



## Ask, Father James:

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On the need to pray always and not to lose heart (Luke 18:1-8)

This weekend's parable is about the Power of Persistence in prayer. In the parable Jesus tells of a widow who encountered a (person), a judge who doesn't fear God. She kept pestering the judge for vindication of her rights. She was probably up against a wealthy opponent and his bribes. The unjust judge finally gives way to the woman because of her persistence. Jesus says, God is unlike the judge. God will vindicate God's elect people if they are persistent. In prayer. Persistence means not to "lose heart." Meaning that prayer is not like a vending machine where you put a coin in and. It spits out the bottle. The parable teaches us that when we come to God in prayer, we need to persist despite failure and silence. Jesus concludes this text by asking: "And when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?" Meaning, will he find persistent Christians?

### Our Lady of Peace Parish



425 Broad Street North  
Regina, SK S4R 2X8



306.543.5355



frjowolagba@gmail.com



[www.ourladyofpeaceregina.com](http://www.ourladyofpeaceregina.com)

