



DIOCESE OF OWENSBORO

McRaith Catholic Center | *Office of the Bishop*

From Bishop William Medley to be read (or downloaded and played) October 19-20 at all the Masses

My dear brothers and sisters,

Today's readings provide us with a powerful reminder that we all have a serious responsibility to remain faithful. Each day we're given ample opportunities to respond to the events in our lives in a way that reflects our faith in God and the Catholic Church. Yet we all fail to respond appropriately at times. Today's message gives us three important things to consider when our faith is shaken.

First, surround yourself with faithful people. Moses's arms were growing weary and he had to rely on others he trusted for support. Our parishes are full of people who are willing to support the needs of each other. And as Church, we must find more ways to engage and connect to each other because we are spiritually dependent on each other.

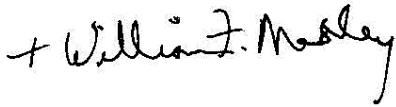
Second, scripture tells us to "be persistent, whether it is convenient or inconvenient." The depth of our faith is probably better measured during the times when it's inconvenient to respond to life as a Catholic Christian. Prioritizing faith during the inconveniences could also mean being diligent when we don't always feel spiritually connected, or when we feel slighted or betrayed.

Third, the Gospel tells us again to pray always without becoming weary. No one can fully understand the impact of this powerful mystery. We don't always get to see the full impact of how God utilizes our prayerful communication, but his promise is that a disciplined prayer life can help change the world around us.

This is the weekend I make my annual appeal for the Disciple's Response Fund and the scriptures are very appropriate. None of us are called to be perfect, but today we are called to be faithful, persistent and prayerful. We use the contributions from the Disciple's Response Fund to try and provide resources that have the greatest impact on our Catholic faith life. We are investing more dollars in efforts that serve the youth of our Diocese. We are providing more opportunities for adult education and faith formation. And we are responding to increased financial demands coming from seminarian education and care for our retired priests. So please make a thoughtful

and prayerful decision on the amount you give this year. We try to maximize the potential for every dollar raised.

And let me conclude by thanking all of you. For nearly 10 years I have been blessed by many of your lives. We are a church of faithful people here today and we do care for the needs of each other. I feel the strength of your persistent prayers and support, and I am grateful for the commitments of the Pastors who serve our great Diocese. May God continue to bless us with an abundance of generosity and resources. Thank You.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "William F. Medley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small cross at the beginning.

Most Reverend William F. Medley
Bishop, Diocese of Owensboro