

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

So – what are you afraid of?

Dark   Snakes   Clowns                      Heights

There are lots of things to be afraid of but

In today's Gospel Jesus says – Fear no one, trust God and be people of faith.

Easy to say – but in the heat of the moment we all have fear – even the prophets!

JER – prophet against sin – people didn't obey – people hated him

“I hear terror on every side.

Those who were my friends watch for any misstep of mine.

Perhaps he'll be trapped, then we can have our vengeance on him”

**He had reason to be afraid – but what comes next**

“BUT the lord is with me, like a mighty champion

Sing to the Lord, Praise His name”

Jeremiah confirms what Jesus taught – Fear no one, but trust in God.

Whenever Angels appear in scripture the first thing they say is “Fear not”

There may be things we should be concerned about

But with God by our side there is no valid reason to fear

Its true – we have to take care of our families against evil of the world

We have to take care of our health

We have to keep bad things out of our homes

But we don't need to have fear

No matter what happens, God is with us & no need to have fear

Hospital visit to dying woman – she knew it.

“Well we all have to die – you're just doing it better than the rest of us”

She laughed, then said:

“I am not afraid – I know God was with me in this world –

and He'll be there in the next”

That is what Jesus is telling us in today's Gospel

NO MATTER WHAT – trust God, have no fear.

Good is always going to be attacked by evil – be good anyway.

Be good Parents, Children, Managers, Employees, Husbands, Wives

Despite the attacks of the world – despite what evil throws at you

Be good anyway – fear not

God is with us.