

*Isn't this the man  
who used to sit and beg?*



The healing of the man born blind begins in an unusual silence. The man does not ask to be healed and nor does Jesus ask him if he wants to be. The man, it seems, is not yet ready to speak or to be spoken to.

But when his eyes are opened by Jesus, he slowly acquires a voice. The Pharisees talk about him as if he were not really human; he is an object of conversation, but not a subject. But his parents refuse to consent to this annihilation of his humanity. He can speak for himself. He is of age. His first words are 'I am', implicitly calling to mind the divine name revealed to Moses when he must lead his people into freedom.

Once the blind man speaks with freedom it seems impossible to stop him! He even teaches the Pharisees, much to their chagrin! So, he is transformed from being a silent beggar into a bold speaker who engages in conversation and debate with the religious authorities and who refuses to be silenced.

He sees clearly and he speaks eloquently. He sees who the Pharisees really are, in all their tricky evasiveness and so he challenges them. He sees Jesus, and speaks the words that are the climax of the story, 'I believe' and he worships. This renewed human being is one who is made free to worship.

#### **A prayer for this Sunday**

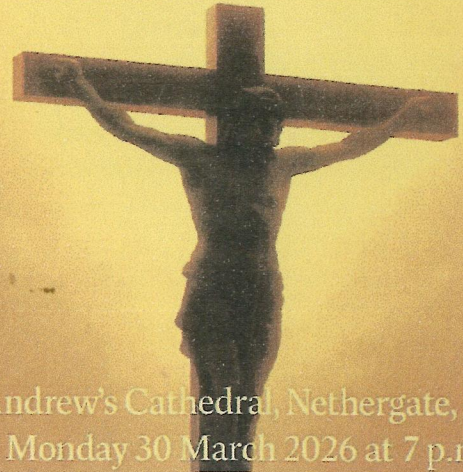
O God, whose face we long to see,  
in Christ you come in search of us,  
judging not by outward appearances  
but by looking into our hearts.

Never permit the powers of darkness  
or the blindness of our selfishness,  
to hold us captive.

Open our eyes by the grace of your Spirit  
that we may look upon your Son  
and worship him as Jesus the Lord  
who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

# JOHN STAINER CRUCIFIXION CECILIAN CHOIR

Conductor – Mary Veal



St Andrew's Cathedral, Nethergate, Dundee  
Monday 30 March 2026 at 7 p.m.

**This is a beautiful choral work, and we are invited to enjoy it on the Monday of Holy week – how fitting! This will be an invaluable aid to your spirituality and growth in love for the Lord during this wonderful Passion Week, and a great preparation for entering the Sacred Triduum on the Thursday evening. Please come and join us.**

*giftaid it*

The new Gift Aid envelopes are now available in Our Lady of Good Counsel for those who pay their church contribution via the envelope system. If you pay tax, the Church can claim back the tax on your offerings at no extra cost to you. Please consider joining the gift aid scheme in our parishes.

I would like to record here our most sincere thanks to Mike McCarry, who for many years has meticulously administered the gift aid scheme in Broughty Ferry, preparing the envelopes and entering the details into the OPAS system, whereby an efficient and transparent gift aid claim can be made by the Diocese and the monies returned to the parish. Thank you, Mike.

Mark Gallacher will now oversee the gift aid scheme and the managing of the accounts at Our Lady of Good Counsel, and I am grateful to him, as I am to those who count the collections and administer the finances in any way across our parishes. We are helped and supported in this work by excellent and hardworking finance team in the Diocesan Office.