

**The Reflection from Pastor Fr. John
Carlos, Holy Cross Church, Harrison, NJ,
June 27, 2021**

JESUS HEALS

Imagine being able to go to Jesus with cancer, heart ailments, Alzheimer's, COVID-19, and the other diseases that ravage the human body and have them instantly cured by simply touching his clothing. What a blessing!

The incidents in Sunday's Gospel are not proclaimed to point out the advantages that people had who lived at the time of Jesus. They reveal what Jesus can do today.

Jesus can heal us from the disease of sin that deforms our dignity as people made in the image of God and warps our relationships with others and with the Lord.

Jesus can heal us from thinking that our lives have no meaning or purpose, that they simply bleed away like the blood that drained from the woman with hemorrhages.

Jesus can also save us from death, not physical death that comes to all people, but from spiritual death. Even the daughter of Jairus eventually died, not at 12 but certainly some years later.

Jesus can raise our spirits from the everlasting death of eternal loneliness and darkness that come because of sin.

Some of those who lived at the time of Jesus had the advantage of receiving physical healing and a postponement of their eventual day of death.

Those living today have the advantage of benefiting from the saving power of Jesus Christ made present in the Sacraments of the Church. We can receive forgiveness of our sins and the opportunity to start anew. We can receive the life-giving Body and Blood of Christ. We can be assured that if we are faithful to the Lord, there will be eternal life after the final beat of our heart.

In your service, prayerfully.

Father John Carlos