

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS Friday, October 14, 2016

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth? (Luke 18:8)

What a peculiar way to end this parable! Why did Jesus link his second coming to the story of a persistent widow? Let's look at a couple of possible answers.

Perhaps this widow represents the Church. While we have been given the Eucharist, the Scriptures, and many other gifts and blessings, we are still waiting for Jesus to return. While we wait, we can feel as if we are "aliens and sojourners," living apart from our true home (1 Peter 2:11). We can feel quite defenseless against temptation and the lies of the devil. At times we can feel as desperate for help as this widow, longing for deliverance.

Do you think life will be this way when Jesus comes again? Not at all! He will usher in a perfect world marked by peace and harmony. There will be no more sickness, divorce, poverty, division, war, or death. The wolf and the lamb, the leopard and the goat, and the calf and the lion will all live together peacefully (Isaiah 11:6). When Jesus comes again, life is going to be fantastic, beyond our wildest imagination!

This is where a second possibility comes in: We as a Church must be vigilant until the day when Jesus returns. Like the widow, the challenging circumstances that we live in call for one response: persistence, especially in prayer. We need to pray every day, "Come, Lord Jesus!" And we need to pray continually for our daily bread, for forgiveness, and for strength against temptation.

The application of this parable to our daily lives is much less about Jesus finding faith when he returns and much more about our call to be persistent and hopeful in prayer. May we all pray for an outpouring of grace upon the Church and the world. May we all be vigilant in prayer so that we won't fall to temptation. May we all keep our hearts aflame for him as we persist in prayer for his return in glory.

"Lord, help us to persevere and put our whole hope in you until the day you come again."

Today's Announcements:

- If you have any Irish raffle tickets and money with you, please turn it into Ms Dapremont in the office. Keep selling your tickets! All students who sell ten tickets will receive a free dress day and ice cream party on Tuesday, October 25.
- St. Vincent de Paul School is seeking volunteers on Oct. 22 from 12:30 to 4:30 to assist with their fall festival. Any students who are interested in helping for service hours, please see Ms. Dapremont for more information.

- The library will be closed today.
- Senior sibling pictures are due to Mrs. Farragut by today. Senior ad forms, pictures, and money are due by next Friday, October 21.
- If you have registered for Youth Legislature, please come to the meeting today, after school to learn about the conference procedure. This meeting is mandatory for all participants. If you have any questions, please see Mr. DeSalvo in room 103.
- The Nativity Halloween Carnival is this Saturday from 1:00 to 9:00 p.m. If you are interested in volunteering and receiving service hours, please see Ms. Cloud to sign up.
- Congratulations to the Lady Irish Volleyball team for playing an impressive match last night. Although Long Beach took the win, we played five hard sets making them work for every point.
- The drama auditions are being postponed until Monday afternoon. If there is anyone who wants to audition but cannot attend Monday afternoon, please see Mrs. Trahan.
- Mrs. Trahan needs confirmation of those working the Nativity haunted house this weekend. The booth opens at 4
 and closes about 9. Please take care of this today.
- Congratulations to the junior high football team as they remain undefeated with a win 24 to 22 against Purvis last night.