



Our Lady of Peace Catholic Infant & Nursery School

23rd Week of Ordinary Time

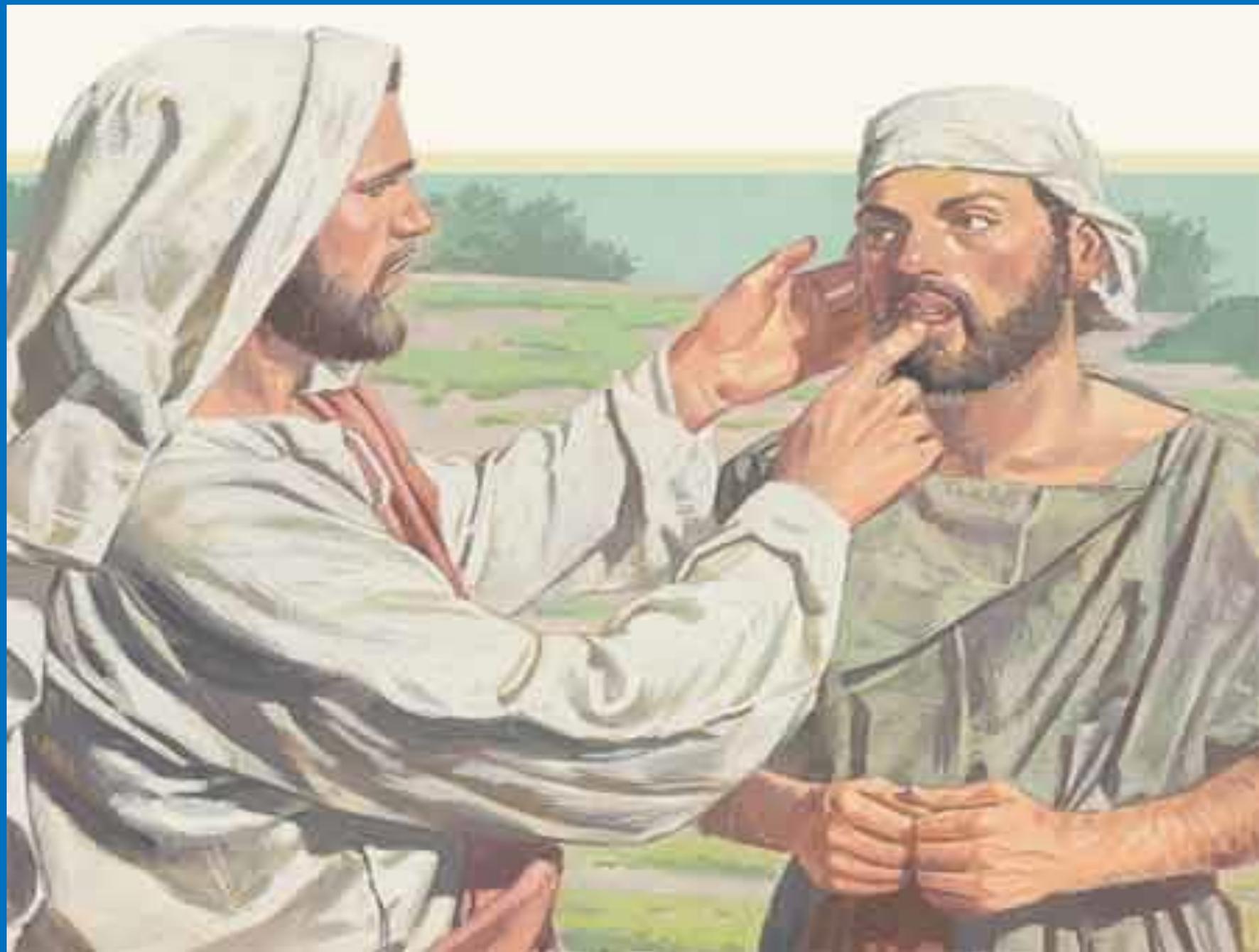
Mark 7:31-37- Jesus cures a deaf man.

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Jesus was returning to the Sea of Galilee when some people brought to him a man who was deaf and could not speak properly. They asked Jesus to help their friend.

Jesus was filled with pity and led the man away to a quiet place where he touched his ears and tongue with his hands and looking up to heaven said 'Be opened!' At once the man could hear and speak clearly!

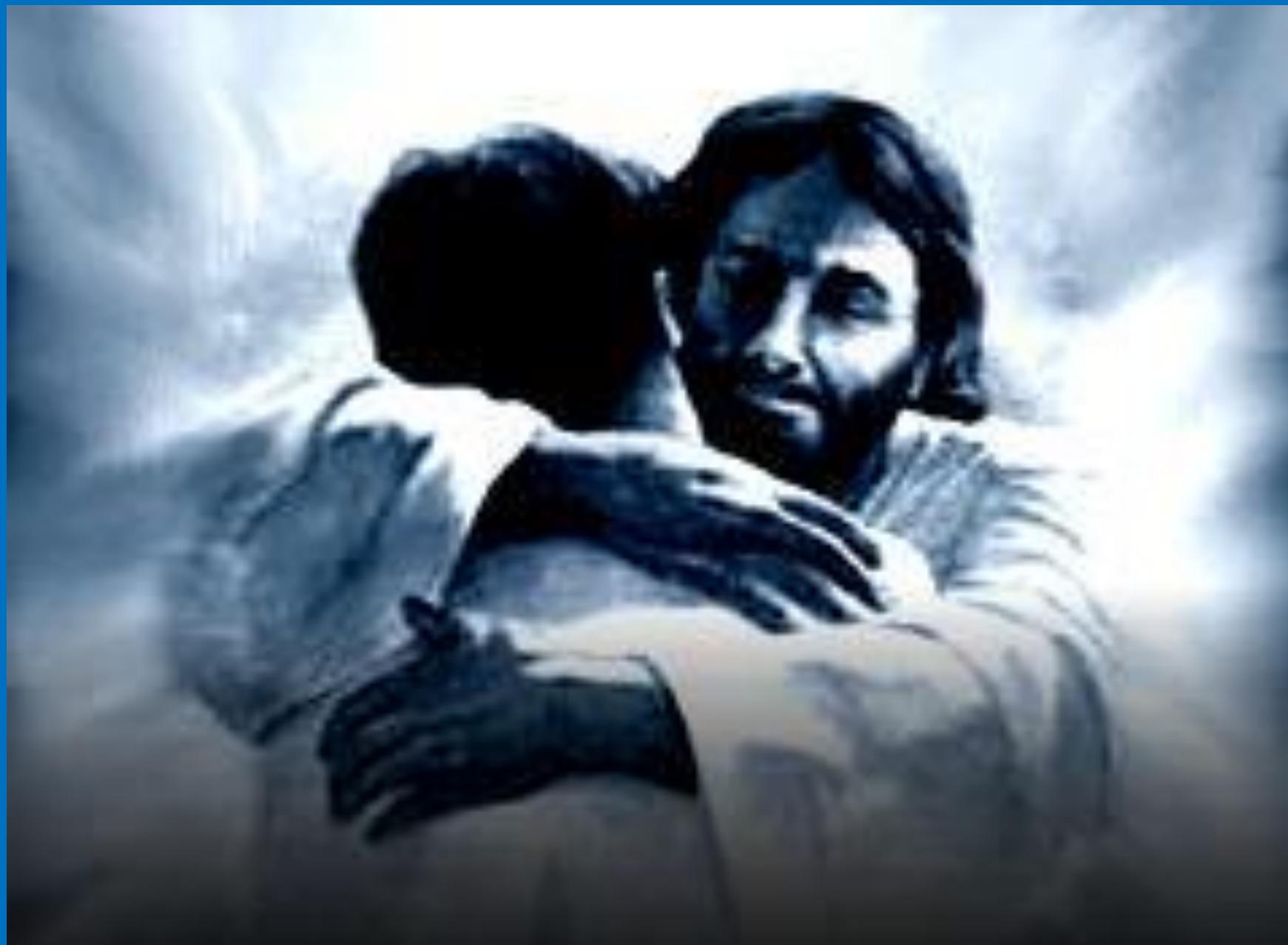
The man and his friends were amazed and they told everybody they met about the miracle Jesus had performed.



The Gospel of the Lord

Response: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ





Reflection

Unless we know someone who is deaf, we can sometimes take for granted the gift of hearing. We never stop to imagine how different our lives would be if we could not hear. Jesus often changed the lives of people he met and in the Gospel today he changed one mans life forever. I would like you all to now close your eyes, sit quietly and listen to all the things around you.

Can you remember the first sound you heard this morning?

Often we associate certain sounds with particular happy events- a car in the drive which means your father is home from work. The sound of Happy Birthday being sung before you open your presents. The cheering crowd when your team has scored a goal!

What a difference it would make if you couldn't hear- you wouldn't be able to:

Listen to music, hear what others are saying, hear the sound of the traffic, hear the words 'I love you'.

How do deaf people communicate today?- sign language and lip reading, write things down, subtitles.

How do you think the deaf man felt when Jesus cured him?-Suddenly his silence was broken by the sounds of the world around him, sounds he had never heard before. He also found he could speak clearly and could be understood. Jesus had totally changed his life by his act of kindness. It would be nice to imagine that it was Jesus' own voice he heard first and the first words the man spoke were to thank Jesus for changing his life and enabling him to hear and speak.

Prayer

Dear God our Father

We thank you today for the gift of hearing.
Help us to listen to and appreciate all the
wonderful sounds around us and pray for all
those who only know the sound of silence.

Help us to listen to our friends and teachers
and to pray for others who cannot hear or
speak.

Amen

