

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE MESSIAH FORETOLD

Praise the Lord, my soul!

-Psalm 146

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.

Masses for the Week

Sunday, September 5

7:30 A.M. Patrick Muhler

10:00 A.M. Richard and Ruth Nix

Monday, September 6

7:30 A.M. NO MASS

Tuesday, September 7

NO MASS

Wednesday, September 8

7:00 P.M. NO MASS

Thursday, September 9

7:30 A.M. NO MASS

Friday, September 10

7:30 A.M. NO MASS

Saturday, September 11

5:00 P.M. Dave Vachon

Sunday, September 12

7:30 A.M. Elfrieda Anderson

10:00 A.M. Karen MacIntyre

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES September 11 & 12

LECTORS:

5:00 p.m. Savannah Strack

7:30 a.m. Jim Breckler

10:00 a.m. Doug Ford

NOON NO MASS

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

5:00 p.m. Lynn Doak

7:30 a.m. Bob Tippmann

10:00 a.m. Jean Nix

NOON NO MASS

GIFTS

5:00 p.m. volunteers

7:30 a.m. volunteers

10:00 a.m. volunteers

NOON NO MASS

USHERS

5:00 p.m. volunteers

7:30 a.m. volunteers

10:00 a.m. volunteers

NOON NO MASS

SERVERS

5:00 p.m. to be scheduled

7:30 a.m. to be scheduled

10:00 a.m. to be scheduled

CHURCH CLEANING

September 11 Doug and Nancy Ford, Jill Mickley

September 5, 2021

Updated Liturgical directives

Masks – Masks or face coverings are now optional at public liturgies but individuals that are unvaccinated should still wear masks.

Social distancing – Strick social distancing is no longer required in churches. An area in the back of church still will be specifically set aside with social distance seating and wearing masks for those who want to continue going that way.

REMINDER: Anyone (whether vaccinated or not) with a cough or fever, or who may otherwise be feeling sick, should **NOT** come to church for Mass.

Confessions will be on Saturday afternoons from **4:00-4:45pm**.

NO WEEKDAY MASSES until **October 11** when Fr. Tad returns.

Pro-life: “Protecting life is our duty as Catholics, and ending legal protection for abortion is imperative.”

Altar Servers Parents please contact Nick Schortgen at 693-2052 if you have a son(s) middle school age or older that would be interested in returning to serving at Mass for training and scheduling.

Religious Education Classes will begin on **Sunday, September 12 from 8:30-9:45 am** for 4-year-old thru High School. Registration forms are at the church entrances.

Adult Education Classes will be held on Sunday mornings from **8:30-9:45 am** during Religious Education Classes beginning on **Sunday, September 12th**. Please come and join us on our continuing faith journey.

Coffee & Donuts on Sunday, September 12 after Masses. Free will offering.

RCIA Classes (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) will begin this fall for any adults who wish to learn more about the Catholic Faith through the RCIA program. Please contact the parish office if interested.

Fort4Fitness! Bishop Dwenger is a charity partner with Fort4Fitness! If 100 people sign up to run for Bishop Dwenger on **September 18**, they receive 10% of the registration fees.

Pro-Life Meeting will be on **Monday, September 13 at 7pm in the parish hall.**

Knights of Columbus Meeting will be **Thursday, September 16 at 7pm** in the old school hall.

Support the Catholic Communication Campaign next weekend at all the masses. This collection helps connect people around the world with Christ and builds Catholic communities.

Are you interested in joining 4-H Club in Allen County? This year our Club will explore Geology, Arts & Crafts and Gardening! Enrollment opens soon! Contact Stefanie Umberg at 260-452-8437, for more information about the Southwest Stewards 4-H Club of Allen County!

Little Flower Holy Hour for vocations will be held on **Tuesday, September 7 from 7-8 pm** at the St. Mother Theodore Guerin Chapel in Fort Wayne. Each month is led by a different diocesan priest or deacon, with Father Michael Ammer leading this month. Please join us in praying for vocations.

Father/Son Retreat for the Year of St. Joseph Boys ages 13-17 and their fathers/male relatives are invited to join Bishop Rhoades for a special retreat to celebrate the Year of St. Joseph! **The retreat will be on September 19 from 2-8 pm at St. Patrick's County Park in South Bend.** The cost is \$20 per family includes entry fee to park, snacks, dinner and a keepsake crucifix. More information and registration available at <https://diocesefwsb.org/joseph-retreat>.

Calling All Golfers “Golfing for Kids” – All FORE Charity on **Thursday, September 9** at Coyote Creek Golf Club. An **8:30 am** shotgun start. Registration is open for teams or individuals. \$100 per golfer – includes golf, cart, 2 drink tickets and buffet lunch. Go to: www.christchildfw.org/golf-registration

Dive Coach Needed at Bishop Dwenger for the winter season. Dive experience is necessary. Please contact Athletic Director Greg Slee at 496-4733, gslee@bishopdwenger.com for more info.

A Fall Life in the Spirit Retreat will begin on **September 13** and continue for seven consecutive Mondays until October 25 from 6:30-8:00 pm in the Cathedral Hall Lower Level. Please call to register 385-5717. Suggested \$10 donation for materials.

Join us on Wednesdays for prayers at Planned Parenthood on Lake Avenue from 9am – Noon. Help babies, moms and families. – Pro Life Committee

New Maintenance/custodial staff needed for Bishop Dwenger High School. One full-time day shift and one full-time second shift and two part-time positions. Visit <https://theapplicantmanager.com/careers?co=df>.