



**CONSOLATA SHRINE**  
**Twenty Nineth Sunday in Ordinary**  
**Time C**  
**16th October 2016**



**It IS Difficult at Times to  
 Hold on to One's Faith!.**

**FIRST READING**

**Exodus 17:8-13**

***"Whenever Moses held up his hand, Israel prevailed."***

**A reading from the Book of Exodus**

In those days: Amalek came and fought with Israel at Rephidim. And Moses said to Joshua, "Choose for us men, and go out, fight with Amalek; tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in my hand." So Joshua did as Moses told him, and fought with Amalek; and Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. Whenever Moses held up his hand, Israel prevailed; and whenever he lowered his hand, Amalek prevailed. But Moses' hands grew weary; so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat upon it, and Aaron and Hur held up his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side; so his hands were steady until the going down of the sun. And Joshua mowed down Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword.

***The word of the Lord***

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**Psalm 121:1-2.3-4.5-6.7-8**

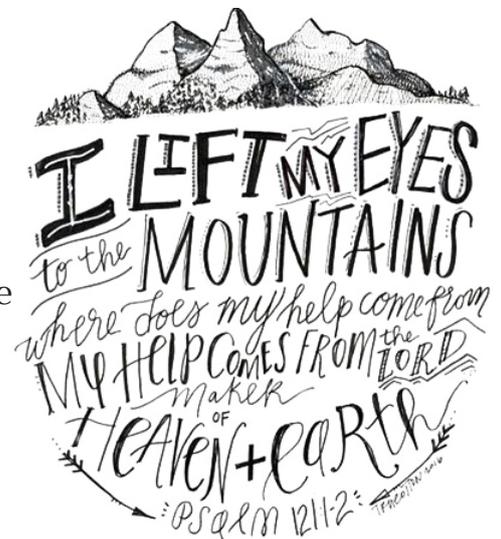
**Response. Our help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth**

I lift up my eyes to the mountains;  
 from where shall come my help?  
 My help shall come from the Lord,  
 who made heaven and earth. **(Response)**

He will keep your foot from stumbling.  
 Your guard will never slumber.  
 No, he sleeps not nor slumber,  
 Israel's guard. **(Response)**

The Lord your guard, the Lord your shade  
 at your right hand.  
 By day the sun shall not smite you,  
 nor the moon in the night. **(Response)**

The Lord will guard you from evil;  
 he will guard your soul.  
 The Lord will guard your going and coming,  
 both now and forever. **(Response)**



**SECOND READING**

**2 Timothy 3:14-4:2**

***"Let the man of God be complete, equipped for every good work."***

**A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy**

Beloved: Continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the Sacred Writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom; preach the word, be urgent in season and out of season, convince, rebuke, and exhort, the unfailing in patience and in teaching.

***The word of the Lord***



**Alleluia**

The word of God is living and active,  
discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

**Alleluia**



**GOSPEL**

**Luke 18:1-8**

***God will vindicate his elect, who cry to him day and night.***

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke**



At that time: Jesus told his disciples a parable, to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor regarded man; and there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, 'Vindicate me against my adversary.' For a while he refused; but afterwards he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear God nor regard man, yet because this widow bothers me, I will vindicate her, or she will wear me out by her continual coming.'"

And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge says. And will not God vindicate his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? I tell you, he will vindicate them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

***The Gospel of the Lord***

**REFLECTION**

**THEME : O LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY !**

Once I met a lady who said that she had been praying for her daughter-in-law. Now that the Lord heard prayer she was very happy. "Tell me, what happened?" I asked her. She said, "Father, my daughter-in-law is a terrible lady. I asked the Lord to do something and He did! She met with an accident and broke one of her legs!"

Often when I examine my intercessory prayers, I find that they are selfish and all the time aimed at me or at the welfare of my friends, family and community. In this sense I'm not better than a little child who seeks its own comfort and wants everyone to obey its own will. Thus, what St. Augustine says is quite true, "Many are those who look for Jesus are guided solely by worldly interests! Rarely do they seek Jesus for Jesus!"

First Reading (Ex.17:8-13): En route to Canaan from Egypt, the Israelites had to cross many territories occupied by tribal groups. Amalek and his clan were one such group that obstructed Israelites from reaching the Promised Land. Hence, just as Moses earlier raised his arms and parted the Red Sea (Ex.14:16, 21, 26) and struck the rock for water in the wilderness (Ex. 17:5-6); here we find him with raised arms - praying for victory of the Israelites over Amalekites. Miraculously Moses' arms raised result in Amalek's army being razed.

Moses' raised arms must be understood in the context of God's liberative action. The Israelites were slaves who suffered grave injustices. Hence God walked with them towards freedom. He chose along with Moses, Aaron and Hur (who held up Moses' arms on either side till sunset) also Joshua, who mowed down Amalek and his people with the sword.

Second Reading (2 Tim.3:14 - 4:2): In the second reading Paul urges Timothy to live by the Scriptures, "But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed,...and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Jesus Christ" (2 Tim.3:14-15). He also encourages him to preach the Word in season and out of season, "All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work" (2 Tim.3:16-17).

Gospel Reading (Lk.18:1-8): In the gospel reading through the parable of the widow and the unjust judge, Jesus teaches the necessity of perseverance in prayer. The unjust judge grants justice to the widow solely because of her persistence. He said, "Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming" (Lk.18:4-5). Being a widow, the woman is specially loved by God who takes providential care of the anawim (orphans, widows, aliens). Jesus' final question to his hearers drives home the message, "And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?" (Lk.18:8).

Today, do you raise your arms towards God to beg favours for yourself, for others, to praise God or to surrender to God's will? True prayer requires humility, courage and total trust in the Lord. Indeed, more than Moses with arms raised, we have a Master with arms raised not only in prayer during his lifetime, but also in surrender on the Cross to the Will of the Father, when He died for you and me. Let's then surrender our lives to him!

**Prayer of Open Hands: Lord God give me whatever you want to give; and take away from me whatever you want to take. Grant me your grace to accept your will and follow you. Amen.**

*Rev Fr. Anil Kiran Fernandes SVD*

## **HYMN OF THE JUBILEE OF MERCY**

### **Misericordes sicut Pater!**

#### **(Merciful like the Father) (x2)**

1. Give thanks to the Father, for He is good  
**in aeternum misericordia eius**  
**(His mercy is forever)**  
He created the world with wisdom...  
He leads His people throughout history...  
He pardons and welcomes His children...
2. Give thanks to the Son, Light of the Nations...  
He loved us with a heart of flesh...  
As we receive from Him, let us also give to Him...  
Hearts open to those who hunger and thirst...
3. Let us ask the Spirit for the seven holy gifts  
Fount of all goodness and the sweetest relief  
Comforted by Him, let us offer comfort...  
Love hopes and bears all things...
4. Let us ask for peace from the God of all

peace...

The earth waits for the Good News of the Kingdom...

Joy and pardon in the hearts of the little ones...

The heavens and the earth will be renewed...

## **PRAYER FOR THE YEAR OF JUBILEE OF MERCY**

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father,  
and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him.

Show us your face and we will be saved.  
Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew from being enslaved by money;  
the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking happiness only in created things;  
made Peter weep after his betrayal,  
and assured Paradise to the repentant thief.

Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us, the words that you spoke to the Samaritan woman:

"If you knew the gift of God!"

You are the visible face of the invisible Father, of the God who manifests his power above all

by forgiveness and mercy:  
let the Church be your visible face in the world,  
its Lord risen and glorified.  
You willed that your ministers would also be  
clothed in weakness  
in order that they may feel compassion for those  
in ignorance and error:  
let everyone who approaches them feel sought  
after, loved, and forgiven by God.  
Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us  
with its anointing,

so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of  
grace from the Lord,  
and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm,  
may bring good news to the poor,  
proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed,  
and restore sight to the blind.  
We ask this of you, Lord Jesus, through the  
intercession of Mary, Mother of  
Mercy; you who live and reign with the Father  
and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The Charity Committee has organized like last year a Charity Day called Upendo Day to raise funds to assist the needy of the Parish while still having fun. It will be at Karura Forest on 22nd October 2016! The event starts at 7am with a mass, and thereafter the walk, games for children and the entertainments. Please pick tickets for yourself and for your loved ones and get information at the desk outside the church. Your presence will make a difference!
2. Today we will project the film "The reluctant saint" at 3pm in the Parish Hall.
3. Thursday 20th, is a Public Holiday and masses follow Saturday schedule.
4. Next Friday 21st, as part of the program of the Missionary Month, we will be showing the film "Entertaining Angels", a film about the life of the Venerable Henriette Deille. The film will be in the Parish Hall at 6.15pm.
5. Next Sunday 23rd is the World Mission Sunday, we will have special liturgy and a second collection to assist the World-wide mission of the Church.
6. The Archdiocese of Nyeri has organized a series of events to celebrate the feast of Blessed Sister Irene Nyaatha among which there is a Mass and a commemoration event on Saturday 29th October at Nyeri. Parishioners who would like to attend are welcome to register at the Parish office during the week.
7. The Books on the Year of Mercy are on Special offer. Please visit the bookshop while stock last.

### WEEKLY MEETINGS

- Communication Committee on Monday 17th at 6.15pm

Please Register in your Agendas!

UPENDO-CHARITY DAY 2016 at Karura Forest on 22nd October 2016!

To assist the Charity activities in the Parish!

### DAILY READING

**Monday:** Eph 2:1-10; Ps 100; Lk 12:13-21

**Tuesday:** 2 Tim 4:10-17b; Ps 145; Lk 10:1-9

**Wednesday:** Eph 3: 2-12; Is 12:2- 6; Lk 12:39-48

**Thursday:** Eph 3: 14-21; Ps: 33; Lk 12:49-53

**Friday:** Eph 4:1-6; Ps 24; Lk 12:54-59

**Saturday:** Eph 4:7-16; Ps 122; Lk 13: 1-9

### SCHEDULES FOR MASSES:

**Sunday:** 7.30 am **Kiswahili**

9.00 am, 10.30 am, 12.00 noon and  
5:30 pm **English**

**Saturday: English** 7.00 am, 9.00 am  
and 5.30 pm

**Monday to Friday: English** 7:00 am  
and 1.15 pm, 5.30 pm **Kiswahili**

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