



MASSES

Saturday [anticipated] 4:30 pm

Sunday 8 am, 9:30 am, 11 am

Mass in the chapel Monday-Friday at 9 am

Saturday at 10 am

CONFESSIONS

Tuesday 7-7:30 pm

Saturday 9-9:45 am & 3-4 pm

in the chapel

ST IGNATIUS & ST LUKE'S

5 September 2021

EPH'PHATHA—BE OPENED!

They brought to him a man who was deaf and had an impediment in his speech; and they besought him to lay his hand upon him. And taking him aside from the multitude privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue; and looking up to heaven, he sighed, and said to him, “Eph’phatha,” that is, “Be opened.”
—Mark 7: 32-34

At the heart of today's Gospel (Mk 7, 31-37) there is a small but, very important word. A word that—in its deepest meaning—sums up the whole message and the whole work of Christ. The Evangelist Mark writes it in the same language that Jesus pronounced it in, so that it is even more alive to us. This word is “*Eph’phatha*,” which means, “be opened.”

Let us look at the context in which it is located. Jesus was traveling through the region known as the “Decapolis,” between the coast of Tyre and Sidon, and Galilee, therefore a non-Jewish area. They brought to him a deaf man, so that he could heal him—evidently his fame had spread that far. Jesus took him aside, touched his ears and tongue, and then, looking up to the heavens, with a deep sigh said, “*Eph’phatha*,” which means, “Be opened.” And immediately the man began to hear and speak fluently (cf. Mk 7:35).

This then is the historical, literal, meaning of this word: this deaf mute, thanks to Jesus’ intervention, “was opened.” Before, he had been closed, insulated, it was very difficult for him to communicate; his recovery was “openness” to others and the world, an openness that, starting from the organs of hearing and speech, involved all his person and his life. Finally, he was able to communicate and thus relate in a new way.

But we all know that closure of man, his isolation, does not solely depend on the sense organs. There is an inner closing, which covers the deepest core of the person, what the Bible calls the “heart.” That is what Jesus came to “open,” to liberate, to enable us to fully live our relationship with God and with others. That is why I said that this little word, “*Eph’phatha* – Be opened,” sums up Christ’s entire

mission. He became man so that man, made inwardly deaf and dumb by sin, would become able to hear the voice of God, the voice of love speaking to his heart, and learn to speak in the language of love, to communicate with God and with others.

For this reason, the word and the gesture of “*Eph’phatha*” are included in the Rite of Baptism, as one of the signs that explain its meaning: the priest touching the mouth and ears of the newly baptized says: “*Eph’phatha*,” praying that they may soon hear the Word of God and profess the faith. Through Baptism, the human person begins, so to speak, to “breathe” the Holy Spirit, whom Jesus had invoked from Father with that deep breath, to heal the deaf and dumb man.

Let us turn in prayer to Mary Most Holy, whose Nativity we celebrated Saturday. Because of her unique relationship with the Incarnate Word, Mary is fully “open” to the love of the Lord, her heart is constantly listening to his Word. May her maternal intercession help us to experience every day, in faith, the miracle of “*Eph’phatha*,” to live in communion with God and with others.

—Pope Benedict XVI
September 9, 2012

Vatican Radio



REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

All who are suffering or sick and all caregivers who minister to the sick: Marian Luther, Harold Joyce, Levi Harris, Gary Schenk, Joanne Newsom, Jackie Chancio, Anne Marie Whittaker, Greg and Felicia Yohe, Joe Coleman, John Hogan, Deirdre McQuade, Danny Hart, Amy Howard, Mary Morehead and family, Curtis Bailey, Leondre Massey, Sister Constance Ward, George Cochran, Mark Anthony Turner, Rachel Fisher, Patricia Ransom, Beverly A. Woods, Kerianna Prather, Domingo G., Adrian and Barbara.; D.K.C., M.M., R.M., K.M., C.M., C.A., E.D., E.G., W.B., J.M., H.G., and J.G.

Please call or email the office to add a name to the prayer list.

Before calling, please be sure you have spoken to the person [or a member of his family] about adding the name—we do not want to inadvertently disregard someone's desire for privacy.

Names of those who are sick or suffering will be kept on the list for one month; to keep a name on the list for longer, you must email the parish office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LABOR DAY

The office will be closed Monday, September 6th, in observance of Labor Day. The 9 am Mass will still be celebrated in the chapel.

YOUNG ADULT RETREAT: ST. MARY'S CHINATOWN

Join the St. Mary's Young Adults for a retreat led by Fr. Andrew Hofer OP, "Living Virtuously through Daily Decisions."

Friday September 10th, 6:45 pm-10 pm
Saturday, September 11th, 8:45 am-5 pm

\$20 per person

To register, visit <https://fb.me/e/72tPt0Ozw?ti=icl>

PHOTO DIRECTORY PHOTOS will be taken this week on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Don't have an appointment for your photo session?
Call the office and get an appointment !

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, 4 September

Anticipated Mass for the 14th Sunday after Trinity
4:30 pm Lina Privitera + [Lucia Ronka]

Sunday, 5 September

The 14th Sunday after Trinity

8 am Pro populo

9:30 am Patricia Preil [Edwin Smith]

11 am J. Alberto Casas +

Monday, 6 September

Labor Day

Feria

9 am Jane Logsdon [Jane Slattery]

Tuesday, 7 September

Feria

9 am James Hawkins + [month's mind]

Wednesday, 8 September

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9 am Deborah Whelan

Thursday, 9 September

Peter Claver, Priest

9 am Russell White

Friday, 10 September

Feria

9 am Quintin Paredes + [Susie Martinez]

Saturday, 11 September

Feria

10 am Madeline's intentions [George F. Hickey Jr]

Anticipated Mass for the 15th Sunday after Trinity

4:30 pm those who have died unprepared +

Sunday, 12 September

The 15th Sunday after Trinity

8 am Pro populo

9:30 am David Lamdin [Edwin Smith]

11 am Paul Michalco +

St. Ignatius Finance Council

Florian Hocke - *Co-Chair*

Jackie Chancio

Deacon Clark Glenn

Joseph Somerville

Clifford Woods

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historic
ST IGNATIUS
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. John Vidal, pastor
Rev. Jason Catania, parochial vicar

Joint Pastoral Council

Michael Taylor

Joseph Chancio ♦ Rosemary Coller

Fran Doyle ♦ James Guinivan

Ada Okafor ♦ Elizabeth Shivone

Connie Somerville

Patrick Delaney - *ex officio*

Susan White - *ex officio*

St. Luke's Finance Council

Patrick Delaney - *Co-chair*

Nicole Crawford ♦ Dave Hoppe

David Lewis ♦ Franco Madan

Susan White - *ex officio*

Karen King - *ex officio*

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