Like all teachers, I metaphorically needed to make the “deaf” hear and the “dumb” speak. Some children needed to be taught how to listen, whilst others needed encouragement to talk.

Jesus often worked miracles among crowds. But this was different. Alone with Jesus, the man gained confidence and his faith flourished. By putting his fingers into the man’s ears, and putting his own spittle onto the man’s tongue, Jesus gave him part of his own body. Jesus then sought help from the Father, and this was immediately given.

The incident foreshadowed the unity of the Word of God and the Eucharist, and the unbreakable bond of love between Father and Son, concepts for which Jesus felt that his disciples were not yet ready. So he pleaded for secrecy.

But what would you do if a miracle was worked in your life? Could you keep it to yourself? The man couldn’t. He went around testifying what Jesus had done to him.

In Pope Francis’ recent encyclical *Laudato Si’*, we are invited to be open to Gods’ signs in our world today. Whose voices do we need to hear? Do we stay silent in the face of injustice, or do we speak?

Lord God,

Help us to hear “the cry of the earth and cry of the poor”.

Amen.
This reflection was written by Kathy McVay, a CAFOD supporter from Sacred Heart parish, Bristol.

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