

Saint Monseñor Josemaría Escrivá de Balaguer (1902 - 1975 AD)



[https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint\\_id=5603](https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=5603)

Father Josemaría is a Spanish Priest, later a Monsignor, who founded the Priestly Society of the Holy Cross and Opus Dei, promoting Catholic sanctity in everyday life, encouraging priestly formation of qualified faithful Laymen candidates and strengthening the Laity to join the Apostolic Work of The Church with and under the guidance of our Clergy.

MARK 10:46-52

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uH2SD23BT1E&list=PL8hBGKeUeKkDFDfPqsZKl3yK-eSrK6RZ&index=20>

46 And they came to Jericho: and as He went out of Jericho with His disciples and a great number of people, blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the highway side begging.

47 And when he heard that it was JESUS of Nazareth, he began to cry out, and say, JESUS, Thou Son of David, have Mercy on me.

48 And many charged him that he should hold his peace: but he cried the more a great deal, Thou Son of David, have Mercy on me.

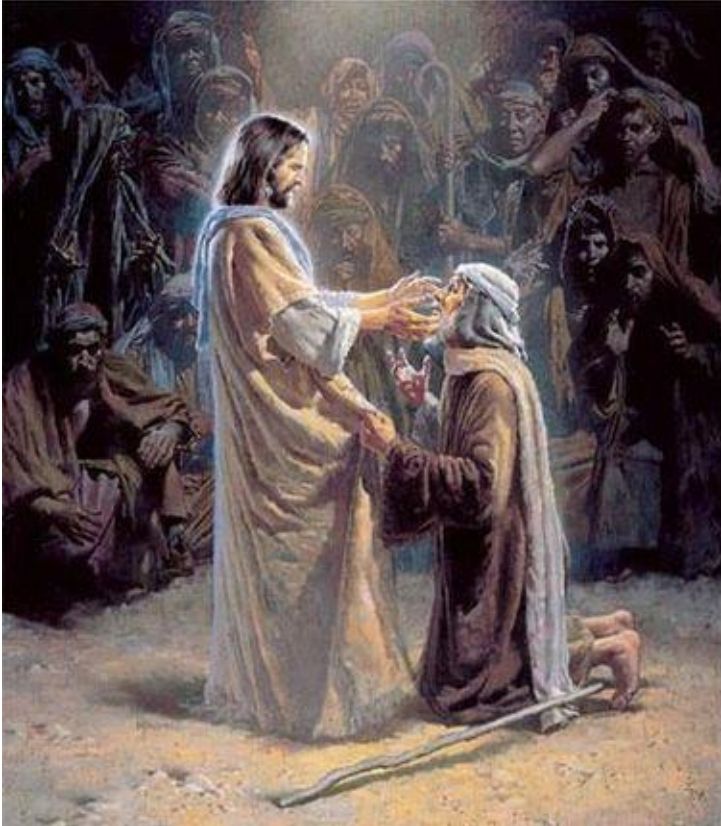
49 And JESUS stood still, and commanded him to be called. And they call the blind man, saying unto him, Be of good comfort, rise; He calleth thee.

50 And he, casting away his garment, rose, and came to JESUS.

51 And JESUS answered and said unto him, What wilt thou that I should do unto thee? The blind man said unto Him, Lord, that I might receive my sight.

52 And JESUS said unto him, Go thy way; thy Faith hath made thee whole. And immediately he received his sight, and followed JESUS in The Way.

"Being Bartimaeus" by Saint Monseñor Josemaría Escrivá de Balaguer



"Don't you too feel the same urge to cry out? You who also are waiting at the side of the way, of this highway of life that is so very short? You who need more Grace to make up your mind to seek holiness? Don't you feel an urgent need to cry out, "JESUS, Son of David, have pity on me?"

What a beautiful aspiration for you to repeat again and again! I recommend that you meditate slowly on the events preceding the miracle, to help you keep this fundamental idea clearly engraved upon your minds: what a world of difference there is between The Merciful Heart of JESUS and our own poor hearts!

This thought will help you at all times, and especially in the hour of trial and temptation, and also when the time comes to be generous in the little duties you have, or in moments when heroism is called for. Many of them rebuked him, telling him to be silent, as people have done to you, when you sensed that JESUS was passing your way.

Your heart beat faster and you too began to cry out, prompted by an intimate longing. Then your friends, the easy life, your surroundings, all conspired to tell you: "Keep quiet, don't cry out. Who are you to be calling JESUS? Don't bother him!"

But poor Bartimaeus [whose name means roughly, "Son of The Unclean] would not listen to them. He cried out all the more. Our Lord, Who had heard him right from the beginning, let him persevere in his prayer.

He does the same with you. JESUS hears our cries from the very first, but He waits. He wants us to be convinced that we need Him. He wants us to beseech Him, to persist, like the blind man waiting by the road from Jericho.

Let us imitate him. Even if GOD does not immediately give us what we ask, even if many people try to put us off our prayers, let us still go on praying! And now begins a marvelous dialogue that moves us and sets our hearts on fire, for you and I are now Bartimaeus.

CHRIST, Who is GOD [Incarnate], begins to speak and asks, "What do you want Me to do for you?" The blind man answers, "Lord, that I may see." How utterly logical! How about yourself, can you really see? Haven't you too experienced at times what happened to the blind man of Jericho?

I can never forget how, when meditating on This Passage many years back, and realizing that JESUS was expecting something of me, though I myself did not know what it was, I made up my own aspirations: "Lord, what is it you want? What are You asking of me?"

I had a feeling that He wanted me to take on something new and the cry, "Master, that I may see," moved me to beseech CHRIST again and again. Lord, whatever it is that You wish, let it be done!" \*

Lord JESUS CHRIST, take away our uncleanness and blindness, that we may truly see, to follow You in The Way of Life, all our days in this world and in Heaven for ever! AMEN.

\*["Being Bartimaeus." Saint Josemaría Escrivá. The Magnificat, 10/24/2021. Meditation of the Day, p 356-367.]