



## Lenten Reflection for Thursday, March 2, 2023

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Matthew 9: 27-31

As Jesus went on from there, two blind men followed him, crying loudly, 'Have mercy on us, Son of David!' When he entered the house, the blind men came to him; and Jesus said to them, 'Do you believe that I am able to do this?' They said to him, 'Yes, Lord.' Then he touched their eyes and said, 'According to your faith let it be done to you.' And their eyes were opened. Then Jesus sternly ordered them, 'See that no one knows of this.' But they went away and spread the news about him throughout that district.

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Today's reflection is by Jenna McAuley

"According to your faith let it be done to you." I think if I could summarize the Bible, and perhaps spirituality as a whole, it would be with this one sentence. I could skip over all the smoting and begatting and just cliff note it there. Have Faith. Be open to the magic and the mystery of the world. Believe.

Around this time two years ago I was in the early days of what would become an unanticipated and surprisingly acrimonious divorce. I was new to Holy Apostles, a parent of a 7 year old and honestly just trying to hold it all together. You know those crossroads in life where there's nothing more you can do but just have faith? Where you are blind to how things are going to turn out and all you can just do is surrender? Gosh, do I know that moment, when there is nothing left but to be open to the possibility that one day the blindness is going to lift. And so I was. I too asked Jesus to have some mercy.

Fast forward to today and I am in year 2 of our Holy Apostles EFM cohort and I have read a LOT of the Bible— 85%, if I believe my kindle. It seems to me that almost all the stories are about what happens if you do (or don't) have blind faith that God, or Jesus, is working in your best interest. I read all of those stories knowing that generations before me also found hope within them when there was nothing left to do but

surrender. I guess I let God enter my home and heal me of my blindness too, and it's been nice to see again.

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Jenna McAuley started attending Holy Apostles in the height of the pandemic when God called her to walk down a street she had never wandered before and she happened upon our beautiful little church. She lives in Ditmas Park and is blessed to be raising a 9 year-old child named Etta. In her spare time Jenna fights cyber-crime and visits art museums.

