

17th Sunday Year C

THE GOSPEL Luke 11:1-13



“I tell you, if he does not get up to give the visitor the loaves because of their friendship, he will get up to give him whatever he needs because of his persistence.”

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Jesus,
your father
stands at the door
waiting for us to knock,

never sleeping,

always seeking ways to dote on us,
and fill us with good things.

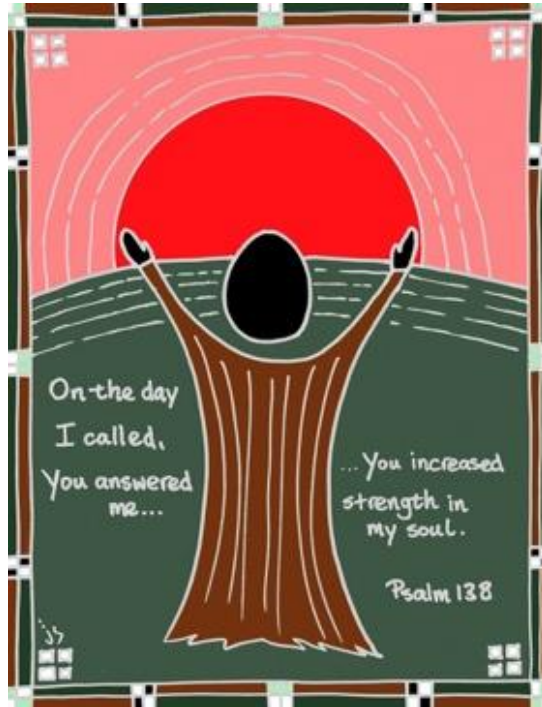
Help us
to persist
in our prayers

for climate,
for refugees,

for immigrants,
for the lonely,

for the elderly,

for peace.



THE FIRST READING. Genesis 18:20-32a

“Please, let not my Lord grow angry if I speak up this last time.”

Abraham bargained.
“Forty innocent ones? Twenty? Ten?”
God, his loving abba, surrendered each time.

So Abram kept
asking for
more!

O
God,
our Father,
let us come to you.
Let us commit to your love.
Thank you for hearing and answering
our life-long pleadings.

THE SECOND READING Colossians 2:12-14

*“Even when you were dead in transgressions ...
he brought you to life along with him.”*

Oh Christ,
Thank you.

You
partner with us.

You take away the stumbling stone.
You break down the wall between us and yourself.
You ask us to come to you and
to call God's great
mystery by its
real name,

which is,
of course,

Father.

Thank you!

(Annie Osdieck)

REFLECTION: The readings for this Sunday remind us again of the boundless love God offers to those who believe. Our faith in God will be rewarded more than we can imagine, if we but ask in prayer.

God's mercy for the sinful people of Sodom and Gomorrah is revealed in the **First Reading**. Abraham pleads with the Lord not to destroy them, even though few good people remain there. Abraham's persistence and belief in God are an example for us of the power of prayer.

The **Psalm** similarly speaks of God's constant faith and mercy. The psalmist offers praise and thanksgiving to the God who hears the cry of the people in distress.

In the **Second Reading**, Paul reminds the community in the city of Colossae – and ourselves – that Christ's sacrifice on the cross has brought everlasting life and forgiveness for all our sins.

As Jesus teaches the disciples in the **Gospel** how to pray to the Father, he also encourages us to believe that we can ask God for anything, and that our faith will be rewarded simply because of the immensity of God's love.

In the week ahead, we might renew our efforts to take every opportunity to show our faith and trust by placing the needs of those who are suffering before the God who loves us all. (from St. Bueno's Outreach Programme for the diocese of Wrexham).

