March 22, 2020

**Fourth Sunday of Lent Homily by Father Mike**

There are many ways we see, not just with our eyes, even though this is the most common.  When watching a play the lighting technician often places a filter in front of a bright white light.  The filter helps to set the mood of the scene the director wishes to convey.  Interpreting the scene, we, the viewers, are filtering it through our own life experiences, filters if you wish, and applying a meaning to what we are viewing.   Our various life experiences let us see and understand differently from the person sitting next to us watching the same event.

The Man Born Blind experiences Jesus as first “a man”, “prophet”, “the Son of Man” and finally as “Lord.”  His faith increased as he encountered Jesus over the course of time.  Some of the Pharisees saw Jesus as a “breaker of the Law”, and a “sinner.” Each was seeing Jesus through his own experiences and understanding. Sometimes we need to get beyond our own filters and see Jesus in the purest of light, Jesus as Son of God and Savior.  It is with eyes of faith that we can come to this truth.

We have been given this gift of faith at Baptism but often we have let it sit unopened or unexplored.   Maybe this cloud of the coronavirus has given us the time to ponder and pray on how we see Jesus and how we can grow in our understanding of the Lord who gives us sight.