

**Sunday 21 June 2026**

*Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)*

**First Reading - Jeremiah 20.9-11a**

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

I cannot hold back

from proclaiming the Lord,  
or from speaking  
in the name  
of the Lord.

The word of the Lord

is like a fire in my bones,  
and I am powerless  
to hold it in.

I am surrounded

by those who  
denounce me.

They watch

for the opportunity  
to take their revenge.

But the Lord is with me

like a mighty warrior,

and those who

work against me  
will not  
prevail.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Second Reading - Romans 6.3-11**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

If you die,

you are no longer  
under the power of sin.

And if, like Christ,

you are then  
raised up from the dead,  
by the glory of the Father,  
you are no longer  
under the power of death.

In his death,

Christ died to sin,  
once,  
for all.

And the life he now lives,

he lives  
to God.

In our baptism,

we are united with Christ,  
in both

his death  
and his resurrection.

We die to sin,

and we are raised up,  
by the glory of the Father,  
to live to God,

in newness of life  
in Christ Jesus.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Gospel - Matthew 10.16,28-31**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

according to Matthew.

Jesus said to the twelve,

'I am sending you out

like sheep  
amongst wolves.

Have the wisdom

of serpents.

And be as innocent

as doves.

Do not be afraid

of those who can kill the body  
but cannot  
kill the soul.

Instead,

serve and honour God, who has power  
over both the body  
and the soul.

Two sparrows

are sold for a penny,  
yet not even a sparrow  
falls to the ground  
without your Father knowing it.

So do not be afraid.

You are worth more

than many sparrows.

Even the hairs of your head

are all counted.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.