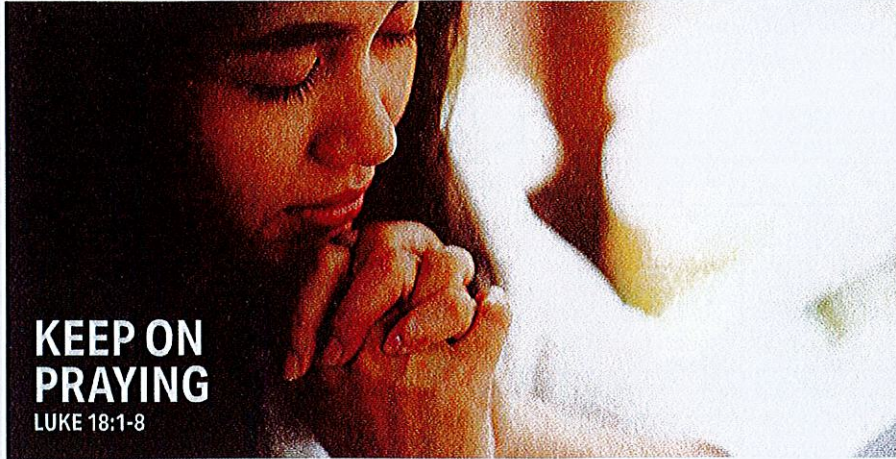


Sunday Message

29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD

Year C • 19 October 2025 • Psalter Week 1



KEEP ON PRAYING

LUKE 18:1-8

The widow is persistent. She won't give up. She keeps asking the judge for justice, even though it is clear he's not interested in her case. After all, he is an unjust judge who has no fear of God and no respect for people. The pleadings of a mere widow cut no ice with him.

But she won't leave him alone. She won't desist. The woman wants justice and she's determined to get it. Maybe she's being cheated out of her inheritance, or is being abused in some way, but whatever the reason she is utterly convinced she has right on her side.

And then the judge gives in, not because he is interested in justice or moved with compassion, but because he's afraid of her. When he says that the widow will 'beat me down,' what the Greek text literally says is: 'She will hit me under the eye.' In other words, the judge who neither fears God nor respects people grants her request because he is scared the widow will give him a black eye.

The message of the parable is this: prayer isn't simply saying pious words. Like the persistent widow, we can't be content merely to pray for whatever it is we seek, we must actively seek it. ■

SAY

"Lord, help me to never lose heart. Help me to trust in you at all times. Amen."

DO

Look at your prayer life. Why do you pray? How often do you pray?

LEARN

The Christian knows the importance of prayer.

The Christian knows that God is close.

PRAY

Today is Mission Sunday. Pray for the Church's missionary work throughout the world and for missionaries everywhere.



REFLECT

Many years ago, a Redemptorist colleague offered three tips on how to pray that I have never forgotten.

The first is this: pray the way you can – not the way you can't. There are lots of different ways to pray and different forms of prayer. Use the method that suits you best. Some pray the rosary. Some recite prayers they learned by rote as children. Others like meditation or lectio divina or eucharistic adoration or spiritual reading.

The point is, there is no right or wrong way to pray. All that is important is that you do pray. So, pray the way you can – not the way you can't.

Second tip: say what you mean. In other words, be honest with God. Honesty and frankness are essential in any relationship, and it's the same with our relationship with God. If you feel angry with God, let it out. If you're full of joy, let it show. If you feel

anxious or upset about something, express it. If you feel bored, express that, too.

The Book of Job is a wonderful example of honesty in prayer. Job feels so upset, bewildered, angry over the undeserved misfortune that has befallen him, and he lets God know it in no uncertain terms. He is not afraid to tell God exactly how he feels. In Gethsemane, Jesus, full of raw emotion, cries out to God in his pain and anguish. He doesn't hold back. The Book of Psalms contains prayers for almost every occasion. So, tip two: Say what you mean. Whatever it is you want to say to God, say it.

Third tip: mean what you say. There are two aspects to meaning what you say. First, to really think about what you're saying. There is a danger when we pray that we go through the motions. We rattle off a prayer without really focusing on the words. It's easy to get distracted. It happens to me all the time. I start to pray and before I know it, I'm planning tomorrow's work schedule or wondering about a meeting I

have that afternoon, or how well Liverpool will do in the Premier League next season. Distractions, failure to concentrate, are a constant challenge to prayer. When it happens just refocus and get back on track.

The second aspect to this third tip is this: practise what you pray; live what you profess. When we pray the Our Father and say the words 'as we forgive those who trespass against us' – the challenge is to forgive those who trespass against us. The challenge is to do what we say, to make good what we pray.

When we gather around the Eucharistic table in praise and thanks and pledge to serve our brothers and sisters as one family united in love, then that is what we must try to do. We go from church to world to try to live what we profess. So, tip three: when you pray, mean what you say.

These three tips are easy to remember. The challenging bit is to try to put them into practice. ■

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God;
turn your ear to me; hear my words.
Guard me as the apple of your eye;
in the shadow of your wings protect me.*

COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,
grant that we may always conform our will to yours
and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

FIRST READING Exodus 17:8-13

A reading from the Book of Exodus.

In those days: Amalek came and fought with Israel at Rephidim. So Moses said to Joshua, 'Choose for us men, and go out and fight with Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the staff of God in my hand.' So Joshua did as Moses told him, and fought with Amalek, while Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. Whenever Moses held up his hand, Israel prevailed, and whenever he lowered his hand, Amalek prevailed. But Moses' hands grew weary, so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it, while Aaron and Hur held up his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side. So his hands were steady until the going down of the sun. And Joshua overwhelmed Amalek and his people with the sword.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 121(120):1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8. R. cf. 2

**R: Our help is in the name of the LORD
who made heaven and earth.**

1. I lift up my eyes to the mountains;
from where shall come my help?
My help shall come from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth. **R.**
2. He will keep your foot from stumbling.
Your guard will never slumber.
No, he sleeps not nor slumbers,
Israel's guard. **R.**
3. The LORD your guard, the LORD your shade
at your right hand.
By day the sun shall not smite you,
nor the moon in the night. **R.**
4. The LORD will guard you from evil;
he will guard your soul.
The LORD will guard your going and coming,
both now and for ever. **R.**

SECOND READING 2 Timothy 3:14 - 4:2

A reading from the Second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy.

Beloved: Continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able

to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL Hebrews 4:12

R: Alleluia, alleluia.

The word of God is living and active,
discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

R: Alleluia.

GOSPEL Luke 18:1-8

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

At that time: Jesus told his disciples a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. He said, 'In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, "Give me justice against my adversary." For a while he refused, but afterwards he said to himself, "Though I neither fear God nor respect man, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming."

And the Lord said, 'Hear what the unrighteous judge says. And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Grant us, Lord, we pray,
a sincere respect for your gifts,
that, through the purifying action of your grace,
we may be cleansed by the very mysteries we serve.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*Behold, the eyes of the Lord
are on those who fear him,
who hope in his merciful love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine.*

Or

*The Son of Man has come
to give his life as a ransom for many.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant, O Lord, we pray,
that, benefiting from participation in heavenly things,
we may be helped by what you give in this present age
and prepared for the gifts that are eternal.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.



St Patrick's Church
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Wellington
TF1 3AP

THE BEACON

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Clergy: Fr Joe Donlan, Fr Michał Łatuszyński M: 07926 044405 E: stafford@pcmw.org

Safeguarding & Parish Office: Moira Shrimpton M: 07540 723614

Office: The Presbytery, King Street, Wellington, TF1 3AP E: ourladyandstpatrick2024@gmail.com T: 01952 – 242423

Our Lady of the Rosary
& St Luke's Church
Church Road, Trench
TF2 7HG

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY - MISSIO COLLECTION

Sat	18th	17:30	Lauriello/D'Ambrosio Intentions	St Patrick's
Sun	19th	08:45	Mass in Polish	St Patrick's
29th Sunday in Ordinary Time		09:00	John Bergin (Health)	Our Lady's
		11:00	Finlay Douglas	St Patrick's
		13:00	Baptisms – Elikem, Sefakor, Senyo and Selorm Dzonyrah	Our Lady's

Mon 20th **St Peter of Alcantra**

Tues 21st **Ferial**
12:00 CWL Mass followed by meeting St Patrick's

Wed 22nd **Ferial**
12:00 JDR Bergin Intentions Our Lady's
13:30 Funeral for Michael Glasper St Patrick's

Thurs 23rd **Ferial**
19:00 Anna and John Dooney (Health) St Patrick's

Fri 24th **Ferial**
09:30 Nochtli Niamh Maya (One week Old) St Patrick's
18:00 Mass in Polish St Patrick's

Sat 25th 17:30 Rose Douglas St Patrick's

Sun 26th 08:45 Mass in Polish St Patrick's
09:00 Mary Harlow RIP – SVP Intention Our Lady's
11:00 Tintu & Abin (11th Wedding Anniversary) St Patrick's
12:30 Baptism – Olaedo Chidiobi St Patrick's

SACRAMENT OF FORGIVENESS (CONFESSION)

30 minutes before Masses

RIP: Michael Glasper (Funeral 22 October at 1.30pm at St Patrick's) and **Flora Quest**. (Funeral Mass 31st October at 12noon at St Patricks) We pray for everyone whose anniversaries are at this time.

Weekly Offerings: Total: £1655.40- Standing Orders £737.25 (£560 Gift Aided), Envelopes £365 (£283 Gift Aided), Loose Plate £522.15 (Not Gift Aided). Dona - £31 We can only add Gift Aid if donations are identifiable.

Bank details:

St Patrick Wellington
Sort Code: 30-15-52
Account Number: 54546760

Our Lady & St Luke Telford
Sort Code: 30-15-52
Account Number: 54582160

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

30 minutes before weekday Masses

BAPTISMS: Forms are available from the porch. Please hand your form to Fr Ravi. The next session will be on **25 October** at 12noon at St Patrick's.



Please scan this QR code to donate to your parish online. You can register your card for gift aid to be added to every donation

ROTAS

Sat 5.30: W: Vince & Veronica EM: Gay C: Anne & John **Next Week:** W: Mary & Martin EM: Nicky C: Gay & Nicky
Sun 9: W: Alex & Janet EM: Rita C: Laura & Edith **Next Week:** W: Katrina & Ria EM: Terry C: Bobbie John & Nick
Sun 11: W: Shamroon & Carmen EM: Ewa C: K&G **Next Week:** W: Stephen & Shan EM: Jarmila C: Jane & Ann

Refreshments after Mass every Sunday at OLoR . and First Sunday of the month at St Patrick's.

BIBLE STUDY after Thursday evenings at 7.30pm.

FOREIGN COINS: Please add your foreign coins to the buckets in the porches.

The Diocese of Shrewsbury is a Registered Charity (No.234025)

DATA PROTECTION PRIVACY NOTICE

Our two parishes sometimes collect personal information about parishioners. All personal information is collected, processed and stored in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations. This is retained only as necessary and used by the Parish/Diocese for the benefit of the Parish and for legitimate reasons such as administrative and religious purposes. You can read our full privacy notice at www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice.

**Sunday 19 October
– Today is World
Mission Sunday**

Today, parishes
worldwide celebrate
World Mission

Sunday. By supporting Missio – the Pope's charity for world mission – we stand united as God's global family, in prayer, solidarity and action. We are called to be 'Missionaries Of Hope Among All Peoples' as everyone deserves to hear that God loves them and to be strengthened by God's Spirit. Please pray for missionaries and give what you can to this vital collection, bringing God's compassion, peace and justice to those in need. To donate, use the Missio envelope, call 020 7821 9755 (office hours) or visit missio.org.uk to give a gift, set up a Direct Debit and Gift Aid your donation if possible.

**TOWARDS BUILDING MEANINGFUL PARISH
STRUCTURES FOR OUR LIFE AND MISSION
TOGETHER:**

If you would like to help in any of the four ministries or to volunteer for a leadership role in them, please let Fr Ravi or Moira know by **this Sunday**, clearly indicating your preference(s). We look forward to having preliminary meetings in November and to hopefully introduce the Ministry teams and the Pastoral team to the wider community on the first day Advent.

Faith-Formation (Catechesis): Sacramental preparation (Baptism, Forgiveness, Communion, Confirmation, Matrimony), Scripture study, RCIA, Foundation Governors, Newsletter updates, Displays etc.

Faith-Celebration (Liturgy): Sunday and weekday masses, Altar servers, Readers, EMHC (Eucharistic ministers), Children's liturgy, Music, Choir, Reconciliation Services, Ushers, Funerals etc.

Faith-Action (Service): Groups and Associations, Ecumenism (Churches Together), Inter-Faith, Bereavement, Cleaners, Flower arrangers, key holders, Socials, Fundraisers etc.

Faith-Stewardship: Safeguarding, Health & Safety, Finance, Maintenance and Parish Office.

CLEANING AT OLoR: OLoR relies on a small number of volunteer cleaners: we have 2 teams of 2 people each who try to find 2 hours to clean OLoR once a month. This means there are some weeks when the church will not be cleaned. Therefore, please take any soiled nappies home with you: this will help to keep the church "hygienic": this is the arrangement at St Patrick's. If you can find time to help clean OLoR, please get in touch with Fr Ravi or Moira. Many thanks

AND ST PATRICK'S There will be a "Big Clean" at St Patrick's on Monday 10th November. If you can help please let Moira know.

CHRISTMAS PARISH LUNCH: Sunday 30th November at Hadley Park Hotel - 2 courses - starter & main -plus mince pie & coffee. To book please contact Pauline Hoyle 07954 683359. Cost If paying in cash or direct into Our Lady's bank account is £25.95 per person. To pay by card or via Dona online system will be £26.50 per person to cover transaction charges. Payment is due before 1st November.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

BAPTISM: There will be a meeting at St Patrick's at 12noon next Saturday (25th) for parents and Godparents whose children will be baptised in the coming weeks.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS 2026: Holy Communion enrolment forms are available from the porches at church. They need to be completed and returned by the first Sunday in Advent, 30th November.

Enrolment will be during Advent, lessons begin in the new year and Holy Communions will take place in May.

MARRIAGE – Betrothed: The marriage preparation course for couples getting married next year is being held on 21st & 28th March in Shrewsbury Cathedral Parish Hall, on town walls. All couples must register at monika.golembieska@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

RCIA: For adults wishing to be Baptised or received into full communion with the church: preparation will begin at the beginning of Advent for Reception at Easter 2026.

PARISH REMEMBRANCE IN NOVEMBER:

Solemnity of All Saints falls on Sunday 2nd November – Masses at normal times.

Commemoration of all the faithful departed

Saturday, 1 November, 11am - Mass at Wellington by Fr Alban's grave followed by blessing of graves

Saturday, 8 November, 11am - Mass at Wombridge Cemetery followed by blessing of graves

Remembrance Day Parade: On Sunday, 9th November, Remembrance Day, Mass will begin at 11:15am to allow for people to attend the Remembrance Day Parade in Wellington.

Parish Service of Remembrance: At 7.00pm in St Patrick's Church on Thursday, 13th November we shall remember all parishioners who have died over the last twelve months, and your deceased family and friends. All parishioners are welcome to come and join in this very special annual Service and to remember their family members and friends in prayer and light a candle in remembrance of them.

MEN'S TRAINERS AND WARM JACKETS NEEDED.

SVP are looking for men's trainers/casual shoes and warm jackets. This is for refugees arriving in flip flops and without a change of clothing and would be distributed by Telford Together for Refugees.

There is a collection point beside the foodbank collection point at the bottom of the steps to the choir loft at St Patrick's.