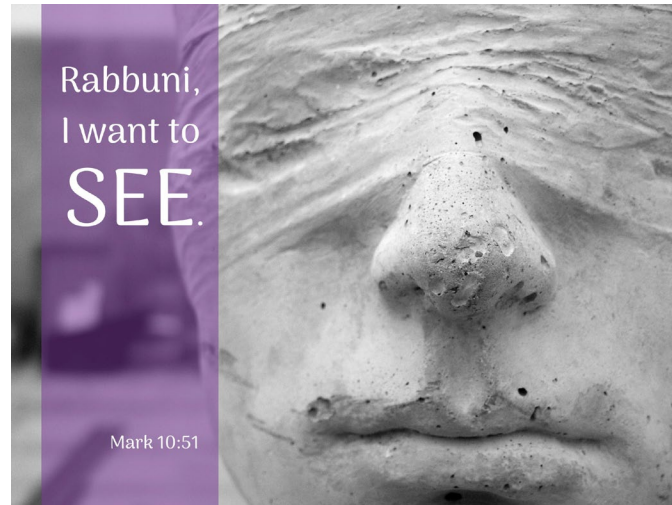


THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURES
October 28, 2018
The Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Jeremiah 31:7-9 † Hebrews 5:1-6 † Mark 10:46-52



Reflection by: Dyann Brown, OPA

Today's gospel is about the roadside beggar and blind man, Bartimaeus, who was so faith-filled he wanted Jesus to make him see while deflecting rebukes to be silent by the public gatherers around him.

It never ceases to amaze me how biblical characters of simple faith sought God's grace, mercy and blessing to restore physical loss, were more faith-filled than those of us in contemporary times with access to biblical and religious scholarship, scientific and medical advances. A deep, abiding trust that God provides won out in those days. This is just one of many stories—the lame walk, the bleeding woman restored, and the blind see—which continually restores our faith back to basics. When all seems lost on whatever losses we have, call on Him to make us whole again; He lifts up all who are humble before Him.

As my physical loss slowly INCREASES, I am strengthened along the way in my faith journey. What is the road ahead God wants me to see? It's a path of anxiety, fear, doubt, vulnerability...but always with faith. Like Bartimaeus, we call out, "Jesus, son of David, have pity on me."

Blessings for a grace-filled week!