

HOLY CROSS CHURCH

651 East Springfield Road • Springfield, Pennsylvania 19064

OCTOBER 20, 2019 • TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Parish Office / Rectory 610-626-3321 • 610-626-3322
 Parish School 610-626-1709
 Religious Education 610-626-1057
 Convent 610-626-2491
 Pastoral Minister 610-259-8266
 Music Director 215-431-2883
 Website www.holycrosscatholics.org
 E-mail contactus@holycrosscatholics.org

Rev. Eugene C. Wilson Pastor
 Rev. Edward C. Kelly Resident/Faculty COHS
 Rev. Thomas J. Furey St. Joseph Villa/Retired
 Deacon Robert Frankenberger Retired
 Deacon Joseph N. Gousie Retired
 Mrs. Theresa Carey Business Manager
 Mrs. Judy Vacca Pastoral Minister
 Dr. Mary Rose Worriow Principal
 Mrs. Kelly Meliti Director of Religious Education
 Mr. Timothy Reilly Music Director

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Evening 4:30 PM
 Sunday, Upper Church 8:30 and 11:00 AM
 Holy Day Vigil (night before Holy Day) 7:00 PM
 Holy Day 8:30 AM
 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Saturday 8:30 AM
 Thursday No Mass
 Friday 12:15 PM

NEW PARISHIONERS

All Catholics living in the parish should register. Our Welcome Center is open on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month. Please call the Parish Office for more information.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

(Entrance through the middle, rear door of the Church)
 Monday-Thursday only ... 8:00 AM-4:00 PM
 Friday 8:00 AM-2:30 PM
 (Closed for lunch 12:00-1:00 PM)
 Saturday & Sunday Closed

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday, Lower Church: 3:30 to 4:15 PM

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptisms are celebrated the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month at 12:00 PM.

First time parents and godparents are required to attend a Baptism Preparation Session which is held on the 1st Monday of the month at 7:00 PM. Please call the Parish Office for more information.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Arrangements are to be made at least six months before the intended wedding date. Weddings are reserved for active parishioners. Pre-Cana Session is required. Please call Parish Office for more information.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Please call the Rectory of Mrs. Judy Vacca, Pastoral Minister, when a parishioner is hospitalized or home bound.



God most assuredly has a sense of humor. Doubtless, the Lord had just a little bit of a smirk on His face as He told some of His parables. For instance, there is the one about the friend coming to the door for bread at midnight. He cries out and cries out and then, keeps knocking and knocking and knocking. Finally, the door opens. One can just imagine the nocturnal greeting between friends: *You son of a &#*@!!!* Nonetheless, bread is given. Friends are fed. What of the friendship itself? Perhaps, this is something like the *Family Guy* scene in which a child keeps calling out to his mother who is busy with something. *Mom! Mom! Mommy! Mommy! Ma! Mom! Mommy! MOMMY!* Finally, the woman responds with exasperation. *WHAT DO YOU WANT???* The child says simply, "Hi!" Though frustrating on a human level, the relationship remains — both that of friendship and that of motherhood. We know our friends' foibles, quirks, and idiosyncrasies. Often, that is all part and parcel of why we're friends to begin with. Remember all those late nights when we were younger? And mothers know their children. The apple indeed, doesn't fall far from the tree. Mother is probably like this herself, in so many ways. *Honey! Hon! Dear!.. Honey! Honey ! Hey! HONEY!* And this just as the Birds are going for it at 4th and goal! Of course, no spouse (wife or husband), or child, or friend for that matter, would nag, right? Although such nagging is exacerbating on the human level, that is not the case for the level of the Divine. God wants us to nag Him! Jesus wants us to knock at the door persistently. In fact, what He really wants us to be persistent with is relationship as friends and as family — both with Him and with one another, despite middle of the night knocks, nagging spouses or children. Knock, knock, my friend!

Peace!

Fr. Wilson

<i>Monday</i>	<i>October 21</i>
<i>8:30 AM</i>	<i>Adele Adduci</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>October 22</i>
<i>8:30 AM</i>	<i>Jack Dunn</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>October 23</i>
<i>8:30 AM</i>	<i>William (Bill) Leeser</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>October 24</i>
	<i>No Mass</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>October 25</i>
<i>12:15 PM</i>	<i>Joseph George Marina</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>October 26</i>
<i>8:30 AM</i>	<i>Fred Senderoff</i>
<i>Next Weekend Mass Intentions</i>	
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>October 26</i>
<i>4:30 PM</i>	<i>Anna Boyle</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>October 27</i>
<i>8:30 AM</i>	<i>People of Holy Cross</i>
<i>11:00 AM</i>	<i>Living & Deceased Members of the Casciano Family</i>

<i>John Boyle</i>	<i>Helen Lyons</i>
<i>Lyndi Butler</i>	<i>Joanne Marks</i>
<i>John Cassidy</i>	<i>Barbara Mc Cusker</i>
<i>Margaret Cook</i>	<i>Lee Anne Mc Gough</i>
<i>Maryanne Convery</i>	<i>Thomas Miller</i>
<i>Stephen Collins</i>	<i>Dan Murphy</i>
<i>Samuel Dephillipo</i>	<i>Connie Myers</i>
<i>Sharon Diemer</i>	<i>Frances O'Callaghan</i>
<i>Kathleen Dixon</i>	<i>Charlotte O'Leary</i>
<i>Lillian Donahue</i>	<i>Paige O'Leary</i>
<i>Mary Ann Farrell</i>	<i>Laura Palermo</i>
<i>Nicola Giordano</i>	<i>Holly Riley</i>
<i>Donna Giorgio</i>	<i>Francis Romano</i>
<i>Carolyn Henderson</i>	<i>Jim Sandusky</i>
<i>Steven Henderson</i>	<i>Rose Marie Santos</i>
<i>Stefanos Karas</i>	<i>Joseph Sindoni</i>
<i>Carole Kime</i>	<i>Adeline Sulpizio</i>
<i>Mary & Ken Kull</i>	<i>George Vrettos</i>
<i>Kendall Lambert</i>	<i>Lily Walker</i>
<i>Rose Leto</i>	<i>Nadia Waltanski</i>
<i>Patricia Lyons</i>	<i>Carter Walton</i>

READINGS FOR THE WEEK



Reading I Exodus 17: 8-13
 Reading II II Timothy 3:14-4:2
 The Gospel: Luke 18: 1-8

The unjust judge in Jesus' parable only does the right thing because the powerless widow pestered him persistently. So, Jesus asks, how much more will our persistent praying affect our just and holy God? And also, will we persevere in our faith over the long haul of our lives?





Twenty-Ninth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Reflections by
Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

You've seen them on their TV shows. The judges in official black robes, complete with the Courtroom set, adjudicating cases of all kinds, and banging their gavels with authority. Add to them the various judges brought in by the cable news outlets to lend their expertise in comments on any number of headline-making stories. Audiences give these last special attention even if they show up without the robes and the courtroom benches.

We know from Scripture that Our Lord Jesus did not have much time for judges and even lawyers. It seems that the ones He met were either shysters or hypocrites. Naturally, His disdain does not permit us to generalize negatively all our present-day judges and lawyers, although often enough the lesser members of their group generate negative headlines of their own.

This weekend's Gospel selection finds Jesus telling His own parable that features an unjust judge who nonetheless renders a just decision in a case brought by a widow. Bear in mind that such a woman was rather powerless in the patriarchal society Jesus inhabited. What makes the judge step out of character? The persistence of the widow. Jesus goes on to say that every quality should mark our prayer.

The First Reading from Exodus puts Moses' persistence on display, in his persistence in holding up the rod of God over his army to encourage them, even though as a "senior citizen" he needed youthful help in keeping his arms lifted.

We can be sure that people in Our Lord's time were as impatient with God's timetable as we are. The big difference is that in our so-called "First World" culture, life moves at a near break-neck pace, thanks to our computerized gadgets. But then we also have our methods of weight loss that guarantee we will "lose 18 pounds in a month," or medicine that allegedly brings relief immediately; instant coffee and quick mortgages," ET cetera, et cetera." The problem of impatience easily spills over into the spiritual realm and has its effects on our prayer.

Some Christians become doubtful, Christians or even former Christians, when their prayer needs are seemingly unmet. Some Catholic Christians are the same way when they grow impatient with the pace of the Vatican. Yet, I believe we all know deep down that persistence in prayer is the only way to go. And when our good God happens to answer "no" we have to accept that because in faith we believe He knows best. The good news is that He really does.

History endorses persistence, indirectly voting for it as a quality of good prayer. Once upon a time a teenager had decided to quit high school, saying he was just fed up with it all. His father was trying to convince him to stay with it. "Son," he said, you just can't quit. All the people who are remembered in history didn't quit. Abraham Lincoln didn't quit. Thomas Edison, he didn't quit. Douglas MacArthur, he didn't quit. Elmo Mc Cringle..."

"Who?" the son burst in. "Who's Elmo Mc Cringle?" "See," the father replied, "you don't remember him. He quit!"

Isn't It Time for Peace of Mind?

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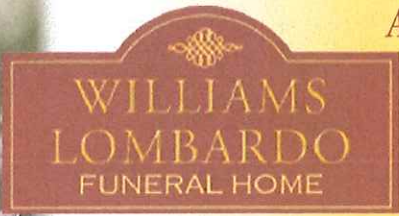
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