

Your Faith Has Saved You

In the Gospels, Jesus said, “Your faith has saved you” three times: (1) after healing the woman who suffered hemorrhages for twelve years, Jesus said, “Courage, daughter! Your faith has saved you.” (Matthew 9:22), (2) after healing Bartimaeus, the blind beggar, Jesus said, “Go your way; your faith has saved you.” (Mark 10:52), (3) after healing the ten lepers, Jesus said to the Samaritan, “Stand up and go; your faith has saved you.” (Luke 17:19)

Some people might think that when Jesus said to these people, “Your faith has saved you,” He meant that these people were assured of eternal life. However, in this context, the proper interpretation of “Your faith has saved you” is “your faith has made you well.” In other words, their faith was the means of their restoration.



The miracle healings in the Gospels give us some insight on the dynamics between faith and healing. The fact is that Jesus did not indiscriminately heal all the people all of the time, nor did He heal only those who had faith in Him prior to their healing. For example, by the pool of Bethesda, there lay a large number of ill, blind, lame, and crippled. However, Jesus chose to heal only one man who has been ill for thirty-eight years (John 5:3-5). In addition, the Gospel gives us no indication that

this paralytic in Bethesda had faith in Jesus prior to and after his healing. Another fact is that Jesus healed people without being asked. The paralytic in Bethesda and the man born blind in John 9 did not ask to be healed, but Jesus healed them anyway. These two examples show us that healing is not so much about a person’s prior faith, but it is more about the will of Jesus – whom, when and where He chose to heal.

The man born blind in John 9 is a special case, in the sense that Jesus led the man to faith after his healing. After going through a lot of harsh scrutiny from the Pharisees for his healing, the man born blind ultimately came to profess his faith in Jesus; he said, “I do believe, Lord,” and he worshiped Jesus. (John 9:38)

My own experience with health issues showed me in a personal way that good health is never guaranteed, and a cure may not even be possible. Sometimes, healing comes not in the form of a cure, but in the form of how to manage an illness. Medical science says that it is likely that the blood clots in my brain will never dissolve, and that taking blood thinning medicine is merely to help prevent future blood clots from forming. Medical science also puts me in a high-risk category for future medical complications like stroke or embolism. Nonetheless, I manage this illness by living day-to-day, surrendering to the will of God, and never second-guessing what He may still have in store for me. The dynamics between faith and healing are truly a mystery. A lot of times, faith does not guarantee a cure, but it guarantees a little bit more peace of mind and a lot less anxiety even when it is not easy to do so.

Ten lepers were healed, but none returned to express their faith in Jesus, except the Samaritan. In my sixteen years as a priest, I have seen many instances of healing – some, after their healing or the healing of their loved ones, began practicing their faith in earnest. Some others had a brief period of devotion, but then regressed back to minimally practicing their faith. As the Gospels reveal to us, even those without faith can be healed; but it is only those with faith who can be saved.

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PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attention children and parents: Due to Fall break, we will not have Sunday School class on Sunday, Oct.12.

Attention all parish council members, we will have a meeting in the conference room this Sunday after the 10:30am Mass.

Fr. Bill has prepared a special Book of Intentions in preparation for the Pilgrimage to Our Lady of La Leche in St. Augustine, Florida on November 24-26, 2025. All parishioners are invited to write their personal intentions in this book, which will be presented to our Blessed Mother during the pilgrimage. All written intentions in the Book of Intentions will be offered during Holy Mass on November 25 in the pilgrimage site. You can find the Book of Intentions in the church foyer.

The 10th year anniversary of the dedication of our church will be on November 19, 2027. We would like all church members to have their picture taken for the 10th year anniversary commemorative parish book. Please sign up with Tommy Puk.

For our iGiveCatholic initiative this year, SUPPORT OUR OUTDOOR PRAYER GARDEN AND RECREATION AREA. We have begun the first phase of a new outdoor prayer garden and recreation area in our church property by clearing the space needed for this small capital improvement project. The first phase includes ground covering, outdoor benches and a gazebo or mini-pavilion, our goal for Phase 1 is \$10,000. There will be additional future phases. When completed, the prayer garden will contain an outdoor Stations of the Cross and a monument to Our Lady of China with engraved commemorative bricks. The prayer garden will provide our parishioners and visitors a sacred outdoor space for group prayer and private meditation, as well as open up opportunities for activities which foster both spiritual growth and community building. Please use the iGiveCatholic envelopes provided.

We have an opportunity to help local Norcross Schools this Thanksgiving! Proximity Gap Network is a charitable organization that is supporting local schools this Christmas by providing 350 food boxes to families in need. We will hold a food drive in our church on Oct. 19 & 26. Please pick up a flyer and bring only the items listed in the flyer. Please bring all food items to the church by October 26. If you would like to donate money to this cause, please use the special FOOD DRIVE envelopes. Please write your check payable to HNOJ and write FOOD DRIVE in the memo.

Prayer List: Gao Aishang, Xie Yannong, Xu Chunmei, Bian Meiyi, Chen Kun, Chen Shupeng, Ni Yufang, Lydia Chen, David Wang, Chen Jianxin, Liang Chenjing and Xu Taicheng.

Mass Schedule	Confessions	Bible Study
Sundays 10:30 AM (Chinese)	Sundays 9:00-9:30 AM	Wednesdays 10:00 AM (Chinese)
Sundays 2:00 PM (English)	Tuesdays 2:00-3:00 PM	Mondays 6:00 PM (English)
	By Appointment	
Mondays 12:00 PM (English)		Eucharistic Adoration
Tuesdays 12:00 PM (English)	Anointing of the Sick	Sundays 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM
Wednesdays 12:00 PM (Chinese)	First Sundays after 10:30 AM Mass	Tuesdays 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM
Fridays 12:00 PM (English)		
First Friday 7:00 PM (English)		
First Saturday 10:00 AM (Chinese)		