

30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B

October 25, 2009

QUEEN OF PEACE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA
Rev. Jeff McGowan

1ST READING: JEREMIAH 31:7-9

Shout with joy for Jacob, exult at the head of the nations; proclaim your praise and say: The Lord has delivered His people.

PSALM 126

The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

2ND READING: HEBREWS 5: 1-6

Every high priest is taken from among men and made their representative before God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He is able to deal patiently with erring sinners, for he is himself beset with weakness, and so must make offerings for himself as well as for the people. One does not take this honor on his own initiative, but only when called by God as Aaron was.

GOSPEL: MARK 10: 46-52

Jesus asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" ... "I want to see." ... Immediately he received his sight and started to follow him up the road.

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Do you know our five senses? Can you name them? Yes, hearing, smelling, seeing, tasting, and feeling. But I was watching Hollywood Squares on tv and they were asking what sense do we start losing as we get older. Dennis Weaver answered, "My sense of decency." Sometimes it does seem like as society ages we are losing our sense of decency.

Today Bartimaeus the blind man approached Jesus. Jesus said, "What do you want me to do for you?" Jesus is saying that to us today too. There are various ways of seeing. We might ask to see where our lifestyle is leading us. We might ask to see how other people are making sacrifices for our sake. We might ask to see the effects our good efforts are having on others. We might even see the negative effects our lack of effort has on others. There lots of ways of seeing. One day we will see Jesus face to face and we will see all these clearly. I pray that will be good news!

Today we start our Stewardship month with a parish financial update. John Gasser, our Finance Council Chairman will let you know how we are doing. ...After: I just want to thank everyone who contributes in any way to making our parish function to offer Jesus to people. The third who put their goals in writing are our main support as all can see; you are giving \$2.2 million this year. Thank

you, thank God for you, and please God bless you. The next third also contribute. It's about the same number of households and the same demographic in terms of income and personal expenses but they don't set goals and don't fill in Stewardship cards. This second third are giving \$500,000 this year and they gave \$800,000 the year before. We couldn't make it without you and we thank you, thank God for you, and please God bless you. The third group is about the same number of people and the same demographic in terms of income but they don't contribute at all as far as we can tell. We're still glad you are here and hope you are praying for us; so we thank you as well. Stewardship is receiving the gifts God gives us, making the most of them and returning a portion in gratitude to the Lord's kingdom on earth. May God continue to bless one and all.