

## *The Twenty – Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

*October 16, 2022*

- **Excerpt from the archives of Monsignor John J. Gilchrist October 18,1998**

Today the Church presents to us the picture of the power of prayer. Moses knew that the Amalekites were a strong and ferocious people. Israel could not defeat them in battle. Moses knew that only with God’s help could they survive.

Moses climbed to a hill and raised his arms to God in prayer. As long as his arms were uplifted in prayer the Israelites won. Whenever his arms grew tired and fell, the tide of battle turned against Israel. Moses needed to have two men hold up his arms until the battle was finally over and Israel was saved.

Jesus continues with the same thought. Saint Luke knew that the little Christian community of his time was under terrible persecution. The people expected the return of Jesus, but He was not coming. They felt weak and alone. To help them, Saint Luke put this story from Jesus in his Gospel.

The story is about an unjust judge who will not give a poor widow her rights. It is probably her husband’s inheritance that is being contested. The widow won’t

give up. She continues to follow the judge around calling for justice. The judge eventually gives in. The parable is this: If an unjust judge will do what is right out of fear, will not the all-loving God do right by his own children? Of course he will.

The last line of the parable is also important. Jesus asks: “Will the son of Man find that kind of faith on earth when he comes?” Jesus means will He find the kind of faith that leads to persistent prayer. Our answer should be: “Yes, He will find that kind of faith because we will pray always – right to the end of our lives.”

### 常年期第二十九主日 (10/16/2022)

- 摘自 John J. Gilchrist 蒙席案卷，1998 年 10 月 18 日

今天教会向我们展示了什么是强有力的祈祷。梅瑟深谙阿玛肋克人是一个强壮且暴力的民族。以色列人在战场不能击败他们，只有靠天主的帮助，他们才能生存。

梅瑟登上山，举起双臂向天主祈祷。只要他高举双臂祈祷时，以色列人就能获胜。当他的双臂疲乏放下来时，战局就逆转，变得对以色列人不利。梅瑟需要两个男生把他的两个手臂持续托起直到战斗以以色列人获胜而结束，以色列因此得救。

耶稣对祈祷有着同样的想法。圣路加深知在他的时代基督小团体遭受着可怕的迫害，信友们期盼着耶稣的再次来临，然而他没有来。他们感到无力和孤独。为帮助人们不灰心丧气，圣路加把以下耶稣讲的比喻写在福音里。

这个比喻讲得是一个不义判官企图拒绝一个穷寡妇应有的权利。可能是关于继承她丈夫遗产的争执。这寡妇决不放弃。她不停地来找那判官要求给她公义。这判官最终屈服了。这个比喻告诉我们：如果一个不义判官出于害怕烦扰尚且给了这穷寡妇公义的判决，那慈爱的天父难道不给祂的儿女们正义的裁判吗？当然祂会。

这比喻中最后的话也很重要，耶稣问：【当人子来到时，能在世上找到这样的信德吗？】耶稣的意思是祂是否能够找到持续不断祈祷的信德。我们的回答应该是：“是的！祂会找到那种信德，因为我们要常常祈祷，直到我们生命的终结。”