**SYNOD SUPPORTS FOR SUNDAYS 4**

*30th SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME – 27th OCTOBER 2024*

1. **Homily Connections**

*These reflections are preaching points to consider when preparing the homily*

**ABOUT THE GOSPEL**

* Stories of healing in Mark are meant to address the present moment of the hearer. This means we can learn from the blind man today.
* Notice how Bartimaeus takes the initiative in calling upon Jesus.
* Jesus’ question is electrifying: What do you want me to do for you?
* The reply works on two levels. The verb (*anablepō*) means both to direct one’s vision upward and to regain sight.
* At the story level, Bartimaeus wants to be able to see again.
* As the symbolic level, the disciples are being asked to direct their/our vision upwards in a new way.

**ABOUT US**

* If Jesus were to say to me “What do you want me to do for you?”, how would I respond?
* If Jesus were to ask the same question of us as a community of faith, how would we, as Church, reply today? A good question for the Synod!
* How has being a person of faith brought healing into my life and how have I responded?

1. **Suggested Prayer of the Faithful**

*These can be in addition to the usual prayers*

For the healing of past hurts in the Church, for the grace of forgiveness and compassion, that we may all live lives of grace and healing.

For the world at this time, when we seem to be surrounded by darkness and cannot see a way forward: that those seeking true peace and lasting justice may not lose heart.

1. **Parish Newsletter or Website Insert**

May the hope of Jeremiah, expressed with poetry and energy, help us to regain the vitality of the Good News, to become people of faith, hope and love as we journey together as God’s People in the graced moment of Synod. What might I do this week to spread the hope of the Synod?

To follow what is happening at the gathering in Rome you can go to [www.synod.va](http://www.synod.va)