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Today's readings remind us that it is God Who both gives us proper vision in body as well as in soul and instructs us that we should be constantly on our guard against spiritual blindness.

By describing the anointing of David as the second king of Israel, the first reading, taken from the First Book of Samuel, illustrates how blind we are in our judgments and how much we need God's help. It reminds us that those whom God involves in his saving plans are not necessarily those whom the world perceives as great.

In today's Responsorial Psalm, (Ps 23), we celebrate the care of God, our Good Shepherd, who keeps us safe in the darkness of this world.

In the second reading, St. Paul reminds the Ephesians of their new responsibility as children of light *"to live as children of the light, producing every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth."*

Presenting the miracle of Jesus' giving of sight to a man born blind, today's Gospel teaches us the necessity of being willing to have our eyes opened by Faith, and warns us that those who

assume they see the truth are often blind, while those who acknowledge their blindness are given clear vision.

In this episode, the most unlikely person, namely the beggar born blind, receives the light of Faith in Jesus, while the religion-oriented, law-educated Pharisees remain spiritually blind.

To live as a Christian is to see and to grow continually, gaining clearer vision about God, about ourselves and about others.

Our Lenten prayers and sacrifices should help to heal our spiritual blindness so that we can look at others, see them as children of God, and love them as our own brothers and sisters, saved by the death and Resurrection of Jesus.