

17th Sunday In Ordinary Time Of The Year

(Genesis 18.20-32, Colossians 2.12-14, Luke 11.1-13)

Theme: *PRAYER* is the Key

Beloved in Christ Jesus, the gospel message today has shown us the way to the heart of God. It also offers us the best solution to our problems. This way to God and the best answer to our problems will not cost us any money from our pockets: This way, is the way of *PRAYER*.

Jesus our Lord and Saviour during His earthly ministry always prayed to the Father. The apostles, seeing their Master going to God always through prayer, beckoned Him on one occasion to teach them how to pray. In answer to their request, Jesus taught them the "Our Father", the model to all prayers.

Prayer brings us into the presence of God. It is an encounter with God. When ever we are in prayer, we are in communion with God or in dialogue with God our Father. It is through prayer that we present our thanks and petitions to God. In and through prayer we make the desires of our minds known to God.

Today again, we see our Lord Jesus in prayer with his family or children, that is the disciples in prayer. They saw him praying and asked Him to teach them to pray and Jesus did.

When was the last time you prayed as a family? Or the last time your children saw you praying? The best way to lead or teach our children or family is by example. Do you still remember where your bible is? Or your rosary and other prayer books are?

Let us always bear in mind that our parents or other Christians have helped us receive our faith in Christ. It is our duty also to pass on this faith to our children and to others.

One other thing, Jesus told us again, through the gospel, is to be persistent in our prayers. Let us not give up hope and faith. Let us keep asking and giving thanks through prayers. One truth is certain: Our God must always give an answer to our prayers. *PRAYER* is the key.