

Help us to see



Sign of the Cross.

Perhaps we have upset Mum? But don't worry, today is the day for putting it right. *(Pause)* Let's sing. (See p. 43)



quietly by yourselves

Do you know anyone who is blind? What would it be like?



when each child has had time to think

What's it like?

Even though we can see, in some ways we are blind. We don't see what's under our nose! Have you ever been looking for something and it was in front of you all the time? *(Explain the saying 'Can't see the wood for the trees'.)*



Jesus helps us to see, see things that go unnoticed. He can even help the blind to see!

welcome the Gospel with a song. (Gospel acclamations p. 220)



all stand (adapted from John 9:1, 6-9)

Jesus was walking along when he saw a blind man.
The man had been blind since he was born.

Jesus bent down and spat on the ground
so that he could make a paste from the dust.
He put the paste on the man's eyes
and then told him to wash it off.

The man did as he was told
and when he had finished washing he could see.

The neighbours couldn't believe it.
"It's not the same man," they said.
"It's someone who just looks like him!"

Then the man who had been blind said,
"It is me!"

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you Lord Jesus Christ.



all sit (some suggestions)

What do you think happened next?

What would the man want to see first of all?

What other things does Jesus help us to see?

Is there anything you haven't noticed about your mum? Today is the day to notice and say thanks.

HE HAS OPENED MY EYES

VISUAL AIDS

- > Brightly coloured objects and pictures.
- > A lamp or a lighted candle.
- > Either eye shape cut-outs; or candle shape cut-outs.

WELCOME AND PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL

Saying together:

**Praise to you, O Christ, our Saviour.
Lord, grant that we may see.
Praise to you, O Christ, our Saviour.**

The children could make the blind man's response.

DISCUSSION

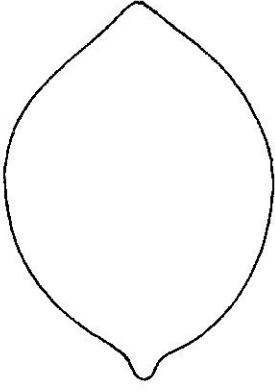
How did Jesus heal the man?

What did Jesus ask him to do?

Why did people keep asking the man what had happened to him?
- because he was so changed, he did not seem like the same person.
Jesus can do the same for us.

SHARING

Encourage the children to talk about what the world would be like without light, without colour, without eyes to see. Talk about how we need light to see clearly, the difficulty of seeing in the dark. Talk about the things the children would miss if they were blind, if it were dark all the time.



The man went, washed, and he could see. Many could not believe this was the same man, so they asked what had happened. The man said, **'Jesus made a paste, spread it on my eyes; I washed and now I can see!'** The news caused such a commotion that the priests sent for him, and they too asked what had happened: Again the man replied **'Jesus made a paste, spread it on my eyes; I washed and now I can see!'**

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

ACTIVITIES

> Have the children mime the Gospel.

> Give out the cut-out shapes.

> On the eye shapes, have the children write or draw how they can use their eyes to help others.

> On the candle shapes, have the children write or draw how they will keep the light of Christ burning brightly in their lives.

Many still found it hard to believe, and kept questioning the man. Again he told them, **'Jesus made a paste, spread it on my eyes; I washed, and now I can see!'** Laster, Jesus asked the man, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Who is he?' the man replied. 'You are looking at him', Jesus said.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**