Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Small Church Communities
Twelfth Sunday Ordinary Time
Cycle A
June 25, 2017

1st Reading DT 8:2-3, 14B-16A	" Jeremiah said: "I hear the whisperings of many: 'Terror on every side! Denounce! let us denounce him!' All those who were my friends are on the watch for any misstep of mine.." But the LORD is with me, like a mighty champion: my persecutors will stumble, they will not triumph.
Psalm PS 69:8-10, 14, 17, 33-35	R. " **Lord, in your great love, answer me..**"
2nd Reading ROM 5:12-15	"Brothers and sisters: Through one man sin entered the world, and through sin, death [..] But the gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, how much more did the grace of God and the gracious gift of the one man Jesus Christ overflow for the many."
Gospel MT 10:26-33 "Jesus said to the Twelve: "Fear no one [..] what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops [..] do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body in Gehenna [..] So do not be afraid [..] Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father."	**For reflection:** 1. **What impact should belief in everlasting life have on everyday life? -OR-** 2. **Jesus say's, "Don't be afraid" three times in this passage. He must know that fears are common. What are some of the most common fears people experience these days? What would Christ say about them? -OR-** 3. **Can you think of anyone you know who has suffered persecution for their fidelity to Christ? What were the long-term results, for them, and for others around them?**