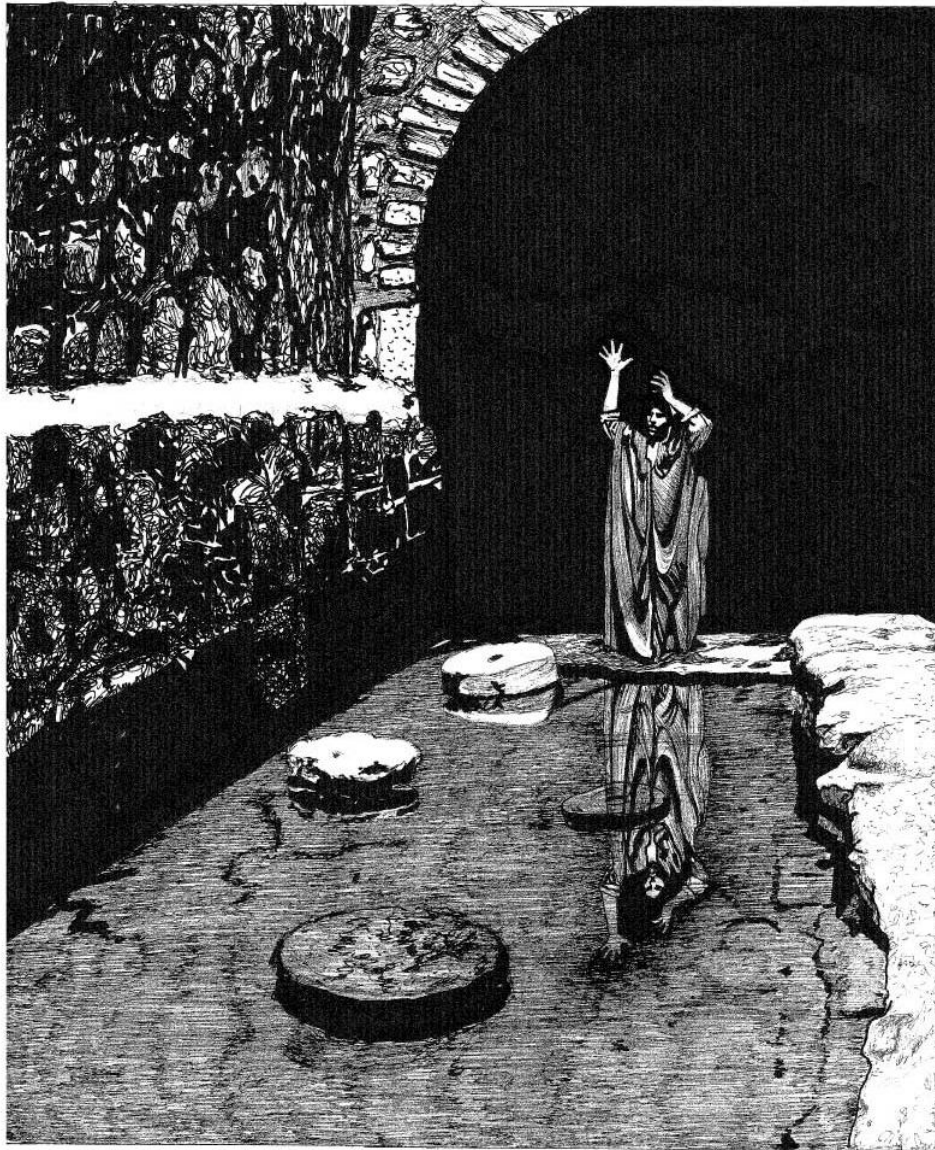
# OPEN OUR EYES



“One thing I do know  
is that I was blind  
and now I see.”

Jn 9:25

Christian Life Commission  
Morning of Reflection  
Convocation  
2 April 2011



*The Man Born Blind, Sees*

*John 9:11*

*Letitia 2000*

The man called Jesus made clay  
and anointed my eyes and told me,  
'Go to Siloam and wash.'  
So I went there and washed and  
was able to see."

Jn 9:11

# OVERARCHING VISION of the CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMISSION

Insert text, poem, quotes, or reflection

Parishes are called  
to help people live their faith in the world;  
to help them understand and act on the social dimension  
of the gospel in their everyday lives as they live their roles as:  
parents, friends, workers, students, owners, investors,  
citizens, caregivers, advocates, policy makers, and  
members of both local and global communities.

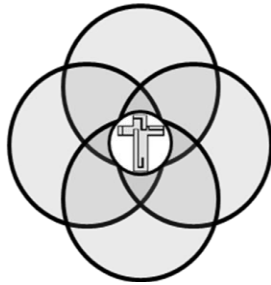
Through grace, in community,  
we are called to image the face of God  
to one another in times of suffering, times of joy,  
times of giving, and times of receiving.

## **Ministry Area I**

Welcoming Committee  
Fiesta Committee  
Golden Agers  
Ladies Guild

## **Ministry Area IV**

Just Faith  
Peregrinos Juntos  
The Haiti Project  
Habitat for Humanity  
Detention Ministry  
Pima County Interfaith  
Council (PCIC)  
Care for Creation  
Consistent Ethic  
of Life



## **Ministry Area II**

Stephen Ministry  
Moses  
Bereavement Support  
Health Care Ministry  
Counseling Service  
St. Peregrine Ministry  
Parish Blood Drive  
Eucharistic Ministers to  
the Homebound  
TIHAN Ministry

## **Ministry Area III**

St. Vincent de Paul  
Society  
The Blessed Nuno Society  
Casa Maria Outreach  
Primavera Group  
Knights of Columbus

Insert text, poem , quotes, or reflection

## MORNING OF REFLECTION SCHEDULE

*You are invited to enter into the quiet of this Morning of Reflection*

- 8:30 Mass
- 9:15 Refreshments in PAC Dining Room
- 9:30 Assemble in PAC Auditorium  
Welcome [ *Katie Hirschboeck* ]  
Opening song
- 9:40 Introduction to the Parable [ *Msgr Tom??* ]  
Input for reflection [ *Helen Devries* ]
- 10:10 Period of quiet personal reflection [ *50 minutes* ]
- 11:00 Return to Auditorium for group assignment
- 11:05 Sharing in small groups [ *30 minutes* ]
- 11:35 Reassemble in Auditorium  
Prayer experience [ *Helen DeVries* ]
- 11:55 Closing prayer [ ?? ]

## OPENING SONG

### YOU ARE MINE

WORDS AND MUSIC BY DAVID HAAS ©

I will come to you in the silence  
I will lift you from all your fear  
You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice  
Be still, and know I am near

**Refrain: Do not be afraid, I am with you  
I have called you each by name  
Come and follow me, I will bring you home  
I love you and you are mine**

I am hope for all who are hopeless  
I am eyes for all who long to see  
In the shadows of the night, I will be your light  
Come and rest in me. **R.**

I am strength for all the despairing  
Healing for the ones who dwell in shame  
All the blind will see, the lame will all run free  
And all will know my name. **R.**

I am the word that leads all to freedom  
I am the peace the world cannot give  
I will call your name, embracing all your pain  
Stand up, now, walk, and live. **R.**

# THE MAN BORN BLIND

JOHN 9:1-49

## CLOSING PRAYER

As Jesus passed by he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him. We have to do the works of the one who sent me while it is day. Night is coming when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”

When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva, and smeared the clay on his eyes, and said to him, “Go wash in the Pool of Siloam” — which means Sent—. So he went and washed, and came back able to see.

His neighbors and those who had seen him earlier as a beggar said, “Isn’t this the one who used to sit and beg?” Some said, “It is,” but others said, “No, he just looks like him.” He said, “I am.” So they said to him, “How were your eyes opened?” He replied, “The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and told me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ So I went there and washed and was able to see.” And they said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I don’t know.”

They brought the one who was once blind to the Pharisees. Now Jesus had made clay and opened his eyes on a sabbath. So then the Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see. He said to them, “He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and now I can see.” So some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, because he does not keep the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a sinful man do such signs?” And there was a division among them.

So they said to the blind man again, “What do you have to say about him, since he opened your eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet.”

Now the Jews did not believe that he had been blind and gained his sight until they summoned the parents of the one who had gained his sight. They asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How does he now see?”

His parents answered and said, “We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. We do not know how he sees now, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him, he is of age; he can speak for himself.” His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone acknowledged him as the Christ, he would be expelled from the synagogue. For this reason his parents said, “He is of age; question him.”

**3) How open am I to the new ways in which God reveals himself to me in my ministry?**

**How deep am I willing to go where he may lead me beyond the simple fact of needs to the difficult area of systems that perpetuate those needs?**

So a second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, "Give God the praise! We know that this man is a sinner." He replied, "If he is a sinner, I do not know. One thing I do know is that I was blind and now I see."

So they said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples, too?"

They ridiculed him and said, "You are that man's disciple; we are disciples of Moses! We know that God spoke to Moses, but we do not know where this one is from." The man answered and said to them, "This is what is so amazing, that you do not know where he is from, yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if one is devout and does his will, he listens to him. It is unheard of that anyone ever opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he would not be able to do anything."

They answered and said to him, "You were born totally in sin, and are you trying to teach us?" Then they threw him out.

When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"

He answered and said, "Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?"

Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, the one speaking with you is he."

He said, "I do believe, Lord," and he worshiped him.

Then Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see might see, and those who do see might become blind."

Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not also blind, are we?"

Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you are saying, 'We see,' so your sin remains.

JOHN 9:1-41

**Reflection Questions:**

- 1) When I serve someone with a need, do I see a whole person or only the problem?

Is my concern only to “take care of” the need as efficiently as possible, or do I see the people I deal with?

In our group’s ministry do we treat the recipients in a way that permits them to keep their dignity? Or is our main attitude one of pity, rather than the Body of Christ reaching out to his people?

- 2) Do I take it for granted that my family is glad that I am in ministry?

Might they be resentful of the time I spend in taking care of others, thus taking away from what I spend with them?

How well do I balance my family responsibilities with my ministry of service?

What are the considerations I must address?