



Reflection from Ben

This Sunday's readings reflect on how one **sees**. The Book of Samuel talks about human **perception** and gives us the example of Samuel who did not recognize God's king in the shepherd boy, David. On the other hand, in Ephesians, Paul asks us to **discern** how to walk in the light and how to be pleasing to God. Moreover, the Gospel of John connects the theme of light versus darkness by making it clear that Jesus' listeners, who considered themselves special people with unique **insights** to God's ways, were actually in the dark.

The last three Sundays of Lent are the times when catechumens and candidates of R.C.I.A. (Rites of Christian Initiation for Adults) program go through a "Scrutiny." The **Scrutiny** is an opportunity for these catechumens and candidates to make an **introspective evaluation** to see if they are ready to receive the Sacraments of Initiation. May I invite you to do this Scrutiny, as we move closer to Easter, by **reflecting** on the following statements or questions?

- ◆ Is my vision bound to culture? Is my perception bound to self-promotion?
- ◆ What am I looking for?
- ◆ Whose needs am I looking at – mine or theirs?
- ◆ What I see depends largely on what I am looking for.
- ◆ I cannot see what I do not want to see.
- ◆ I cannot see until I see through the other person's eyes.

As we continue our Lenten journey, may we **open our eyes** to those who are **never noticed** in our society.

*Peace,
Ben*