

We return to Ordinary Sundays, as we celebrate the XII Sunday.

Today after choosing the Twelve, Jesus instructs them and sends them to preach. He warns them about persecution and that they would possibly suffer and advise them what their attitude must be: Do not fear those who kill the body, but they cannot kill the soul, fear rather the one who can lead to the loss of the soul and body in the Gehenna. This treatment develops the theme of persecution by Christ in a style reminiscent of the last Beatitude of the mountain sermon.

We know that many of the problems that arise in our lives such as economic problems, labor, illnesses in our family, that we have lost a loved one and left empties in our lives, loneliness, sadness, anguish.... maybe if you love and aren't love back, you're not reciprocated, maybe you do good and get paid badly, maybe you have problems at home with one of your child, but especially you've had a lot of anguish, fear, uncertainty for this virus that has taken the lives of thousands of people and you don't know if your family stayed safe, stable, quiet in this situation. Those and many problems we may have right now give us a lot of sadness and make us fearful people. Yet nothing in this world is eternal, and each of us can regain the joy of living.

A man lost his wife and daughter in a car accident. After the months this man would faint frequently, cry and lament. Years passed and he had to be interned because he tried to kill himself several times. He recovered, remarried again and became happy again. Life beat him cruelly.

We are saddened by the death of Father George, but we know that life has to continue, he fulfilled his mission in this life, and has now been called to the Father's house. But our mission in this parish must now continue before the guidance of a new pastor, who with no doubt will bring new ideas to continue in the evangelization and construction of the kingdom of God in this parish.

It is true that sometimes things are very difficult for us in our lives, it is then more than ever that we need faith in God, especially in the face of death. For example, when a motorist goes through a tunnel of those that open in the mountains, he must pass through the darkness, but he is convinced that at the exit of this tunnel he will find the light of the day. For we too must convince ourselves that at the exit of this world we will meet God who is the light of love, joy and happiness to which we all aspire. That is why Jesus in today's Gospel asks us not to

be afraid of death, for with death it is not all over but the true life begins. We will continue to live because *God* will receive us in his heavenly abode and it will be an endless life. It is true that this is a mystery, but it does not invite us to understand, but to not be afraid. *Jesus* will continually tell us: "Do not be afraid, have confidence and faith in me, for *God* is your father and he cares for us with parental love.

Brothers and sisters, let us convince ourselves that *God* is our provident Father and who always watches over us, cares for us, protects us and forgives us how many times we come with true love and repentance.

Blessings for all and we will see you very soon back at our Sunday Masses.