

29TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, YEAR C

10/19/2025

Dear Beloved Parishioners,

What a way to introduce a parable!

“Jesus told his disciples a parable about the necessity for them to pray always without becoming weary.” Usually, the parables lead us on a sort of scavenger hunt in search of the meaning Jesus intended.

Example: In the parable of the guest who comes to the wedding carelessly dressed: is he thrown into the outer darkness because he didn’t have a tuxedo on? What is the garment he should have worn? Was it, perhaps, not the garment itself (something he could have procured if he had cared to), or was it, maybe, the lack of care he displayed, care about the invitation, about the other guests, or about the One who invites him to the Wedding Banquet? Is the answer in there somewhere?

Presumably, in today’s parable, Luke wants to “short-circuit the danger of a bad interpretation,” to make sure that his readers/hearers get the point Jesus intends. Does that take all the fun out of the story? Hardly! After the parable—about the necessity of persistence and perseverance in prayer—“the Lord” says “But the son of Man, when he comes, will he find [this persistent, persevering] faith on earth?”

Who saw that coming?

If Jesus came this very day, would he find among us a community of his disciples who lift up their prayer constantly with the sound assurance that God is hearing—even though it may seem to us that God is taking his own sweet time in answering our prayer, or (Heaven forbid!) that God doesn’t care? Will we be the ones who believe in God’s unending love enough to keep lifting up our hearts to God? Praying for peace on earth. Praying for my son/daughter who has hit a patch of ice in the road of life. Praying for the help we need to keep our family whole. Praying, praying, praying.

Today, let us pray for one another. And every day until Jesus comes and our prayer will be all “Thank you, Lord!”

Peace upon us all.

Msgr. Mike and Fr. Albert

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