

FAITH @ Home

Celebrating and supporting faith, hope and love in the heart of the family!

19 OCTOBER 2025: 29C ORDINARY TIME



Diocese of Waterford & Lismore
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Sunday Mass Readings

First Reading:

Exodus 17:8-13

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 120 (121)

Second Reading:

2 Timothy 3:14 - 4:2

Gospel:

Luke 18:1-8



"Now will not God see justice done to his chosen who cry to him day and night even when he delays to help them?"

FreeBibleimages.org

Hear



Grab your Bible and look up the Gospel reading. Don't have one? No worries, you can find this week's readings online [HERE](#).



Pray



In the Gospel today we hear the parable of the unjust judge and the persistent widow.

- What is the Holy Spirit saying to you through this piece of Scripture? How do these words resonate with you personally?
- Do you ever feel like the persistent widow in this story, that your prayers are nagging God? Do you ever lose faith in prayer having an effect?
- Do you trust in God the Father to provide for all your needs? God is not like the unjust and corrupt judge. He is infinitely more loving and aware of our needs than we can ever know. This week pray sincerely for an increase in the virtue of trust. Read the reflection: "Let go and let God."

Family Prayer



God our loving Father, we know that you know our family and all our needs. We believe that you love us infinitely. Increase our trust in you today and everyday. Amen!

Talk



In today's readings we hear the parable of the persistent widow and the corrupt judge who finally gave into her request.

- Do you know what perseverance means? Can you think of any time you really persevered at something even though it was hard to do so?
- Have you ever felt that God wasn't listening to your prayers? Why was that?
- Jesus wants to teach us in this parable that God the Father always hears our prayers. He's not like the unjust judge who only gave in for the sake of peace and quiet! God is our loving Father who knows our needs and loves us. He always hears our prayers and answers them in the best way possible!

Family Challenge!



Make a big effort this week to not nag each other at home for things you want but might not actually need!

Pray as a family for the gift to be able to trust in God more and more to provide for all your family's needs!

PERSISTENCE IN PRAYER

This is the first of two parables that Jesus tells in Luke 18 about prayer. (The second will be read at Mass next Sunday.) This first parable is a lesson in persistence in prayer. (Next Sunday's parable will address attitude in prayer.) While the parable seems to present prayer as nagging God for what we want, such a reading misses the point. God is not like the judge in the parable, worn down by requests and coerced to respond. The key is found in the description of the judge as corrupt and unjust. Since God can be neither, we must understand Jesus to be saying that if even an unjust judge responds to the persistence of the widow, how much more so will God listen to our prayers. God truly wants to hear our needs and respond generously. It is the final lament of Jesus that gets to the point of the parable. The lesson is about the persistence of the one who prays. God wants us to be like the persistent widow, staying in relationship with God, confident that God hears and answers prayers. Then Jesus laments, "Will such faith be found when the Son of Man comes?" In this lament, Jesus notes how easy it can be for us to lose heart.

[Loyola Press Sunday Connection](#)



LAudate



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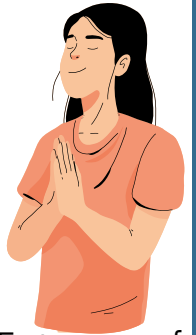


CARLO'S CORNER



FOUR KEY QUESTIONS

Prayer is not always easy, especially if our goal is quick results, or we view it as a vending machine or a magic genie lamp. Sometimes we can get frustrated by our own weak efforts to commit to prayer too. First piece of advice: pray as you can, not as you can't. Make a decision to pray. Some effort is better than no effort. Failing is better than never having tried. It's like strengthening a muscle, the more time and effort you put in, the more results you will see in your own life. It's been said that God has three ways of answering our prayers: "Yes / Not Yet / I have something better in mind." The persistent widow in today's Gospel never gave up hope that her petition would be answered. She had a clear when, where, what and why in mind. God is not like the corrupt judge, yet Jesus makes the point that even a man like that will give in to persistence, so how much more will our loving Father in heaven listen to our prayers and answer our needs! Persistence in prayer isn't easy, but Fr Mike's four step guide is a good starting point. And the key is remembering the why - to build a relationship with a God who is already actively pursuing us. The answer to our prayer will always be God's loving heart. That's surely worth investing 20 minutes a day in!



Fr Mike Schmitz:
Tips for Praying

Phil Wickham:
The Battle Belongs



To the Heights Youth Resource also available



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