

**21 JUNE 2020**  
**TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**OPENING HYMN**

**Beginning today my mornings are yours,  
The hopes that dawn in their light.  
Beginning today my evenings and dreams:  
My gift to you is my life.**

You gave me your life, Lord, as sign of the springtime  
Beginning in me each day.  
You made me a person with wonder and love, Lord,  
To newly discover your way.

*(or choose an appropriate alternate hymn)*

**OPENING PRAYER**

Grant O Lord, that we may always revere and love your holy name, for you never deprive of your guidance those you set firm on the foundation of your love. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**FIRST READING:** Jer 20:10-13

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** Ps 68:8-10, 14, 17, 33-35

**Our Response is: In your great love, answer me, O God.**

It is for you that I suffer taunts,  
that shame covers my face,  
that I have become a stranger to my brothers,  
an alien to my own mother's sons.  
I burn with zeal for your house  
and taunts against you fall on me. **R/**

This is my prayer to you,  
my prayer for your favour.  
In your great love, answer me, O God,  
with your help that never fails:  
Lord, answer, for your love is kind;  
in your compassion, turn towards me. **R/**

The poor when they see it will be glad  
and God-seeking hearts will revive;  
for the Lord listens to the needy  
and does not spurn his servants in their chains.  
Let the heavens and the earth give him praise,  
the sea and all its living creatures. **R/**

**SECOND READING:** Rom 5:12-15

**GOSPEL:** Mt 10:26-33

## REFLECTION:

Today we have people and institutions that serve causes which support the greater good in our society, examples... doctors, firefighters, police, the army etc. The gospel of today tells us that the greatest good we can serve is the *'Mission of Christ'* that we were baptized into.

In the gospel of Matthew Jesus tells his disciples and us that when we acknowledge him and do his work we may face opposition and it will not always be easy. However, we can be confident that God will never abandon us. There may even be forces that will oppose his mission and will but God's promises are true and He will take care and sustain us.

In the first reading we see that Jeremiah lived his life in the ways of Jesus. He was faithful in proclaiming God's word to the people in his time. He was persecuted, imprisoned and even threatened with death but God sustained his life.

Let us reflect on these two great truths of discipleship, that God loves us and at times it may involve hardships. **Pause, reflect and pray silently.** Like the psalmist let us remember, that the Lord hears us when we call out to him *"...and does not spurn his servants in their chains"*.

## PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

**Leader:** Jesus tells us that *"...even all the hairs on your head are counted"*. Trusting in our Lord's goodness and love, let us confidently bring our prayers before Him

**Our response is:** Gracious Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for all the members of the Church, that they may proclaim God's goodness and love even in the midst of all the uncertainties in our life; **(pause)**, let us pray to the Lord...

We pray for all the people in the world and also those in authority that they may dedicate themselves to the service of humanity; **(pause)**; let us pray to the Lord...

We pray for all those who are suffering and experiencing hardships and fears because of the Corona Virus pandemic. May they receive reassurance of God's love and care through the support of the community and people of good will; **(pause)**; let us pray to the Lord...

We pray for all baptised Christians that as we experience God's unfailing love we may go out and share his love with others; **(pause)**; let us pray to the Lord...

**Leader:** Almighty God, you call each one of us to a life of discipleship. Hear our prayers and grant that your peace and goodness reign in our hearts and may be spread to the whole world. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Let us together at the Saviour's command and formed by Divine teaching, dare to say:  
*(All say the Lord's Prayer together)* Our Father, ...

## CLOSING PRAYER

O Lord, renewed and nourished by your Word, we ask of your mercy, that what we celebrate with constant devotion may be our sure pledge of redemption. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

## **PRAYER FOR RELIEF FROM THE CORONAVIRUS**

Almighty and merciful God, who show Your love to all creation everywhere, hear graciously the prayers we make for all those affected by the Coronavirus in various parts of the world.

We come before You asking for a quick control of the outbreak, for a healing of those affected, for the victims and their families.

We pray for the doctors doing research that an effective vaccine to combat the sickness is speedily found.

We pray for the Government and health authorities that they take appropriate steps for the good of the people. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **CLOSING HYMN**

**If you wish to be my disciple,  
Take up your cross and follow me.**

Whoever loves his life will only lose it.  
It's only sacrifice that brings one gain.

You who have followed me, when life is ended,  
Will reap a hundredfold eternally.

*(or choose an appropriate alternate hymn)*