

Fourth Sunday of Lent  
Cycle A  
22 March 2020  
Saint Marcus Saint Lawrence

## ***The Least Become the Greatest!***

In today's first reading we see Samuel set out to anoint a new King. God sends him to the House of Jesse. Samuel knows he is to anoint one of Jesse's sons. He is just not sure which one. Notice how Samuel thinks he has God figured out! "Surely it must be this one" he says to himself. Samuel thinks that because of his stature, good looks, or whatever, that this given son must be the one. How often do we think we have God figured out and we think to ourselves, "This must be the way God wants it." Ultimately, because of some silly reason of our own. Then God takes us down a different path. This was Samuel's experience. God had chosen the youngest, the one left to do the dirty job of watching the sheep while the rest of the family "parties" at the sacrifice. God loves to do this sort of thing. He loves to take the small and insignificant one and give them the gift of Faith and then watch them outdo all those who the world thinks are strong and blessed. This is how God reveals his glory! God loves victory! But he has to have someone to bring up from some low place, or some difficulty in order to show that glory. This is the same dynamic going on in today's Gospel Jesus finds a man born blind and he heals him! This man had to beg to make a living and people even comment on that, "Wasn't this the man who used to beg?" The man replies, yes! People can't believe it! Jesus takes someone who is least and outcast and raises him up! He shows his power, his Glory! The man was born blind. No one had ever restored sight to one who had been born blind, so people are amazed! Of course, the people who think they are powerful are confused and repulsed by this, because Jesus becomes a threat to their power. The point is: it is okay to be downtrodden, unpopular, sick, blind, suffering, and even isolated: because of a virus. It is then that Jesus looks for us. Jesus took on our ultimate weakness when he underwent His Passion Death and Resurrection. In the midst of these times which are so different for us, is an opportunity; an opportunity to embrace our weakness, our biological humanity, and to face our fears. Why? Because when we do this, we are like the blind man that Jesus restored to sight. He wants to encounter us also in our lowliness, to raise us, and to make us great. By making us who are lowly, weak, and humble great He shows His Generous and Magnificent Glory.