

Reflections on Gospel Readings for 28th July ---(17th Sunday Ordinary Time)

Luke 11: 1-13

Persistence in Prayer ‘.

Obviously, Jesus was observed praying to His Father. His “success “ in ministry was also seen by His disciples who also asked him “How ?” What was the secret of His “prayer technique “& begged him to direct them.

Jesus explained with words which indicated His relationship with God His Father in Heaven and how He claimed this Sonship of God .The first words : “Our Father”you are to claim your relationship with Him, His authority over you, and your acknowledgement that you belong to His family.

He then tells the story of the unfriendly neighbour who is only forced into sharing through the persistence of the plaintiff. However, Jesus applies the story to our need for continual application to our prayers... not just a one-off. If this is done there will be a whole hearted response , and we will be rewarded.

Sunday 4th August – (18th Sunday in Ordinary time)---Luke 12: 13—21

“Be on your guard”

Today Christ warns us against avarice of any kind, telling the story of the rich man who revelled in his personal wealth, planning more storage capacity for his goods , but who was suddenly called to the next life , leaving his wealth unclaimed. We are warned to be aware of the personal wish for material goods against the call to become spiritually rich in God’s sight.

Beside the necessary provision for oneself and family’s future , any surplus needs to be directed towards the needy and destitute.

In the 1st Reading (Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11) we are reminded that there is only real worth in Christ Himself---He is everything , and He is in everything.

Here too is a Call to contentment.