



Things to Ponder

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29th Sunday in Ordinary time – Luke 18:1-8

Dear Parish Family,

In the summer of 1964, I was anxiously awaiting word about whether or not I had been accepted at a very demanding secondary school. I prayed fervently every night for that intention. In the middle of July, my father called to let me know that I had been admitted. Later that same year, my mother told me that she had been praying for me as well. I remember being very touched by that awareness. I also recall that in my ardent prayer, I always concluded “thy will be done.” In more recent years, as I watched my mother's health decline, I prayed for her healing and peaceful passing. I could not have witnessed a more peaceful and happy death as that of my mother on July 1, 2015.

Today's Scriptures remind us to be persistent in prayer. It is not so much a matter of persuading God to go with our desires as it is a process of opening hearts more to the mercy and will of God.

Prayer is response to enter a relationship with someone who loves us more than we can imagine; but, at times, we do not feel God's presence or warmth. Saints remind us that it is at precisely these moments that we are closest to God, who sustains us in being. I frequently use the analogy of climbing up a mountain in the clouds and mist until emerging on top above the clouds and in the brilliant sunlight.

Share this good news in the spirit of St. Paul, who said to Timothy:

*“... proclaim the word; be persistent whether
it is convenient or inconvenient; convince,
reprimand, encourage through all
patience and teaching.”
(2 Timothy 4, 2)*

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Bill Foley

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