

## Homily for the 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C:

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Today we celebrate the 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, and the readings invite us **to reflect on perseverance in Faith and Prayer, holding on to God even when the journey is long, even when the answers seem delayed.**

**Let us begin with a very short story:** a little boy asked his mother, “why do we keep praying for the same thing every day, every night? Does not God already know what we need?” And the mother answered, “Yes, but Prayer is not about reminding God what we prayed for last night or the last days. It is about reminding ourselves to trust Him. End of the story.

**In the Gospel of this Sunday, Jesus tells His disciples a parable about a widow who kept asking an unjust judge for justice.** She had no money, no power, and the worst in this story is that the judge who was supposed to defend her does not care about God or people. Yet the widow refused to give up. And because she was persistent, finally the judge gave her justice, just so that she would stop bothering him.

**Then Jesus says, “If even an unjust judge can respond to persistence, how much more God, who is loving and just, will listen to His people who cry out to Him day and night?”**

In Jesus’s time, widows were among the most helpless in society: they had no one to protect them, and were often ignored by the legal system. By choosing a widow as the hero **in prayer, Jesus is teaching us that even those who seem powerless in the world, have power before God through Faith and Prayer.**

The unjust judge represents a world that often ignores the truth and compassion, while the widow shows the strength of Faith and Prayer that refuses to give up.

**This parable is not about bothering God with our Prayers, but about trusting Him even when He seems silent.** Jesus understands that it is hard to reconcile our Faith with the harsh realities around us:

- We pray for justice, but injustice continues;
- We pray for healing, yet suffering remains;
- We pray for peace; yet we continue to hear about wars between countries, tribes etc.

**In such situations, the Gospel calls everyone to trust God and to continue praying, but often the answers seem delayed or different from what is expected, and it is hard to reconcile this painful reality with the promises of God’s love and justice. Then we ask:” Where is God?” when we see good people suffering and bad people succeeding...!**

**Just take a moment** to think of the many people who fought for justice and peace, yet they died in prison, while waiting for fair justice! **This reminds us that God’s justice is often seems slow, but Faith means holding on, believing that God’s timing and ways are better than ours.**

Jesus ends with a question: “When the Son of Man comes, will He find Faith on earth?” **That is the real challenge: Faith is not proven when prayers are quickly answered; it is proven when we keep praying, trusting, and working for good even when nothing seems to change.**

Prayer is about bringing one’s heart to God, trusting Him even when life feels broken. Prayer is staying connected with God, holding on even when the wait is long.

So, let us be people who lift one another up in in Prayer, let us be people who stay rooted in God’s Word, and who never lose heart. Even when God seems slow to answer, His love never fails. So, **“When the Son of Man comes, will He find Faith on earth?” Let Him find us faithful when He comes.**

May God bless us all.