



Prayer Poems

Poetic Reflections for Sundays and Feastsdays
by Sister Juliemarie McDonald, SND



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Openness

by SR. JULIEMARIE MCDONALD, SND on 09/06/2012
in ORDINARY TIME

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time—Cycle B
September 9, 2012

“Ephphatha” (that is, “Be opened!”)
(Mark 7:34b)

Openness

Each person lives with their own impediments.
Perhaps our vision doesn't look beyond our own noses.
Maybe we are deaf to the calls of those in need.

Be opened to the Spirit
in passive surrendering.
Give the Lord the freedom to grace you
with clear vision and compassionate listening.

Be opened.
Allow God to power you with strength

About Sr. Juliemarie McDonald, SND

Sister Juliemarie McDonald joined the Sisters of Notre Dame of Chardon, Ohio in 1951. She holds an MA in English Studies from John Carroll University MA in Scripture from St. Charles Seminary. After 32 years of teaching classes ranging from first grade to college level, she then became a researcher, campus minister, director of religious education and a pastoral minister in Mease Hospital in Dunedin, Florida. In her semi-retirement, Sister Juliemarie writes reflections and faith sharing sessions for the young sisters in formation in Africa, Philippines, Korea, India and the USA. Her spare time is spent as a crafter.



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so your feet walk the journey of faith
with alacrity.

Be opened.

The Word of God can help you be the voice
of justice in an unjust world.

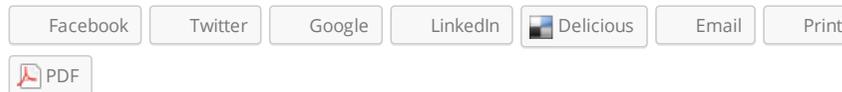
“He has done all things well. He makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.”
(Mark 7: 37b)

Trust our good God to heal your impediments. Be opened.

For Reflection and Sharing:

1. Why were the people in today's Gospel so deaf and blind to Jesus' true identity and message?
2. What am I not seeing that Jesus wants me to see more clearly?
3. What am I not hearing that he wants me to hear?
4. Which of my impediments do I most need to be opened?

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Mary Ann Burke September 6, 2012 at 9:12 am



Thanks Juliemarie,
This really hit my head and my heart today.
Thank you for all your other writings that were helpful too. Sorry for not letting you know sooner or each week what a grace your writing can be.
Have a Blessed one.
Mary Ann

REPLY

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Valerie Pinney September 6, 2012 at 9:40 am



I had to laugh to myself when I read your poem today. On my way into work I was thinking about how Jesus healed the blind man. Then I checked my emails at work. When I saw there was a prayer poem waiting I prayed "open my eyes and heart Lord". The first word I read was "openness". Hmmm, think it's a hint? Thank you thank you thank you!

REPLY

dion September 6, 2012 at 10:46 am



Julie,
Just read your prayer poem. Made me think of the saying (not sure who said it) -
We see things not as they are but as we are. Thanks for your reflection.
Dion

REPLY

Sr. Juliemarie McDonald September 6, 2012 at 10:48 am



Dear Mary Anne, I am very happy that the gospel poetry is affecting the readers. Thanks for letting me know.

REPLY

Sr. Juliemarie McDonald September 6, 2012 at 10:49 am



Val, isn't it great the way the Holy Spirit works in our lives!

REPLY

Sr Juliemarie McDonald September 9, 2012 at 3:44 pm



Dion, I think it was Steve Wirth. Thanks for the additional thought. May the Holy Spirit continue to open layer by layer the blindness not only of our eyes, but our hearts, too.

REPLY

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GOD'S GOODNESS AND PROVIDENT CARE.

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