

The Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

JUNE 20, 2021



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Happy Father's Day!

On Father's Day weekend, please join us in offering a spiritual bouquet to St. Joseph. As we celebrate the gift of fathers and honor St. Joseph, we also recognize that Father's Day can be a difficult holiday for many. We hope this spiritual bouquet provides an opportunity to pray for the intentions brought to your heart by the occasion.

Today is World Refugee Day

Today, we pause and remember the 25 million people who have had to flee their countries in search of safety for their families. According to the 1951 Refugee Convention, a refugee is one who "owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality, and is unable to, or owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country." The Catholic Church has for decades taken seriously the plight of these vulnerable refugees and through advocacy, education efforts, and service provision sought to provide increased protections for them. Visit www.Justiceforimmigrants.org to learn how you can assist the Church in this effort.



THE TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WEEK

Religious Freedom Week Begins June 22

All people desire to enjoy communion with God, and this desire gives rise to the search for religious truth and finds expression in the formation of religious culture. Even people who claim no religious affiliation cannot help but need ritual, belonging, and truth. Why? Because we all long to know and love the One in whose image we are made. “For God formed man to be imperishable; the image of his own nature he made him.”

The Church’s promotion of religious freedom expresses her solidarity with all people who seek the good and hope for fulfillment in the truth. *As Pope Francis teaches:*

Hope speaks to us of a thirst, an aspiration, a longing for a life of fulfillment, a desire to achieve great things, things that fill our heart and lift our spirit to lofty realities like truth, goodness and beauty, justice and love ... Hope is bold; it can look beyond personal convenience, the petty securities and compensations which limit our horizon, and it can open us up to grand ideals that make life more beautiful and worthwhile (Fratelli tutti, 55).

Join us throughout the week as we pray, reflect, and take action on religious liberty, both here in this country and abroad.

