

## **Gospel of Matthew - 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time #20** (21 June)

Good morning, I will read this Sunday's gospel of Matthew:

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the housetops.

'Do not be afraid of those who kill the body and cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows.'

'So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

## **Gospel Reflection #20** (21 June)

### **Do not be Afraid.**

Hello again! Another reflection time and prayer from Fr. Wayne about today's gospel: Jesus asks us to be His witnesses in the world. However, sometimes we lack the courage to witness openly to our faith. But Jesus says to us (we are His current day disciples) what He said to His first disciples, 'Do not be afraid.' So let us bring our fears to Him, and ask His help in overcoming them.

The following is part of a Celtic (Irish) Prayer:

**I rise today with God's strength to direct me,  
God's wisdom to guide me,  
God's eyes to look before me,  
God's ear to hear me,  
God's word to speak for me,  
God's hand to uphold me,  
God's pathway before me,  
God's shield to protect me,  
God's host to save me.**

**Amen**