

# Prayer Poems

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



[HOME](#) [ABOUT](#) [CONTACT](#)



## Deaf and Mute

by SR. JULIEMARIE MCDONALD, SND on 09/01/2015  
in [ORDINARY TIME](#)

Twenty-third Sunday of Ordinary Time Cycle-B Blog

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

### Deaf and Mute

Do you ever wish to be deaf to the noises of the world?

## 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



Bombs bursting in air,  
Shells whizzing past your ear,  
Politicians making promises they don't intend to keep,  
Cries of the hungry.  
Noise breaks sound barriers. Tired of listening, we turn the sound to **off**.

Closer to home and family, pray to be deaf. What? Yes, pray for the silencing of:

- Profanity,
- Criticism,
- Arguing,
- Mean and unforgiving words.

Lord, help me to hear your commands of:

- Love of God,
- Love of neighbor.

“Ephphatha!” – “Be Opened”

Lord, make me mute to:

- Lies,
- Gossip,
- Slander,
- Unkind words,
- Angry words.

Grant me the graces I need to find words of:

- Praise,
- Thanks,
- Compassion,
- Forgiveness,
- Mercy,

formation in Africa, Philippines, Korea, India and the USA. Her spare time is spent as a crafter.

## Recent Posts

R.S.V.P.

Earth's Kingdom

Ideal Family Life

Mary Beyond Christmas

Recognition

## About the Sisters of Notre Dame, Chardon, Ohio

The Sisters of Notre Dame of Chardon, Ohio, belong to an international congregation of more than two thousand apostolic women religious. We are one in mind and one in heart for the transformation of the world in Christ. [Learn More](#)



## SND Blogs

Catholic Faith Corner

Catholic Web Solutions

Grace to Paint

In the Hands of the Potter

Living Justly

Prayer Poems

- And finally, always kind, uplifting words.

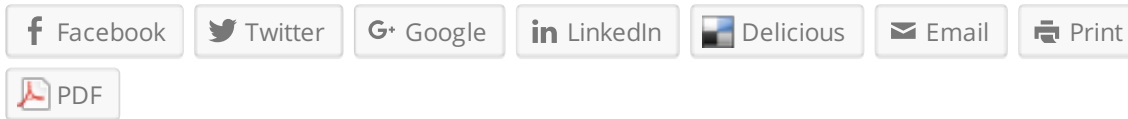
“Ephphatha!” – “Be Opened”

### For Reflection and Sharing:

1. What are the most difficult noises surrounding your day?
2. When do you have time to switch the off button to noise?
3. How do you react to noise that breaks the sound barriers?
4. Which “closer to home noise” needs to be prayed about and reformed?
5. How can you put a stop to the examples in the “prayer to be mute?”
6. Which grace do you need most to practice uplifting words?

I have often lamented that we cannot close our ears with as much ease as we can our eyes. ~Richard Steele

Share this:



Tagged as: [Deaf](#), [Mute](#), [Need for Silence](#), [Noise](#), [Words That Give Life](#), [Words That Hurt](#)

{ 0 comments... [add one now](#) }

### Leave a Comment

---

 Name \*

SND Express Blog

Sunflower Seeds

What's Happening

E-mail \*

Website

**Submit**

- Notify me of follow-up comments by email.
- Notify me of new posts by email.

---

SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME WITNESS DAILY TO  
GOD'S GOODNESS AND PROVIDENT CARE.

**Join us!**  
Contact our Vocation  
Director today.



---

Copyright © 2012 The Sisters of Notre Dame, Chardon, Ohio | Design & Development by [Groupmind Media](#)