

## 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

Exodus 17:8-13  
Psalm 121:1-8  
2 Timothy 3:14--4:2  
Luke 18:1-8

**Monday October 17**  
**St. Ignatius of Antioch**  
Ephesians 2:1-10  
Ps 100:1b-5  
Luke 12:13-21

**Tuesday October 18**  
**St. Luke**  
2 Timothy 4:10-17b  
Ps 145:10-13,17-18  
Luke 10:1-9

**Wednesday October 19**  
**Sts. Isaac Jogues and John de Brebeuf & co.**  
Ephesians 3:2-12  
Isaiah 12:2-6  
Luke 12:39-48

**Thursday October 20**  
Ephesians 3:14-21  
Ps 33:1-2,4-5,11-12,18-19  
Luke 12:49-53

**Friday October 21**  
Ephesians 4:1-6  
Ps 24:1-6  
Luke 12:54-59

**Saturday October 22**  
Ephesians 4:7-16  
Ps 122:1-5  
Luke 13:1-9

In our Gospel reading, God promises to secure the rights of his faithful ones who seek his justice. When we're abused, neglected, rejected, betrayed, or falsely accused, God comes to our rescue. And speedily, he says! What? He's not helping you fast enough? Is he breaking his promise with you?

Although God often seems way too slow, whether it takes months or years (and it often does) before your problem gets resolved, Jesus is in fact at your side immediately delivering you from evil, in the very moment you begin to cry out to him.

The real question is not "Where is Jesus?" nor "Why doesn't he care enough to help me sooner?" The question that matters – for the healing of our souls – is stated in the last sentence of this Gospel passage: As he's arriving to help us, do we greet him with faith? Or is fear

spinning our minds in such turmoil that we don't see him as he stands right next to us offering a helping hand?

If we're not living by faith, we inadvertently expand our problems. Are you feeling miserable after calling upon God for help? Look! Jesus is at your side begging for your trust. Are you feeling frustrated because God is not removing the obstacles you're facing? Look! Jesus

wants you to follow him in a direction that's different than where you think you should go.



We all have adversaries. Jesus is wielding his sword of truth against the spirits of darkness who are working against us; he is driving them away. But if we reject the truth he wields, his sword is no help.

What about the troublemakers who continually annoy you? When our eyes are on them instead of on Jesus, we miss the healing that he's offering to us as vindication.

When we live by faith, we experience God's vindication every day, even while injustices continue. We experience it in our hearts as we receive his peace and his patience and his endurance.

### Reflect & Discuss:

1. What injustices are frustrating you today? What evil is being done against you?
2. What will you do right now to be a faith-filled follower of Christ? What action will you take to conquer your fears and choose to give God your trust?
3. Describe an injustice that you recently witnessed or experienced. What shocked and dismayed you the most about it?
4. What is fearsome about it? And what does trust for the Lord encourage you to believe about it?