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Three brief parables reflect people's experiences. Can one blind person claim to be able to guide another? That would not be safe. Could someone comment on another's behavior without first guaranteeing that his or her own life is without reproach? Quoting from the Gospel ... *Figs are not gathered from thorns, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush.*

About 220 years before Christ, the Sage Ben Sirach, son of Sirach, wrote: *The kiln tests the potter's vessels; so the test of a person is in his conversation. Its fruit discloses the cultivation of a tree; so a person's speech discloses the cultivation of his mind. Do not praise anyone before he speaks, for this is the way people are tested (Sirach 27:4-7).*

We think about a certain President's tweets and consider whether this information is reliable or not. What about the promises made by politicians particularly during the time leading up to elections? Quoting again from Sirach: *When a sieve is shaken, the refuse appears; so do a person's faults when he speaks.*

The Scriptures comment on the recurrent themes of truth and lies. We read how Jesus denounced the potentially destructive nature of speech. We acknowledge only too well how it damages peace and harmony in our world.

Christ's words call for caution in the construction of His Kingdom.

Father Jacques Houle, c.s.v.

Translated by Honore Kerwin Borrelli



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Sunday March 3, 2019

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

In the sixth chapter of St. Luke's Gospel, Jesus gives specific instructions to his disciples. Christ used three parables: a blind man who attempts to guide another blind person, a speck and a log in someone's eye and finally a tree and its fruit.

The most intriguing and memorable parable concerns the person who is quick to point out the *speck* in a neighbor's eye, while ignoring the *log* in his or her own eye.

There is a play on words in the original Hebrew with the terms "eye" and "well". It is perhaps less bizarre to visualize a blade of grass that is floating on top of a well and compare it to a log in similar circumstances.

The choice of the word "eye" makes this passage more striking. How is it possible for someone who is challenged by a "log" in his or her eye even attempts to correct another person? When one blind person leads another, almost inevitably both will stumble. Jesus concludes his teaching with this quotation: *Each tree is known by its own fruit.*

The Week at a Glance

Sat March 2 7:30 pm Mass in Arborfield **For Maria Sekler**
 Sun March 3 9:00am Mass in Carrot River **For †Eli Malfair**
 11:00am Mass in Zenon Park **For the people**
 Mon March 4 Fr Travis' day off
 Tues March 5 9:00am Mass in Zenon Park **For †Paul Lacroix**
 Wed March 6 5:00pm Mass in Arborfield Park **For Souls in**
Purgatory
 7:00pm Mass in Zenon Park **For †Gilles Favreau**
 9:00pm Mass in Carrot River **For †Paul Kobelsky**
 Thurs March 7 6:00pm Adoration in Carrot River
 7:00pm Mass in Carrot River **For †John Dzik**
 Fri March 8 10:00am Mass in Arborfield Care Home
 7:00pm Adoration in Zenon Park
 8:00pm Mass in Zenon Park **For †Melanie Wassill**
 Sat March 9 7:30 pm Mass in Arborfield **For Residents of**
Arborfield Care Home
 Sun March 10 9:00am Mass in Carrot River **For the people**
 11:00am Mass in Zenon Park **For Calvin Basaraba**

Mass Times for Mar/Apr

Sat 7:30pm – Arborfield
 Sun 9:00am – Carrot River
 Sun 11:00am – Zenon Park

ASH WEDNESDAY - March 6th 5:00 pm Arborfield
 7:00 pm Zenon Park
 9:00 pm Carrot River

Announcements and Activities

<u>Ministry</u>	<u>Mar 2</u>	<u>Mar 9</u>
Commentator	Neil	Liz
Reader	Jeanne	Mark
Cup	Neil, James	Guy, Sue
Hospitality	Bronners	Bob, Lisa
Offerings	Liz, Guy	Gabe, Mary
Sacristan	Jeanne	Mary

Cleaning Schedule

Mar 4 - Mar 10, 2019	Alois & Laurie Bronner
Mar 11 - Mar 17, 2019	Brian & Pam Wassill

Last week's collection total: **\$ 269.00** **Thank You**

Coffee and snacks will be served after mass on **Mar 2nd**. Stay for a visit!

Lectio Divina will begin prior to Saturday night masses at 7 pm **March 9th**.

There will be a **Funeral Planning workshop** hosted by St. Lucy's parish on March 26th 7:00 - 9:00 pm. Learn how to plan ahead and make it a prayerful experience.

A **petition** to the provincial ministers of Health asking for protection for health care workers who do not wish to participate in euthanasia or assisted suicide is available to sign at the back of the church.

