

The Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time – June 21, 2020

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE	
Tuesday, June 23rd	
	+Rade & Veselka (Marija Prusina & family)
Wednesday, June 24th, <i>The Solemnity of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist</i>	
6:30 p.m.	Eucharistic Exposition & Adoration
7:00 p.m.	A.I.D.
Thursday, June 25th	
9:00 a.m.	+Jack Harrett (Patsy Logel & Rosemary Downey)
Friday, June 26th	
9:00 a.m.	For the Intentions of Maurice Downey & Marguarite Umbach (Frances Mantler & Family)
Saturday, June 27th	
5:00 p.m.	+Wayne Robinson (St. Mary's Parish)
Sunday June 28th, <i>Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	
9:00 a.m.	St. Martin's +Ethel Doucette (St. Martin's Parish)
11:00 a.m.	St. Mary's For the Living & Deceased Members of the Parish



THE TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



DO NOT BE AFRAID.
IT IS I, YOUR GOD.

“Ask Jesus what he wants from you and be brave.”

“Do not be afraid. Do not yield to fear.”

-Pope Francis

First Reading

Jeremiah 20:10-13

Jeremiah expresses confidence that the Lord will protect him.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 69:8-10,14,17,33-35

God responds to the prayers of those in need.

Second Reading

Romans 5:12-15

Sin came into the world through one person; salvation came through one person for many.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 10:26-33

Jesus assures the Twelve that God cares about them.

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BACKGROUND ON THE GOSPEL READING

We read today's Gospel in the context of last week's Gospel in which Jesus sent the twelve disciples to proclaim the kingdom of heaven. In between last week's reading and today's reading, Jesus has predicted that the disciples will face difficulties in their mission. Many people will not receive them well, even within the land of Israel. Even family members will turn away from the disciples because of the disciples' commitment to Jesus and the kingdom. Today's Gospel offers the disciples consolation against this difficult truth.

This section of Matthew's Gospel should be read in the context of Matthew's intended audience, a Jewish-Christian community. The Gospel alludes to the dangers and persecutions that this community has most likely already faced and will continue to face. To reassure this community, Matthew recalls for them the encouraging words of Jesus that we read today.

In this Gospel passage, Jesus might be understood as putting suffering in perspective. The disciples of Jesus are called upon to keep their focus on God. Those who can harm the body do not have ultimate power; God does. Still persecution and suffering can not be avoided or prevented. But Jesus reassures his disciples that God knows and cares about what happens to his children.

We might not face the same type of persecution, but we do experience difficulties as we endeavor to live a Christian life. Sometimes we let the opinions of others prevent us from doing what we know to be right. We need the reminder that what God thinks about us is more important. We are reassured by the promise that God cares for us and protects us.

FAMILY CONNECTION

It is not only individuals who need reassurance about God's love and protection. Communities need this reassurance as well, including the community of the family. Children rely on the

confidence of their parents for this assurance. Parents can help the entire family's growth in trust and confidence in God by witnessing ways in which daily family needs are entrusted to God's care.

As the family gathers, distribute pieces of paper to each person. Tell them to write or draw ways in which they believe that God's help is needed for each person and for the family as a whole. Each slip of paper can then be collected in a basket.

Invite one member of the family to read aloud today's Gospel, Matthew 10:26-33. Recall together how well God knows your family and thank God for this wonderful grace. Conclude by praying together for each of the needs identified on the slips of paper. After each need is read, pray together, "God, we trust you because you know us so well." Conclude by praying the [Glory Be to the Father](#).

This practice might become a regular part of your family's prayer. Set the basket in a place of prayer and encourage family members to add other needs throughout the week. Perhaps your family can pray for these things together during a family meal.

PRAYER REQUEST FOR ALL THE SICK:

For all the sick around the world especially those who feel alone in their struggles and those affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, all healthcare professionals, and frontline workers.

For our sick parishioners and those who look after them: **Don Woodham, Maverick Southern, Margaret Morris, Felix Kozak, Argene Pellegrini, Tom Wunder, Kaelynn Heines, and family and friends.** May the experience healing and comfort and may Our Blessed Mother Mary, Health of the sick, pray and intercede for us, Amen!

PLEASE KEEP OUR RECENTLY DECEASED LOVED ONES IN YOUR PRAYERS: **Defina Segatti, Wayne Robinson and Ethel Doucette.**