

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time  
September 8, 2024

# Faith @ Home

## 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

**First Reading:** Isaiah 35: 4-7a  
**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalm 146: 6-7,8-9,9-10  
**Second Reading:** James 2: 1-5  
**Gospel:** Mark 7: 31-37

[Full Readings can be found here!](#)

### 1. HEAR

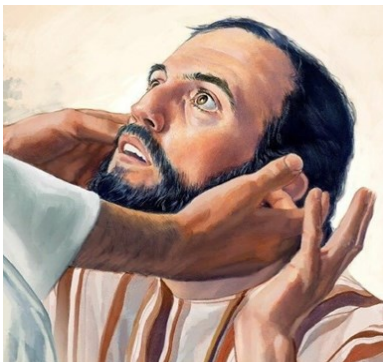
Grab your bible and look up the reading. Don't have one? No worries you can find the text [HERE](#).  
(Bishop O'Connell's Gospel Reflection page.)

As an alternative to reading the Gospel, you can watch a short video with the proclamation for adults by clicking [HERE](#) (YouTube, Kithaabul Muqaddhas Dhivehi, 1:27 min)

The children can also watch a video proclamation of the Gospel by clicking [HERE](#). (YouTube, CartoonBible, 1 min)

### 2. PRAY

Gather the family around a prayer space...  
Imagine yourself as the blind man, in front of Jesus, contemplating him, but unable to hear him, unable to speak. You can only see, so you follow him to a quiet place, and you feel his fingers in your ears and on your tongue.



Suddenly the world of sound opens up to you, and you are able to hear and speak. What are your first words?

Silently, talk to Jesus for a moment. And listen carefully to what He tells you.

Conclude your time with Jesus reciting this prayer:

*I am deaf, Lord, when I do not hear the needs of others, when I don't seek to understand their point of view. I am mute when I utter words full of criticism... when I do not preach your Word. Lord, I hear your words to me: "Open yourself." Unlock my ears so I can hear your words. Open the door of my heart so that my sensitivity to the suffering of others may grow. Free my tongue, Lord, to speak with gratitude of your generosity and mercy. (Catequista de Cádiz y Ceuta)*

### 3. TALK

In today's Gospel, we see how Jesus heals a deaf and mute man.

As a family, share the following questions:

- In what ways are you deaf and mute?
- What do you have to open in your life: humility, mercy, fears, failures...?

After sharing, as a family, we listen to this song:

[EPHPHATHA](#) (YouTube, Sara Begaj)

#### My commitment for this week

- Each day this week, I will open my heart wide to listen to the Word of Jesus and see the miracles of his love, which he performs every day in my life.