



Our Parish COMMUNITY

March 22, 2020

Fourth Sunday of Lent (A)

1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a

Eph 5:8-14

Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38



Jesus said,
"I came into this
world for judgment,
so that those who do
not see might see, and
those who do see might
become blind."
JOHN 9:39

TATIANA DUVBANOVA/SHUTTERSTOCK

I See

Do we? Do we really see? Do we understand?
There is so much that is simply misunderstood or unnoticed. Little about life is uncomplicated, and even that which is uncomplicated so often slips right by us. This is true about a life lived alone or with others. It is also true about our life with God.

The first reading is an example of this. God will choose one of the sons of Jesse to be king. Will it be the eldest, the rightful heir? If not him, perhaps it will be the brightest one or the most pious. All of these highly valued characteristics would certainly be necessary for one to be an effective king. However, Jesse and his sons did not see in the same way as God. Their youngest brother, the one tending the sheep, would be God's choice. He was the one God wanted, and so David was anointed in the presence of his family.

The Gospel tells another story about seeing. In it, Jesus restores a man's sight. What began as a story about physical blindness and sight then becomes a lesson about seeing and understanding the mystery of God's power as opposed to refusing to see and understand it. No one in the story could claim that the man had not really been blind. Then why did they refuse to acknowledge that God's power had done something marvelous in their presence? But they did refuse. We can, indeed, choose to be blind.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- ★ Does bias make you blind to the gifts of others?
- ★ Do you find it difficult to recognize the power of God as it unfolds before you? Why?

