

A Letter from Fr. Patrick Kizza

October 19, 2025

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The Power of Persevering Faith is the key

This Sunday's readings weave together a beautiful message about perseverance in prayer, in faith, and in doing good even when life feels exhausting or unjust. The story of *Moses in Exodus 17* reminds us that faith is not lived alone. As Moses raises his hands in prayer for Israel's victory, he soon grows weary. But Aaron and Hur come to his side, holding up his arms until the sun sets and the battle is won. It's a striking image of what the Christian community should be - a people who support one another in faith when the burden becomes too heavy to bear alone.

In our daily lives, we all have "Amalekites" to face — illness, discouragement, injustice, or temptation. Prayer, like Moses' uplifted hands, keeps us connected to the source of our strength. Yet, we sometimes grow tired, and that's when we need others to stand beside us, that is to say family, friends, or the Church community, to hold us up in love and prayer.

I would like to thank all of you who support one another, especially during difficult times. You are living witnesses of the Gospel we have just reflected on — people who, like Aaron and Hur, lift up the weary arms of others through love and compassion. Thank you to those who babysit when parents need a break, to those who sit beside someone receiving chemotherapy, to those who visit the sick, feed the hungry, comfort the lonely, and quietly offer prayers for others. You remind us that faith is not only what we say but what we do.

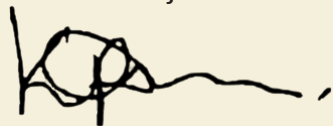
In these simple yet profound acts of kindness, Christ's healing presence becomes visible among us. Let us continue to be that light for one another, especially in times of struggle — for when we lift others up, we all draw closer to God.

Saint Paul's words to Timothy (2 Timothy 3:14–4:2) echo this same perseverance. He calls us to "*remain faithful to what you have learned and believed*," reminding us that Scripture is our daily guide. In a world filled with noise and distraction, Paul's advice is both timely and urgent: "*Proclaim the word; be persistent whether it is convenient or inconvenient*." Faith is not a seasonal practice; it's a lifelong commitment that shapes how we act, speak, and love.

In the Gospel (Luke 18:1–8), Jesus gives us the image of the persistent widow who refuses to give up until justice is done. Her perseverance moves even a corrupt judge then, how much more our loving Father will respond to those who pray with faith! Jesus assures us that God always hears, but He also challenges us: "*When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?*"

In our modern lives, we can grow weary, waiting for prayers to be answered, justice to prevail, or peace to return. Yet the message today is clear: keep praying, keep believing, and keep supporting one another. Faith is not proven in comfort but in endurance.

Like Moses on the hill, Timothy holding firm, and the widow pleading for justice, may we never give up on God because He never gives up on us. When we persevere together in faith, hope, and love, the "sun of justice" will indeed rise with healing in its rays.



Fr. Patrick