

Reflections on 29th Sunday of Year. 25 C.

Mass: Exodus 17:8-13; Psalm 120; 2 Timothy 3:14-4:2; Luke 18:1-8.

The judge was a man of power in the ancient world. He didn't just sit and pass sentence, he made things happen. Do we believe that God makes things happen and that therefore we can make things happen. The ancient world did not see change or progress as possible. The past was always the ideal and going back to the past was the aim of all good government. It was one of the problems of the early church that it looked to the future for something new to happen, for Christ to come again with a transformed world. This is more than does God do good things? It means change can happen, just like the Israelites could just change the pattern of slavery and march to a new future. We live in an increasingly dangerous world; can we make change happen? Do we believe that God is working with us for that change? This story is to empower us to enter battle with our hands reaching out to God, supporting each other. The immediate image that comes to mind is that of Iran under the Ayatollah, and possibly Afghanistan under the Taliban. How would we face the authorities in Russia or Iran, to say nothing of China or Afghanistan? Are we ready for that. Please God it won't come, but we must be ready for what will.