

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.