

# PARISH OF ST GEORGE

**PARISH ADMINISTRATOR: FATHER THADDEUS OPARA**

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[www.https://saintgeorgeswhitchurch.org.uk](https://saintgeorgeswhitchurch.org.uk)



## **23rd Sunday in Ordinary time,**

**September 08 2024**

The Gospel: Mark 7: 31-37.

### **JESUS HEALS A DEAF AND MUTE MAN**



Today's Gospel describes how Jesus, by healing a deaf man with a speech impediment, fulfills Isaiah's Messianic prophecy, "The eyes of the blind shall be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped." The ailments listed by Isaiah are symbolic of our interior illnesses: blindness to the needs of our neighbour, unwillingness to hear God's voice and the inability/unwillingness to speak words of praise, apology, forgiveness, and gratitude. Through this miracle story, Mark also reminds us that no one can be a follower of the Lord without reaching out to the helpless ("preferential option for the poor").

In a culture where physical disabilities and sickness were commonly interpreted as signs of a person's sinfulness (as a "curse" from God), many Jews would have considered this man to be stricken by God – a sinner. Hence, Jesus shows tender consideration for the weak by leading the man away from the crowd so as not to embarrass him. The miracle is described in seven ritual-like steps: (1) Jesus leads the man away from the crowd, (2) puts his fingers into the man's ears, (3) spits on his own fingers, (4) touches the man's tongue with the spittle, (5) looks up to Heaven, (6) sighs, (7) and speaks the healing command: "Ephphatha" ("Be opened.")

The love of Jesus heals the deaf man's soul as well as his physical condition.

Life message:

We need to pray daily for healing from our spiritual blindness, so that we really see God's presence in others, and act on what we see; from our spiritual deafness so that we will attentively listen to the word of God, hear the cry and needs of others, and meet them as far as we can, and end our spiritual muteness, so that we maybe able to to praise and worship God loudly and vibrantly during our family prayers at home and our liturgical prayers and hymns during the Holy Mass.

**Join the Parish  
Rosary on Saturdays  
6pm. Let us pray for  
the peace of the  
world**



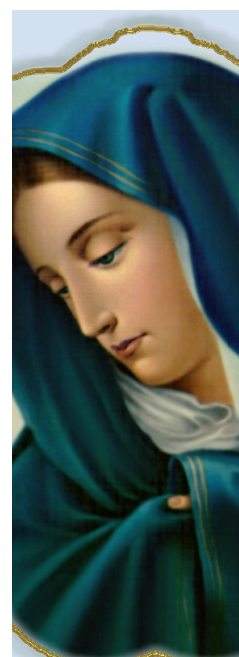
### **Prayer to Our Lady of Sorrows**

Our mother of sorrows, with strength from above you stood by the cross, sharing in the sufferings of Jesus, and with tender care you bore him in your arms, mourning and weeping.

We praise you for your faith, which accepted the life God planned for you. We praise you for your hope, which trusted that God would do great things in you. We praise you for your love in bearing with Jesus the sorrows of his passion.

Holy Mary, may we follow your example, and stand by all your children who need comfort and love.

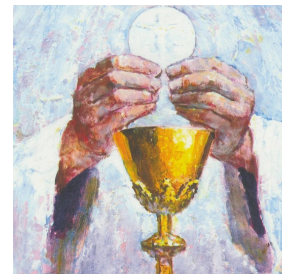
Mother of God, stand by us in our trials and care for us in our many needs. Pray for us now and at the hour of our death. Amen



### Anima Christi:

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.  
Body of Christ, save me.  
Blood of Christ, embolden me.  
Water from the side of Christ, Wash me.  
Passion of Christ, Strengthen me.  
O Good Jesus, hear me.  
Within your wounds hide me.

Permit me not to be separated from you.  
From the wicked foe, defend me.  
At the hour of my death, call me and bid  
me come to you.  
That with your saints I may praise you  
For ever and ever.  
Amen



## Mass Times

|   |                           |   |
|---|---------------------------|---|
| Saturday 07 September                               | 6:30pm                    | Maria Mater Dei Group.<br>St. Jenny FMST,<br>60TH Ann.  |
| Sunday 08 September                                 | 9:30am<br>11:00am         | Chris Gibb<br>Maria Mater Dei Group<br>William Pettifor |
| Monday 09 September<br>St. Peter Claver             | 10:00am                   | Jean Grace  |
| Tuesday 10 September<br>St Ambrose Barlow           | 10:00am                   | Rebecca   |
| <b>Wednesday 11 September</b>                       | Sacristy                  | Private Intentions                                      |
| Thursday 12 September<br>Most Holy Name Of Mary     | 10:00am                   | Sanctification of Priests                               |
| <b>Friday 13 September<br/>St. John Christostom</b> | 6:00PM                    | <b>J.C</b>  |
| Saturday 14 September<br>Exaltation of the Cross    | 6:30PM                    | Samuel Ratcliffe  |
| <b>Sunday 15 September</b>                          | <b>9:30am<br/>11:00am</b> | Parishioners  |

## National Heritage Open Days event.

On Friday 13th and Saturday 14th September, St George's will be open between 11am and 4pm as part of the national Heritage Open Days event. This is an opportunity to learn about the history of our church building, the lives of some of its people and about Catholicism in the local area. There is some additional information to share since last year, so why not come along and see what you can discover!?

### PILGRIMAGE TO ROME

**Register for the great Jubilee Pilgrimage to Rome next Year**  
**Meet the Parish Priests for more details.**

#### Mass Offering

18th August----£327.97

25th August---£315.62

1st September--£375

Coffee Morning--£465.60

Standing orders-----£118.25

|               |                    |                    |
|---------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Sat. 6:30PM   | <b>Sun. 9:30am</b> | <b>Sun.11:00am</b> |
| Hazel Spencer | Guy Churton        | Maria Latty        |

**Confession is Saturdays 5-6pm,  
30mins before and after mass and on request.**

Our Parish Safeguarding representative is  
Helen Clarke