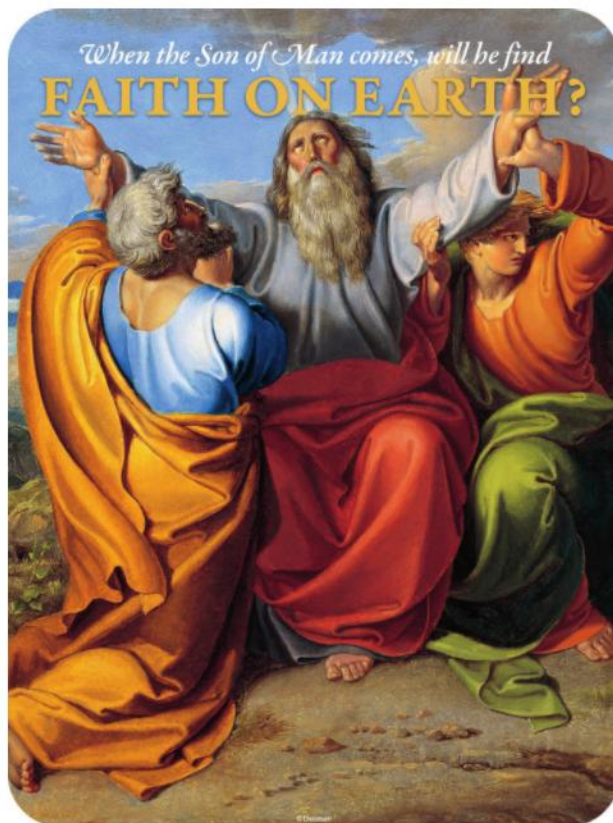


This is the first of two parables that Jesus tells in Luke 18 about prayer. (The second will be read at Mass next Sunday.) This first parable is a lesson in persistence in prayer. (Next Sunday's parable will address attitude in prayer.) While the parable seems to present prayer as nagging God for what we want, such a reading misses the point. God is not like the judge in the parable, worn down by requests and coerced to respond. The key is found in the description of the judge as corrupt and unjust. Since God can be neither, we must understand Jesus to be saying that if even an unjust judge responds to the persistence of the widow, how much more so will God listen to our prayers. God truly wants to hear our needs and respond generously. It is the final lament of Jesus that gets to the point of the parable. The lesson is about the persistence of the one who prays. God wants us to be like the persistent



widow, staying in relationship with God, confident that God hears and answers prayers. Then Jesus laments, "Will such faith be found when the Son of Man comes?" In this lament, Jesus notes how easy it can be for us to lose heart.

Family Connection:

Children nag because it works. Parents, like the judge in the parable, often get worn down by the persistence of their children asking for things large and small. Nagging is not a positive trait, to be sure. The confidence and the persistence behind this behavior, however, confidence in the goodness of the giver and the tenacity to stay in the relationship,

are traits worth emulating in our relationship with God. Talk about appropriate ways to make needs and desires known to one another and to God in prayer. Recall that God wants to answer our prayers. As a family, offer your needs as prayers of petition to God.

Holy Mass Readings for The Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exodus 17:8-13; Psalm 121:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8; 2 Timothy 3:14-4:2; Luke 18:1-8.



Saint Thomas the Apostle Catholic Parish Robstown, Texas and Saint Patrick Mission, San Patricio, Texas

DIOCESE OF CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS • 16602 FM 624 • Robstown, Texas 78380

Phone: 361-387-1312 or 361-387-7842 • Fax: 361-387-9311

Website: www.christon624.com • Email: stthomastheapostle@christon624.com

Parish Office Hours: Mon./Wed./Fri. 8:00-11:00 a.m.; Tues./Thurs. 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.



Pastor: Rev. Philip J. Panackal
Secretary: Ann Clarke
Housekeeper: Yolanda Tobòn
Catholic Daughters of America Court #2290

Deacon: Bill Cleavelin (361-208-2146)
Bookkeeper/DRE: Michele Hoelscher (361-244-2138)
EDGE: Pauline Pechacek
LIFETEEN: Rachel Unterbrink
Knights of Columbus Council #9318

Sacristan: Jerry Knesek
Music Director: Vic Benys
Plant Manager: Gary Clarke

Saturday Vigil Mass @ St. Patrick: 4:00 PM
Saturday Vigil Mass @ St. Thomas: 5:30 PM
Holy Day Vigil @ St. Thomas: 6:30 PM
Weekday Masses @ St. Thomas: 12:00 Noon on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday
CONFESSIONS @ St. Thomas: 30 Minutes before Masses or by Appointment

Sunday Masses @ St. Thomas: 8:30 AM & 11 AM
Holy Day Mass @ St. Thomas: 12:00 PM Noon

Divine Mercy: Fri. 11:45 AM
Holy Rosary: Thurs. 11:40 AM

CONFESSIONS @ St. Patrick Mission: 3:30 PM

Masses and Intentions for the Week**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2025**4:00 PM: **Mass @ St. Patrick Mission**

†Pamela McCown Forshage (AOB) by Celestia Bluntzer

5:30 PM: **Collective Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle**

Leigh-Anne Hewlett (Birthday) by Pat Landreth

Sheridan Husky (Birthday) by Yolanda Peña

†David Tajchman, Jr. (AOB) by David & Susie Tajchman

†Lillie Kurtz by Danny & Roberta Kurtz

†Steve Kurtz by Danny & Roberta Kurtz

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2025 - Masses @ St. Thomas the Apostle8:30 AM: *Parishioners*

11:00 AM: †Aida Deases by Rosario Gonzalez

MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 202512:00 PM: *No Mass***TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2025 - Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle with Msgr. Michael Howell**12:00 PM: *Fred and Anna Ramos (Wedding Anniversary)***WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2025 - Mass @ St. Thomas with Fr. Kurian Joseph**

12:00 PM: †Judy Barber by Yolanda Peña

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2025 - @ St. Thomas the Apostle with Fr. Kurian Joseph

12:00 PM: †Deceased Members of the Rathke Family by K. Rathke

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2025 - @ St. Thomas the Apostle with Fr. Kurian Joseph

12:00 PM: †Kara Knesek (AOB) by Jerry Knesek

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2025

with Msgr. Michael Howell

4:00 PM: **Mass @ St. Patrick Mission**

†Joan Bluntzer (AOB) by Celestia Bluntzer

5:30 PM: **Collective Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle**

†Aida Deases by John & Annette Freeman

†Cordoza Wells by David & Susie Tajchman

†Marylyn Webb by Hazel Grimes

†Lydia Gonzalez by John & Annette Freeman

†Herb Welch by Juliet Welch

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2025 - Masses @ St. Thomas the Apostle with Fr. John Gaffney, SOLT8:30 AM: *Parishioners*

11:00 AM: Preston Smith (Birthday) by Karen Vaughan

Please Pray for ...**All the homebound, sick and suffering of our parish, especially all those who have asked us to pray for them.**

Cathy Sikes, Larry Bryant, Mary Elva Estrada, Cambri Calaway, Stephanie Landreth, Josie Blevins, Patrick Landreth, Fred Nemec, Mari Beth, Mable Ginn, Alva Rosas, Blaine Ainsworth, Noe Ramos, Gayla Schaefer, Ruthie Weathersby, Debra Wood, Valerie Rich, Yolanda Peña, Tommy Pritchard, Kathryn White, Wallace Prukop, Juan Rodriguez, Solomon Abdo II, Frank Cain, Estefana Munoz, Charlie & Jean Chapman, Stasha Landreth, Eileen Champine, Todd Crawford, Rose Pfeiler, Tyler Skidmore, Yolanda Galvan, Elaine Cain, Ted & Jeanette Respondek, Rita Conroy, Joe Garza, Simon Bucknall, Arnold Guerra, Joanna Guerra, Ramiro Trevino, Tom Crawford, Evelyn Castillo, Frances Hicks, Graciela Garza, T. J. Williams, Kathy Rathke, Dalia Gutierrez, Susan Chavarry, Fred Guerra, Nicole Ginn, Ravyn Brown, Jaime Garza, Arnold Dill, Wilma Grupe, Miles Elliott Martinez, Pat Landreth, Susie Tajchman, Jim Landreth, Jr., Cindy West, Elmyra Casner, and Harold Prejean.

Please call/email the parish office to include a person on the 2025 PRAYER LIST.

**LECTORS for OCTOBER 25-26, 2025**

Saturday, 5:30 PM: Les Hoelscher

Sunday, 8:30 AM: Michele Hoelscher

Sunday, 11:00 AM: Frank Wilson

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION - OCTOBER 25-26 2025**

Saturday, 5:30 PM: Tony Arredondo

Sunday, 8:30 AM: Deacon Bill, Aaron Hoelscher, Fred Ramos

Sunday, 11:00 AM: Jesse Garcia, Bill Kelly, Kera Steward

ALTAR SERVERS for OCTOBER 25-26, 2025

Saturday, 5:30 PM: Grace Landry, Matthew Cortino, Michael Cortino

Sunday, 8:30 AM: Joseph Hess, Miles Shimek, Gabriel & Cyprian Kimmel

Sunday, 11:00 AM: Morgan Boatright, Liam Sanchez, Eliana Garza

USHERS for OCTOBER 25-26, 2025

Saturday, 5:30 PM: D. Kurtz, W. Riebschleager, E. Flurry, J. Freeman

Sunday, 8:30 AM: B. Gwynn, M. Rektorik, M. Reilly, T. Schumacher

Sunday, 11:00 AM: R. Garcia, E. Sanchez, S. Woolf, B. Boatright

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY - OCTOBER 19, 2025

Pope Leo XIV urged every Catholic parish around the globe to observe World Mission Sunday and take up the annual collection that supports Catholic missionary work. "Your prayers, your support will help spread the Gospel, provide for pastoral and catechetical programs, help to build new churches, and care for the health and educational needs of our brothers and sisters in mission territories," the pope said.

Pope Leo asked Catholics to "reflect together on our baptismal call to be 'missionaries of hope among the peoples,'" and to commit themselves again "to the sweet and joyful task of bringing Christ Jesus our hope to the ends of the earth." Pope Francis had chosen "Missionaries of Hope Among All Peoples" as the theme for the 2025 celebration.

U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops

INFORMATION CORNER**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:** Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.**Altar Flowers:** Call the parish office to schedule flowers for the altar for a special occasion or "in honor of" or "in memory of" a person.**Baptism:** Call the parish office to register for the Sacrament of Baptism. All paperwork must be completed before attending class or scheduling Baptism. See website for more information.**Bulletin:** Bulletin announcements are due on Monday by 1:00 PM.**Confession:** 30 minutes before Masses or by appointment.**Religious Ed:** Schedule for Religious Ed can be found on our website www.christon624.com under the Religious Ed Tab. on the Home Page under Parish Statement.**Scripture Study:** Sunday's after the 8:30 a.m. Mass in the KC Bldg.**Catholic Daughters of America Court #2290:** Contact Cynthia Garcia, Regent at 361-537-4470.**Knights of Columbus Council #9318:** Contact Tony Arredondo, Grand Knight at Tonyent62@gmail.com or 361-947-8036.

SAINT PAUL'S JOURNEY IN GREECE

Saint Paul made converts and founded the church in Corinth. From there, he moved on to Ephesus, a city on the west coast of today's Turkey, and then to Caesarea and Antioch to complete his mission. The Apostle later returned to Ephesus on his third missionary journey and stayed there for three years. During his time in Ephesus, St. Paul received disconcerting news from Corinthian Christians regarding rivalries, jealousy and immoral behavior. His congregation requested advice to solve such problems. Saint Paul's First Epistle to the Corinthians addresses the issues of division, morality, personal disputes, sexual purity, marriage, and the correct form of Christian worship, and offers solutions based on the teachings of Jesus.

Saint Paul returned to Greece twice as part of his third missionary journey. After his First Epistle to the Corinthians failed to have the desired results, Saint Paul wrote the Second Epistle to the Corinthians, from Macedonia, in the year 55 or 56 AD. In the second letter, he affirms his affection for the Corinthians, while stating the importance of forgiving others, and of being a person who reflects Christ and gives generously to God's people. The Apostle instructs the faithful on the collection for the poor in the Jerusalem church, and concludes with a polemic defense of his apostleship. However, neither of the two epistles had the desired results, and Paul the Apostle eventually made a brief visit to Corinth in the spring of 56 AD. It is during St. Paul's stay in Corinth that he wrote his famous Epistle to the Romans.

In the winter of the same year, St. Paul visited Philippi. There he heard the good news from Corinth that led him to send a Third Epistle to the Corinthians to correct alleged misinterpretations of the earlier two.

Some Historical and Spiritual sites in Greece that are most visited are:

1. Areopagus Hill in Athens was the site of Paul's sermon about the "unknown God".
2. Ancient Theatre of Philippi and Ruins were tied to Paul's imprisonment and miraculous escape.
3. Lydia's Baptistery in Philippi marking the Baptism of Europe's first Christian Convert.
4. The Church of Saint Demetrios in Thessalonica which was one of the most significant Byzantine Churches in Greece deeply connected to Paul's mission.

5. Bema of Saint Paul in Corinth. The platform where Paul was brought before the Roman proconsul Gallio.

The spiritual impact and legacy of Saint Paul's mission in Greece endures through the Epistles to the Corinthians, Thessalonians, and Philippians. Strong Christian communities still continue to thrive today. Many timeless lessons were learned in faith, love, humility, and resilience. Saint Paul's journey through Greece established a spiritual legacy that continues to guide faithful hearts and curious minds worldwide.

Saint Paul's journey in Greece was not just about establishing Christian communities, it was about bridging cultural gaps, addressing theological challenges, and transforming lives. From the intellectual heights of Athens to the spiritual resilience of Philippi, every stop reflects Paul's courage, faith, and devotion to spreading the Gospel.

Greece remains a spiritual and historical cornerstone, where Saint Paul's mission still speaks to hearts and minds today.

From the desk of the Pastor

Parish Website: www.christon624.com

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	10/11-12/2025 Online Giving:	\$1,279.00
	TOTAL	\$7,552.78
	ST. PATRICK MISSION	
	10/11/2025 Regular Collection:	\$603.00
	Counters: C. Pilarczyk and C. Hoelscher	

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SPECIAL OFFERING – OCTOBER 19, 2025

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St. Thomas the Apostle's Sunday Bulletin

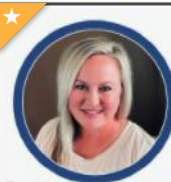
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