

Sunday 8th May 2022

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ. I extend my greetings to you and your families. I pray that you have had a productive and fruitful week.

At the end of this month, we as a nation shall be celebrating the Platinum Jubilee of our Queen Elizabeth. This is a historic moment for our monarch but also for us. In the weeks preceding this, we shall be busy here in the parish celebrating the Holy Communion of our dear children. As with all celebrations, there is enormous planning and preparations that home on behind the scenes and we patiently wait for the grand occasion to arrive. And so it is on this theme of patience that I would like to explore with you.

In a beautiful village, there was a family of four. They moved to the city to start a business.

With their little savings and financial help from their close circle, they opened a shop.

On the first day of opening the shop, there were no customers. And in the first week, there were no customers. Even after a month, there were no customers.

During these difficult times, the family didn't lose hope.

Every day the man woke up early and got ready to open the shop. His wife prepared food for him. In the night, he closed his shop late.

They were having only one meal per day. But they never give up.

After close to 2 months, they had their first customer. He treated his customer well and gave quality products.

With quality service to the first customer and through word of mouth, he started receiving more customers to his shop. And it was no looking back for him after his first customer.

Now, it's been 20 years since he started. His business has grown big and now has multiple branches across the city. His son and daughter also started managing his business.

Still, every day the man wakes up early, the lady now cooks for both her children and her husband. They open their shop early and close their shop late. They were patient and never gave up.

Moral of the story

Time can test our patience though we should never let ourselves down.

Develop the never-give-up attitude and build patience to get success.

Our Queen has served us tirelessly for 70 years and at the amazing age of 96 years she continues to be an exemplary role model for us. Her patience and tenacity has stood the test of time. Whilst she might not be present at her annual garden parties this year and is conserving her energy for her jubilee celebrations, we as a country are now being asked to be patient with her and for her.

This week, I invite you to consider some areas in your life where some extra patience might be required. It might be someone you care for, a job that you have applied for or a long standing matter that needs resolving. Whatever it is, don't force the issue. Allow the situations in your life to unravel themselves. Sometimes waiting is not a bad thing. Learning the art of patience and tolerance can indeed be quite liberating.

As always, I wish you a blessed and peaceful new week ahead. May God continue to shower you with his infinite graces and mercy.

Yours affectionately,

Rev Fr Nicholas Nwanzi