

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Liturgy of this Sunday calls us to trust in God even in the face of adversity and trouble. Jesus calls His disciples to fear nothing that could harm them. His Heavenly Father who knows every single sparrow in the sky and cares for them will certainly watch over those who serve Him. Jesus goes further in His teaching. He calls His disciples to acknowledge His Father before all. His promise to us is to acknowledge us before His Father if we remain faithful. So, the two-fold mandate is to believe and speak that belief. We as Christians are not called to a private relationship with God but rather one that is shared with everyone around us. The message of salvation through the death and resurrection of Jesus must be preached not only by priests but by every believer. The preaching need not be from a soap box on a street corner but by the witness of our lives.

Today, we also celebrate Father's Day. We remember in a special way all our fathers both living and deceased. We thank Almighty God for the gift of fathers who reflect the love of our Heavenly Father in their own limited way. This is not to canonize every father because all of us are imperfect and even in the best case will sometimes fall short in their role. We offer all our Masses for their intentions and pray that God will bless them always.

We wish to pray as well for expectant and future fathers. For a beautiful example for them to follow, they need not look any further than St. Joseph. The quiet figure in the Scriptures who serves as stepfather of Jesus and husband of Mary. His example of obedience to God's will is lived out for us to see without him uttering a single word recorded in the bible. St. Joseph, Patron of all fathers, Pray for us!

Peace,

Fr. Robert