

## **Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 10-19-2025**

In the gospel today Jesus pointed out to his disciples in a parable of the necessity for them to pray always without becoming weary.

And then he concluded the gospel with the words, “When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”

Jesus was obviously linking faith to prayer.

Several years ago Zachary King, a former satanic priest turned Catholic, came to my old parish and spoke about his own conversion to the faith and how excited he was upon learning that Jesus was truly present, body, blood, soul, and divinity, in the Eucharist and that he could receive him in his own body and furthermore literally pray at the feet of Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration.

He said, the first time he went to Adoration he was expecting to encounter a large crowd of adorers comparable to a rock concert.

But then he said the opposite was true. He got there and the parking lot was empty and upon entering the chapel he encountered one elderly lady praying there and the minute he walked in she jumped to her feet and told him that she had to go but he couldn't leave until the next person arrived – This is a pretty sad testimony to our faith?

We fill sports stadiums all around the country and the world week in and week out for two and three hours or more but most people can hardly find one hour free for the Lord on Sunday and almost no time for Eucharistic Adoration.

I get it. It's quite exhilarating to watch athletes go head-to-head with one another – giving everything they've got – leaving nothing but their sweat and blood on the field of play.

And all of us, competitor and spectator alike, love knowing that there is nothing left in the tank when the contest is over. It's an amazing experience.

But that's just for a moment of glory. When it's all said and done and the sun burns out nobody is going to remember even a single play.

There is no contest that compares to life and there is no conflict more serious than this one because it is the final battle for the destiny of every soul and we are all players on this field of battle.

There's a great scene in Sylvester Stalone's final movie in his Rocky Balboa series when he's correcting his son for his bad habit of making excuses because his life isn't where he thinks it should be and he's blaming his father for casting a wide shadow.

Rocky said, "Let me tell you something you already know, the world ain't all sunshine and rainbows. It's a very mean and nasty place and I don't care how tough you are it will beat you to your knees and keep you there permanently if you let it."

"You, me, nobody is gonna hit as hard as life but it ain't about how hard you hit, it's about how hard you can get hit and keep moving forward, how much you can take and keep moving forward, that's how winning is done. "

“Now if you know what your worth then go out and get what your worth but you gotta be willing to take the hits. And not pointing fingers saying, you ain’t where you wanna be because of him or her or anybody. Cowards do that and that ain’t you. You’re better than that.”

Each one of us is engaged in the greatest battle of history – the battle over our very souls.

And we aren’t just relying on the raised arms of Moses to support us in this battle we have the outstretched arms of Jesus Christ on the cross, the second Person of the Most Holy Trinity, fighting this one with us and for us.

What is our life worth? In Jesus’ estimation it is priceless. His sacrifice on the cross is an infinite one for our salvation alone.

Now that we know what we are worth then we need to go out and claim what we are worth but we gotta be willing to take the hits.

We must be willing to make the sacrifices, which means spending time in prayer – especially Mass and Adoration.

Prayer brings our faith to life within us which gives us the courage to take the hits that only life can throw so that we can keep moving forward and become the saints that Jesus is calling us to be.

“When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?” Let’s keep praying and get to Mass and Adoration so that he will find faith at least here at Resurrection of the Lord/St. Joe’s when he does come.