

**Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
October 25, 2009**

*"Go your way; your faith has saved you."*

*--Mark 10:51*

All of our readings today describe the marvelous things God has done for God's people. In the first reading from Jeremiah, the people are to "shout with joy" because "the Lord has delivered his people, the remnants of Israel". What the "remnant", the exiles in Babylon wanted was to return to the Holy Land.

The author of Hebrews is grateful that God has provided a new high priest who has overcome death, a high priest who is human, and, at the same time, God's Son. He wants his audience to remain faithful to Jesus Christ.

In today's Gospel, Jesus heals the blind beggar, Bartimaeus. Bartimaeus persistently calls out, "Jesus, Son of David, have pity on me," even when he is told to be quiet. Interestingly, Jesus does not presume that he knows what Bartimaeus wants. Instead Jesus asks, "What do you want me to do for you?" And when Bartimaeus answers, "Master, I want to see", Jesus acts on his behalf and gives him his sight.

Our liturgy today is inviting us to shout for joy! Before we can truly do that, we, too, must call out to Jesus. Jesus will ask, "what do you want?" How will we answer that question? Do we want sight? Do we want to be in a better place than we are now? Do we want to remain faithful to Jesus Christ? Take some time to discern what you want from Jesus and then follow him on the way.

**Readings:**

Jeremiah 31: 7-9

<http://www.usccb.org/nab/bible/jeremiah/jeremiah31.htm>

Psalms 126: 1-6

<http://www.usccb.org/nab/bible/psalms/psalm126.htm>

Hebrews 5: 1-6

<http://www.usccb.org/nab/bible/hebrews/hebrews5.htm>

Mark 10: 46-52

<http://www.usccb.org/nab/bible/mark/mark10.htm#v46>