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People brought to Jesus...*a man who was deaf and who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him* (Mk 7:32). Even to listen and welcome this pagan man was contrary to strict Jewish laws. Jesus' actions went beyond what people had requested. *Jesus took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue* (Mk 7:33). As he made these healing gestures, Jesus prayed and raised his eyes to heaven. God would cure this man whose body was not complete. *Jesus sighed and said to him, "Ephphata," that is, "Be opened." And immediately the man's ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly* (Mk 7:34-35).

We are symbolically witnessing the completion of this pagan man's creation as his health was restored. Jesus' actions remind us of God's creation of human beings, as recorded in Genesis (chapters 1 and 2). By praying and touching the man's ears and tongue, God's Son cured this pagan man who lacked *ears* to hear the Word of God and a *mouth* to proclaim the Lord's praises.

Be opened! Jesus' command can be addressed to anyone who needs healing in his or her life, anyone who aspires to reconciliation, who seeks hope, and who is not afraid to forgive. The command, *Be opened!* is also addressed to baptized people who are reluctant to proclaim their faith and their Christian-Catholic identity in our secularized culture. The same command is also addressed to the Church who is struggling to find paths of dialogue with modern society. *Be opened!* This urgent command encourages us to explore the world beyond the confines of our daily lives.

Yves Guillemette, priest

Translated by Honore Kerwin Borrelli



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Sunday Sept 9, 2018 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jesus spent much of his time traveling the roads of Galilee. He was like a Sower who generously disseminated the Good News of God's Kingdom to the crowds that gathered to hear him. From village to village, Jesus listened to the supplications of simple people, healed the sick, comforted sinners and forgave sins. Christ also conversed with the Scribes and Pharisees.

Today, our Gospel passage relates what happened when his travels took him into foreign and pagan territory. Returning from Tire and Sidon (on the Mediterranean coast), Jesus journeyed in the region of the Decapolis, a group of ten villages of Greek origin, located in Transjordan, southeast of the Sea of Galilee.

The Week at a Glance

Sat Sept 8 7:30pm Mass in Zenon Park **For †Mark Thomson**

Sun Sept 9 9:00 am Mass in Arborfield **For the people**
11:00am Mass in Carrot River **For Souls in Purgatory**

Mon Sept 10 *Fr Travis' day off*

Tues Sept 11 9:00am Mass in Zenon Park **For †Paul Lacroix**

Wed Sept 12 9:00am Mass in Zenon Park **For †Wilfrid Carpentier**

Thurs Sept 13 no mass

Fri Sept 14 10:00am Mass in Arborfield Care Home
11:00am Mass at Ecole NDV

Sat Sept 15 7:30pm Mass in Zenon Park **For Famille Pelletier & Dion**

Sun Sept 16 9:00 am Mass in Arborfield **For the people**
11:00am Mass in Carrot River **For Dan & Myrna Oaks**
4-7pm Carrot River Fall Supper

Mass time for Sep/Oct

Sat 7:30pm – Zenon Park

Sun 9:00am – Arborfield

Sun 11:00am – Carrot River

Announcements and Activities

<u>Ministry</u>	<u>Sep 9</u>	<u>Sep 16</u>
Commentator	Neil	Liz
Reader	Jeanne	Mark
Cup	Guy, Sue	Beatrice, James
Hospitality	Neil, Lorraine	Bob & Lisa
Offerings	Liz, Guy	Brian & Pam
Sacristan	Jeanne	Pam

Cleaning Schedule

Sept 10 - 16, 2018	Randal & Joann Rusk
Sept 17 - 23, 2018	Neil & Lorraine Playford

Last week's collection total: **\$540.00 Thank You**

Carrot River Fall Supper will be held Sunday **September 16th** at the Carrot River Community Hall 4:30 - 7 pm. Adults \$15 12 & under \$8 preschool free with take-out available. All are invited to attend!