

Gospel Reflection

Ours is a culture of instant gratification. If our efforts don't lead to immediate success we give up. If our needs aren't quickly satisfied we blow up. From fast food to news bites, our culture teaches us to get what we want when we want it. We can't stand to wait or work for anything. Why should we read a six-hundred-page novel when we can watch the movie version instead? Why should we grate cheese, chop vegetables, cook sausage, and wait for dough to rise when we can buy carry-out pizza on our way home from work? Why should we undertake difficult, long-range solutions to our problems when quick fixes are so readily available? Yet instant gratification, however easy and popular, is not the way to find self-fulfillment or to build the kingdom.

Today's scriptures encourage us to persevere patiently and believe that, in time, God will fulfill our needs and make our efforts fruitful. Like the widow in the Gospel, we must patiently persevere in prayer and work until justice is done. Like Moses, Joshua, Aaron, and Hur, we must work together and support one another, believing that God will prevail. Like the apostle Paul, we must "proclaim the word" and "be persistent whether it is convenient or inconvenient" (2 Timothy 4:2). And in all things Jesus tells us "to pray always without becoming weary" (Luke 18:1).

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KEEPING FAITH FIRST FAMILY FUN

Luke 18:1-8

Y M Y F M R D Z P Y F Y E
P R V R E K W P T T J V S
N Z A N A W R S E I U P M
M S D S O E E X G S S R P
E E D D R N W A D S T A P
R A I E O E V K U E I Y G
J W R H C U V C J C C P E
S H S T G I P D R E E B O
F I I Y H X S Y A N T N E
D U N W I L L I N G E E H
D N E S O H C V O S Y L U
F A I T H V M J R N R U F
Y M T K J N X L C X E L S

Find these words from the Gospel passage.

ADVERSARY	CHOSEN	DECISION
DISHONEST	EARTH	FAITH
JUDGE	JUSTICE	NECESSITY
ONES	PRAY	RENDER
UNWILLING	WEARY	WIDOW

Disciple's Reflection & Questions of the Week

*Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
10/21/07*

*Luke 18:1-8
Faith-Sharing
Questions of the Week*



Our Lady of the Assumption

435 Berkeley Ave.
Claremont, CA
www.olaclaremont.org

Call to Prayer

We begin by calling upon God:

**In the Name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the
Holy Spirit, Amen.**

*We then pause for a moment to listen with
our hearts to this week's Gospel passage...*

The Word of God: *Luke 18: 1-8*

The Gospel according to Luke:

Jesus told his disciples a parable about the necessity for them to pray always without becoming **weary**. He said "There was a judge in a certain town who neither feared God nor respected any human being. And a widow in that town used to come to him and say, '**Render** a just decision for me against my **adversary**.'

For a long time he was unwilling but eventually he thought, 'While it is true that I neither fear God nor respect any human being, because this widow keeps bothering me, I shall deliver a just decision for her lest she finally come and strike me.'"

The Lord said, "Pay attention to what the dishonest judge says. Will not God then secure the rights of his chosen ones who call out to him day and night? I tell you, he will see to it that justice is done for them speedily. But when the Son of Man comes will he find faith on earth?"

The Gospel of the Lord

God hears those who call out day and night



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Gospel Glossary

Weary: Tired, especially having run out of strength, patience, or endurance

Adversary: An opponent in a conflict, contest, or debate

Render: Formally deliver a verdict or decision

Faith Sharing

Questions of the Week

- What helps me to persist through weariness and remain faithful in prayer?
- How does persistence relate to justice in my daily life?
- What does it mean to "pray always"?

Closing Prayer

Lord our God,

*You search into the depths of
our hearts. Remove the blindness
that cannot know you and relieve
the fear that would hide us from
your sight. We ask this through
Christ our Lord.*

Amen.

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time