

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEPTEMBER 5, 2021

Did not God choose those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs to the kingdom?

— James 2:5

THE MESSIAH FORETOLD

Today's story of the cure of a deaf man with a speech impediment is a good example of how much is contained in a simple miracle story. The Greek word *mogilalos* appears only here in all of the New Testament. It is a technical term referring to someone with a stammer. It is also used only once in the entire Jewish scriptures, in the passage that we read today as our first reading from Isaiah. Clearly, by his choice of this precise word Mark wants us to recognize that what Jesus is doing is the fulfillment of what Isaiah had predicted centuries earlier. In fact, Mark wants us to recognize that Jesus is the Messiah foretold by Isaiah and the other Jewish prophets of old.

The word *ephphatha*, "be opened," used to describe the restoration of the man's speech, is another example of a subtle allusion to an earlier prophecy. This time the prophecy in question is from Ezekiel, when he foretells that in the messianic age, "your mouth shall be opened to speak" (24:26). The sophistication of Mark's narrative is further revealed when we realize that there are multiple levels within a single reference. Mark not only draws our attention back to Israel's prophetic past, he also points to the initiatory practice of his contemporaries by his mention of such things as spittle, touching of ears, and the use of the word *ephphatha*, all of which were practices incorporated into the early Church's baptismal ritual.

© J. S. Paluch Co.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Say to those whose hearts are frightened: Be strong, fear not! Here is your God (Isaiah 35:4-7a).

Psalms — Praise the Lord, my soul! (Psalm 146).

Second Reading — Show no partiality as you adhere to the faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ (James 2:1-5).

Gospel — Jesus makes the deaf hear and the mute speak (Mark 7:31-37).

OUR GIFTS RECORD

	Offertory	Development
Last Week's Collection	\$4,551.00	\$3,266.00
Number of Families contributing	98	74
Total Pledge for 2021	\$161,051.00	\$162,928.00
Pledged to Date (31 Weeks)	\$108,435.00	\$110,365.00
Received to Date	\$100,957.00	\$79,985.00
Envelopes Outstanding	\$7,478.00	\$30,380.00

LADIES OFFERTORY RECORD

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2021
\$336.00	\$6,811.00

Twenty-nine ladies made a contribution last week.

PARISH LIFE CENTER HALL FUND WEEKLY REPORT

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2021
\$6,980.00	\$95,185.00

Two people made a P.L.C. contribution last week.

BICENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN

GOAL	\$165,000.00
Total Pledged	\$210,300.00
Total Received	\$63,780.00

POOR BOX totaled \$141.00.

20 **CHILDREN** contributed \$142.00.

BAA totaled \$0.00.

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

An Airplane cleaner was cleaning the pilot's cockpit, when he saw a book titled "How to Fly an Airplane for Beginners". He opened the first page which said: "To start he engine, press the red button." So he did, and the airplane engine started. He was happy and opened the next page which said: "To get the airplane moving press the blue button". He did, and the plane started moving at an amazing speed. He wanted to fly, so he opened the third page which said: "To let the airplane fly, please press the green button". He did so and the plane started to fly. He was excited!

After 20 minutes of flying, he was satisfied, and wanted to land. So, he decided to go to the fourth page, and it said: "To be able to know how to land a plane, please purchase volume 2 at the nearest bookshop."

*Never attempt anything without complete information.
Half-education is not only dangerous but destructive!*

FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE OFFERED BY:

1. The Family of Jack and Betty Costello in loving memory of them on the Anniversaries of their deaths;
2. St. Edward's Parish Family in loving memory of Fr. Peter Clarke on his Birthday;
3. the Family of Angie in loving memory of her on her Birthday;
4. the Family of Captain's Rose Mary in loving memory of her on her Birthday;
5. and a Parish Family Member in thanks to St. Expedite.

WORRY & CONCERN

Worry and Concern are quite different. A worried person sees a problem, and a concerned person makes efforts to solve the problem.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED The Church Office will be closed this Monday, September 6th in observance of Labor Day.

LIFE

**If an egg is broken by an outside force, LIFE ENDS.
If broken by inside force, LIFE BEGINS.
GREAT THINGS ALWAYS BEGIN FROM INSIDE.**

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES Due to COVID Religious Education classes will resume at a later date.

TO MAKE SOMEONE HAPPY

To make someone happy, just give them these 3 things:

- ❖ ATTENTION
- ❖ AFFECTION
- ❖ APPRECIATION

THANK YOU to a parish member for a donation in thanks to the Divine Mercy, St. Expedite and the Blessed Mother; a member for a donation in thanks to St. Anthony; and four members for donations in thanks to St. Expedite.

MEDITATION & PRAYER

Meditation and prayer are important, but how we treat others after we pray is more important.

LOOKING BACK

I interviewed my grandmother for part of a research paper I'm working on for my Psychology class. When I asked her to define success in her own words, she said, "Success is when you look back at your life and the memories make you smile."

SMILE, PRAY & LAUGH

SMILE and your muscles will stretch.

PRAY and your burdens will lighten.

LAUGH and your heart will be strong.

These contribute to good life, never live without them.

JOKE OF THE WEEK

Michelangelo was bored as he was lying on the scaffolding high in the air painting ceiling of the Sistine Chapel when a woman came into the chapel to pray.

He looked down and whispered, "I am Jesus Christ," and His voice echoed in the room. The woman kept praying. Michelangelo said again, "I am Jesus Christ," and the woman said, "Be quiet. I am talking to your mother."

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Monday: Labor Day

Wednesday: The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Saturday: Patriot Day; Blessed Virgin Mary

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday: For the repose of the soul of Fast Eddie on the 14th Anniversary of his death.

Tuesday: In honor of the Infant Jesus for the sick and holy souls; and for the repose of the soul of Fr. Clarke on his Birthday.

Wednesday: For the repose of the soul of Tommy McGuire on the 32nd Anniversary of his death and for the repose of the soul of Jeanette on the 6th Anniversary of her death.

Thursday: For the repose of the souls of Ed and Susie Sherlock.

Friday: For the repose of the soul of Betty Costello on the 5th Anniversary of her death.

RENEWING HOPE

*What ails your heart, that you are sad
And filled with heaviness?*

*What fear has caused these trembling hands –
This painful weariness?*

*Is not the God, the Mighty One,
The King upon His throne?
Will He abandon those He loves
To struggle on their own?*

*His heart is love, His hand is strong –
His purpose will prevail.
If you believe, obey and trust,
Your faith need never fail.*

READERS

Sat. Sept. 4th, 4:00 P.M.
Natalie & Mary Martha

Sun. Sept. 5th, 10:00 A.M.
Jimmy Joseph & Rose Marie

Sat. Sept. 11th, 4:00 P.M.
Cathy Lisa & Reed

Sun. Sept. 12th, 10:00 A.M.
Jimmy Joseph & Rose Marie

READERS – WEEKDAYS

Monday - Graclynn
Tuesday - Claire
Wednesday - Marilyn
Thursday - Dayna
Friday - Ciara

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - WEEKDAY

Monday - Rose Melissa
Tuesday - Nora
Wednesday - Catherine Ann
Thursday - Mary Cat
Friday - Rosie Cat

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS – WEEKEND

Saturday 4:00 P.M. September 4th
Front Winnie Ann
Right Cathy Pole
Left Catherine Ann

Sunday September 5th Sunday September 12th
Rose Marie Rose Marie
Mary Cat Mary Cat

INTERESTING ONE LINERS

- ❖ If it's true that we are here to help others, then what exactly are others here for?
- ❖ On my computer there are two buttons representing the things I can never have: Control and Escape.
- ❖ If your not part of the solution, you're part of the problem.
- ❖ Borrow money from pessimists. They don't expect it back.

WISDOM OF ST. FULTON SHEEN

The figure upon the Cross is not an MVD agent or a Gestapo inquisitor, but a Divine Physician, who only asks that we bring our wounds to Him in order that He may heal them. If our sins be as scarlet, they shall be washed white as snow, and if they be as red as crimson, they shall be made white as wool.

~~~~~PRAYER CORNER~~~~~

A PARENT'S PRAYER

Thank You for my children, Lord; I know they are a gift from You. I need Your strength and wisdom daily to train them in the way they should go. Give me patience and a joyful heart; let me be an example of Your love and forgiveness. Thank You, Father, for the honor of being a parent. Amen.