



Gospel Reading: Matthew 10: 26-33

Jesus said to the Twelve: "Fear no one. Nothing is concealed that will not be revealed, nor secret that will not be known. What I say to you in the darkness, speak in the light; what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. And do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body in Gehenna. Are not two sparrows sold for a small coin? Yet not one of them falls to the ground without your Father's knowledge. Even all the hairs of your head are counted. So do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows. Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father. But whoever denies me before others, I will deny before my heavenly Father."

Gospel Meditation

What does fear have to do with the kingdom of God? Fear is a powerful force. It can lead us to panic and flight or it can spur us to faith and action. A reverent fear of God is the antidote to the fear of losing one's life. "I sought the Lord, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears. O fear the Lord, you his saints, for those who fear him have no want! Come, O sons, listen to me, I will teach you the fear of the Lord" (Psalm 34:4,9,11). What is godly fear? It is reverence for the One who made us in love and who sustains us in mercy and kindness. The greatest injury or loss which we can experience is not physical but spiritual – the loss of one's whole being to the power of hell. A healthy fear of God leads to spiritual maturity, wisdom, and right judgment, and it frees us from the tyranny of sinful pride, cowardice – especially in the face of evil, and spiritual deception. If you trust in God's help and mercy and obey his word, then your life will be transformed by God's grace and power.

When Jesus proclaimed the gospel - the good news of God's kingdom - he met opposition from those who refused to believe that he was sent from the Father in heaven. Jesus told his disciples that they could expect the same treatment. There is both a warning and a privilege in Jesus' statement. Just as Jesus had to carry his cross, so the disciples must carry their cross and not try to evade it. To suffer for the faith is to share in the work of Christ. As one Christian hymn states: Lift high the Cross of Christ! Tread where his feet have trod. The Holy Spirit gives us power and grace to live as disciples of Jesus Christ. **Do you trust in God's grace to carry your cross for Jesus' sake?**

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Reflection Questions

For Reading 1:

Q: What "dark times" have you lived through? How did you live through these times?

Q: Have you ever been the target of gossip, rumor, or character assassination? How has God helped you these times?

For Responsorial:

Q: Have you ever prayed for revenge when you felt oppressed by others?

Q: How have you placed your dark emotions before God? How has your honesty healed you?

For Reading 2

Q: How do you "connect the dots" in a problem? What logic or process do you use to get to the bottom of a problem?

Q: How much greater is God in your life than evil, sin, and death? How do you experience his great power?

For Gospel:

Q: What causes people worry about their security and their future?

Q: How hard is it to live a transparent life, a life without secrets? What part of life is "nobody's business?"

Q: Why do many Christians worry about what others think of them? How can you help them overcome such anxiety?

Q: How can you lay your personal daily needs before the Lord? How will such a daily offering help you?

Q: How can I freely share my Christian commitment with others?

Q: Have you ever been challenged as a Christian? Have you ever felt God relieve you of worry or anxiety?

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Share the Word Sunday Reflection

For June 21, 2026

12th Sunday of Ordinary Time



“Fear No one”

First Reading: Jeremiah 20:10-13

he has rescued the life of the poor

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

R. *Lord, in your great love, answer me.*

Second Reading: Romans 5:12-15

how much more did the grace of God and the gracious gift of the one man Jesus Christ overflow for the many.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 10:26—33

What I say to you in the darkness, speak in the light

“Lord Jesus, it is my joy and privilege to be your disciple. Give me strength and courage to bear any hardship and suffering which may come my way in your service. May I witness to others the joy of the gospel.”

Question of the Week: *What is it that you fear most?*