



# Daily Reflections

**February 9, 2018**

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## Scripture

### **Mark 7: 31-37**

Jesus left the district of Tyre and went by way of Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, into the district of the Decapolis. And people brought to him a deaf man who had a speech impediment and begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him off by himself away from the crowd. He put his finger into the man's ears and, spitting, touched his tongue; then he looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him, "Ephphatha!" (that is, "Be opened!") And immediately the man's ears were opened, his speech impediment was removed, and he spoke plainly. He ordered them not to tell anyone. But the more he ordered them not to, the more they proclaimed it. They were exceedingly astonished and they said, "He has done all things well. He makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

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## **Our Scripture Reflection**

Being deaf meant that the poor man was unable to hear the Good News that Jesus proclaimed, and therefore, did not stand a chance to share it. With compassionate love, Jesus opened the man's ears and created a witness to the Gospel!

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### **Food for your Journey**

Apropos the story of the healing of the deaf man in this Sunday's Mark text: In the movie, *Captain Corelli's Mandolin*, starring Penélope Cruz and Nicholas Cage, a man comes to the village doctor complaining that he cannot hear.

When the doctor finds a dried pea stuck in his ear — it has been there for years — he removes the pea, and the man is cured.

Later, the man returns to the doctor. He has been overwhelmed with the sounds of life, the bickering, and noise and hassle. He can hardly stand it.

Please, would the doctor put the pea back in his ear?

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### **A Prayer from the Heart**

Dear Jesus, While I am able to hear and read Your Gospel, I ask for Your Grace so that I may treasure Your Holy Words. May I never miss an opportunity to share Your Good News with others. Amen