

WELCOME TO THE
PARISH OF ST MARY IMMACULATE & THE HOLY ARCHANGELS KELVEDON
ST. BERNARD COGGESHALL & ST JOHN HOUGHTON TIPTREE
(Twinned with St Joseph's Mission, Besters, KwaZulu-Natal)

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PARISH NEWSLETTER

9th September 2018

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF YEAR

He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.

First Reading	Is 35:4-7
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 145:7-10
Second Reading	Jm 2:1-5
Gospel	Mark 7:31-37



TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY: St Mark's accounts of healing miracles are very direct and personal with incidental details, for example mentioning the use of spittle in touching the tongue of the man with hearing and speech problems. His approach is very different from St John's and yet for him too miracles are not simply for the benefit of the individual but signs. We can be sure that both for Our Lord and for St Mark the words of Isaiah in our first reading were in mind, "Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed." The healing miracles are a sign that the Lord has come, hopes are fulfilled, and so all should be filled with courage – the Saviour is here. This explains why the crowds are so excited and insist on speaking about what Jesus has done. It is not just that he has done a good deed for one person – it is just the beginning of great things to come.

PRAYER NEEDS: Please continue to pray for those parishioners who are sick or housebound.

ANNIVERSARIES: Please remember *John Leuce, Julie Rainbird, Teresa Hall, Martha Farcas, and Anne Wade* whose anniversaries occur at this time.

'ADOREMUS': Today marks the close of the National Eucharistic Congress held at Liverpool – we were represented by two parishioners. Please pray that this event may be a source of grace and blessing for our country and in particular foster a growth in devotion to the Holy Eucharist and in vocations to the priesthood.

'EDUCATION SUNDAY': Today is 'Education Sunday' and there will be a Letter from the Bishop on this subject - copies will be made available.

PRO-LIFE VIGILS: SPUC is urging people to send a postcard to the Home secretary urging him not to recommend or promote legislation to outlaw peaceful pro-life vigils, which have helped many women to choose life for their unborn baby. The freedom to oppose abortion and offer help in public places is at risk. Postcards are available at the back of the church. For more information, please call SPUV on 020 7091 7091.

APF APPEAL: On **Sunday 23rd September** Fr Donie O'Connor, MHM, will be celebrating the Masses and looking for support for the missions through the red 'Mission Boxes' and for our local organiser Mrs Jean Mullane. He will not be taking a collection but looking for longer term spiritual and practical support. I will take the opportunity to have a weekend away so it would be good if someone could offer to provide him with lunch on that Sunday.

FINANCE: Offertory collection for **Sunday 26th August - £538.00** and **Sunday 2nd September - £869.71.**