



## 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

Ex 19:2-6a  
Ps 100:1-3, 5  
Rom 5:6-11  
Matt 9:36--10:8

### Monday June 23

2 Kings 17:5-8,13-15a,18  
Ps 60: (7b) 3-5, 12-13  
Matt 7:1-5

### Tuesday June 24

#### Birth of John the Baptist

Isaiah 49:1-6  
Ps 139:1b-3,13-15  
Acts 13:22-26  
Luke 1:57-66, 80

### Wednesday June 25

2 Kings 22:8-13;23:1-3  
Ps 119:33-37,40  
Matt 7:15-20

### Thursday June 26

2 Kings 24:8-17  
Ps 79:1b-5,8-9  
Matt 7:21-29

### Friday June 27

2 Kings 25:1-12  
Ps 137:1-6  
Matt 8:1-4

### Saturday June 28 Memorial of St. Irenaeus

Lam 2:2,10-14,18-19  
Ps 74:(19b)1b-7,20-21  
Matt 8:5-17

Think of a time when you were in darkness: a sin, for example, or when you felt abandoned by God or your prayers seemed dry and your spiritual gifts seemed covered over. What did Jesus say to you at that time? What did his whisperings tell you?



In Sunday's Gospel reading, Jesus says: "What I say to you in the darkness, speak in the light."

He's calling you and commissioning you and empowering you, through his Holy Spirit, to share your good news with others, so that they, too, can hear him in their darkness.

Proclaim it boldly and visibly so that those who want to hear it will stop and listen. Do not be afraid to openly share how Jesus has been working in your life and how he's helped you grow or heal or turn away from sin.

Yes, when we're this bold, some people will ridicule us and reject us, like Jeremiah was treated in the first reading. But the Lord is with you, too, "like a mighty champion," and your persecutors will eventually stum-

ble and fail. Jesus tells us to "fear no one." God takes good care of us.

Jesus acknowledges those who acknowledge him.

In other words, when we're insulted or persecuted for our faith, God holds us and comforts us. It's *his* opinion of us that matters anyway, and no one else's.

Listen to him! In the whispers of the sanctuary of your heart, he's telling you all the good that he sees in you.

### Reflect & Discuss:

1. What is your testimony? What did Jesus whisper to you when you were in sin, or when you felt abandoned or your prayers seemed dry or your spiritual gifts seemed covered over? Take time to write this down; this exercise will make you feel more confident when you try to share your story with others.
2. Practice sharing the testimony you realized during the above personal reflection: Proclaim it first to your community who understands.
3. And as you listen to the testimonies of others, encourage them: Tell them how their story helps you.
4. Together, pray for and make a commitment to go forth and spread the good news.