



Cathedral Basilica of Our Lady of Peace

Cathedral of the Honolulu Diocese • Founded 1843 • National Historic Register

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 15, 2026

Beloved Disciples of Christ,

Greetings of peace, love, joy, and hope!

“Opening The Eyes of the Heart”

Our Gospel this Fourth Sunday of Lent calls us to reflect on the powerful encounter between Jesus and the man born blind. It is a story not just about physical sight but about a deeper vision of the heart. Jesus restores this man’s sight, opening his eyes to a world he had never seen before. However, the Pharisees, who could see clearly, refused to acknowledge the miracle in front of them. Their spiritual blindness, rooted in pride and self-righteousness, keeps them from recognizing the goodness and mercy of God at work.

The man born blind receives a gift he never expected, but instead of celebrating with him, the Pharisees question, criticize, and condemn. Their hearts are closed. Their minds are fixed. Their egos are too loud. And so, while the blind man begins to see, they remain trapped in darkness.

This same blindness can also affect our lives. In a world that values image, success, and self-promotion, it’s easy to become focused on ourselves, our opinions, our comfort, and the need to appear right. When this happens, we stop noticing Jesus’s presence in our daily lives. We become quick to judge others while ignoring the shadows within our own hearts. Jesus warns us of this when He asks, “Why do you notice the splinter in your brother’s eye but not the beam in your own?” (Matthew 7:3)

As we approach the celebration of the Paschal Mystery, we are invited to ask, Do we truly want to see as Jesus does? Are we willing to let Him open our eyes to what needs healing, forgiveness, or change? Will our relationship with Him, and with one another, be transformed into ways that bring peace, goodness, and joy to our families, our parish, and our world? Like the man born blind, can we honestly say, “I was blind, and now I see”?

This Gospel also speaks powerfully to the challenges of our modern world. We live in a time marked by rapid change, uncertainty, and deep division. The wounds of society, violence, loneliness, inequality, and fear, can make us feel as though we are stumbling in the dark. Yet even in these difficult times, the Lord continues to speak. He calls us to see beyond our physical sight and recognize His presence in the courage of those who work for peace and justice, in the sacrifices of families, in the compassion of neighbors, and in the quiet resilience of communities. He invites us to rediscover what truly matters: faith, solidarity, humility, and love.

Lent is our time to let Jesus touch the areas where we are blind, our fears, prejudices, selfishness, and indifference. It is a season to accept our crosses not with despair but with trust, knowing that Christ walks with us. When we keep our focus on Him, the Light of the World, our eyes of faith start to open. We begin to see clearly, with compassion and hope.

May this season lead us from darkness into light, from blindness into sight, and from fear into the fullness of life that Jesus desires for each one of us, here and now.

Your Friend in Jesus,

Fr. Pascual