

The Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Sunday June 21, 2020

Readings: 1) Jeremiah 20:10-13 2) Romans 5:12-15 3) Matthew 10:26-33

Sunday Liturgy

The focus for today's Mass is: **God knows even the hairs on our heads – we need not be afraid of anything.**

Jesus exhorts: *Do not be afraid. Do not be afraid. Do not be afraid.* He calls us to proclaim his words *on the housetops*. We know that we are never left alone, and that through God's care and the help of the Holy Spirit we can testify to him by whose death and resurrection we are saved. Courage is a gift of the Holy Spirit.

Jeremiah, the prophet, praises the Lord in the midst of terror and persecution, trusting God's power to save. In his Letter to the Romans, Paul teaches that death came through Adam's sin, but Jesus brings the grace of God as a gift. In the Gospel, Jesus encourages the Twelve to *not be afraid*, even under persecution, trusting their Father who counts even the hairs on their heads.

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

PRIEST:

Let us present our needs, and those of the world, to our most gracious God.

**For the Holy Father,
may he continue to grow in holiness and wisdom in his service to the living and true God.
We Pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.**

**For those who lead nations and peoples,
may they be guided by the mercy and compassion of Jesus Christ.
We Pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.**

**For all the poor, the sick and the struggling.
We Pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.**

**For all our beloved dead.
We Pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.**

**For all those suffering worldwide from the coronavirus whether in sickness or from loss.
For frontline medical professionals treating those who are ill.
For researchers, for all leaders advising, devising and implementing measures
to slow the spread of infection and keep people safe,
and for the comfort of all who are isolated, lonely and fearful.
We Pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.**

**For our own personal intentions, (pause).
We Pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.**

PRIEST:

Father, hear the prayers of your people, we ask through your Son, Jesus Christ.