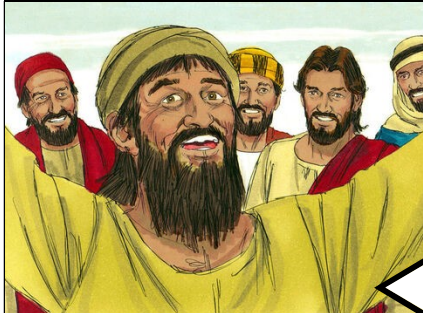


05th September 2021: Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)



CHRIST OPENS OUR EARS AND OUR LIPS

The power of Christ helps us to understand the Gospel and to speak its message to others. Even though in the world's eyes we may be insignificant, nevertheless the Lord has chosen us to be heirs to his kingdom. We do not need to be afraid. Our God is always faithful to his promises.

He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.

**We Welcome Fr John Mudereri,
Fr Joe O'Connor & Bishop Pat Lynch**

Mass Times, Intentions & Feast Days

Sat 04	<i>First Mass of Sunday</i>
18:30	Wedding Anniversary of Sylvia & George Lakey
Sun 05	✠ Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
09.30	Fred & Andrew Dean RIP
11.00	Doffou Nobert Ede RIP
Mon 06	
09.30	Bob Gray RIP Rosary
Tue 07	
09.30	Bob Gray RIP Rosary
Wed 08	<i>The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>
09.30	Daniel & Ellen Sullivan RIP Rosary
Thu 09	
09:30	Intention of Euphrasie Rosary
Fri 10	
09.30	For all Souls in Purgatory Exposition
Sat 11	
09.30	People of the Parish
18:30	<i>First Mass of Sunday</i> Fr Regis and his family
Sun 12	✠ Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
09.30	Thanksgiving Mass for Fr Regis
11.00	Mrs Eufrasia Rubaya RIP

Gospel Reflection

In today's Gospel, Jesus heals a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment. This is a story about Jesus' healing power, and in it we find clues about our understanding of sacrament. We are struck by the physical means used to heal the man, the use of spittle and touch. The Church continues to celebrate the sacraments using physical means. In the Sacrament of Baptism, water and oil are used to show the power of the Holy Spirit. In the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, we are anointed with holy oil on the forehead and the hands. In the Eucharist, bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ. We are a sacramental people who believe that God's grace is given to us through these physical signs.

Some, however, see in this Gospel an image of the proclamation of the good news of Jesus to the Gentiles. The geographic references tell us that Jesus is journeying through Gentile territory. Jesus had previously visited this region and healed a person possessed by a demon. Jesus was already famous there, which explains why people brought the deaf man to him. The story that precedes this reading in Mark's Gospel sets the stage. Jesus encounters a Gentile, a Syrophenician woman who asks him to heal her demon-possessed daughter. Jesus engages her in a dialogue about not feeding to dogs the food intended for children. Jesus is struck by the woman's great faith when she replies that even dogs eat the food that falls from the table, and he heals her daughter immediately. The faith of this Greek woman compels Jesus to respond to her plea.

Mark shows that Jesus' own mission affirms the early Church's mission to the Gentiles. This was a significant issue to the early Christian community, which found that the good news of Jesus took root and spread quickly among the Gentiles. Yet there is an irony in the story of healing that Mark tells. Jesus gives the man the gift of speech, but then tells him not to use it. Jesus asks that the news of his healing power, which is evidence of his identity as the Messiah, not be spread. This is a recurring motif in Mark's Gospel and is sometimes called the "messianic secret."

LAST WEEK

Offertory	Gift Aided £207 • Not Gift Aided £322
2nd Collection	Pew Kneelers £209
Mass Count	Sat 18:30 (40) • Sun 09.30 (84), 11.00 (78)
THIS WEEK	2 nd Collection: Columban Missionaries
NEXT WEEK	2 nd Collection: Catholic Education Service

DONATING

Gift Aid	Tax payers, please sign up. We receive an extra 25p for every £1 you donate. Visit www.olspn.church for details.
Tap to Donate	Payment Machine in Church Foyer or www.olspn.church
Standing Order	Please contact the parish house for details.
Cheques	Payable to RCAS St. Philip Neri Sydenham

CONTACTS

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Missionary Society of St. Columban

This weekend we welcome Fr Tom Ryan who will be making a Mission Appeal to seek greater support for their work principally through the readership of their Mission magazine 'The Far East', to request the prayers of the parish community and to commend their missionary work to your continued material support.

The Columban Family's (the Fathers, Sisters & Lay Missionaries) evangelisation in China, Chile, Fiji, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Peru, Pakistan, the Philippines & Taiwan, includes outreach to the poor & marginalised peoples, building bridges between faiths and cultures and supporting emerging local Churches.



Mrs Eufrasia Rubaya RIP

As we remember in our thoughts and prayers this weekend: Fr Regis, his mother and family, Fr Regis sends word that his mother's funeral last Saturday went very well and was a beautiful celebration of her life.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;
treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to
people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we
adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your
great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty
Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord
God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away
the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away
the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are
seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on
us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the
Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with
the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

FIRST READING – Isaiah 35: 4-7

Say to all faint hearts, ‘Courage! Do not be afraid.

Look, your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the
retribution of God; he is coming to save you.’

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of
the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer
and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy; for water
gushes in the desert, streams in the wasteland, the
scorched earth becomes a lake, the parched land
springs of water.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM - Psalm 145

R. **My soul, give praise to the Lord.**

SECOND READING – James 2:1-5

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus
Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of
distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a
man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed
and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor
man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice
of the well-dressed man, and say, ‘Come this way to
the best seats’; then you tell the poor man, ‘Stand over
there’ or ‘You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.’ Can’t
you see that you have used two different standards in
your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and
corrupt judges at that?

Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor
according to the world that God chose, to be rich in
faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he
promised to those who love him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Speak, Lord, your servant is listening:
you have the message of eternal life.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL - Mark 7: 31-37

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way
of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, right through the
Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man
who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked
him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in
private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the
man’s ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then
looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him,
‘Ephphatha’, that is, ‘Be opened.’ And his ears were
opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened
and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no
one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely
they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. ‘He
has done all things well,’ they said ‘he makes the deaf
hear and the dumb speak.’

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of
heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten
Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God
from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made. For us men and for
our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the
Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and
became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he
suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the
third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He
ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of
the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the
living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with
the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has
spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I
confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I
look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life
of the world to come. Amen.