

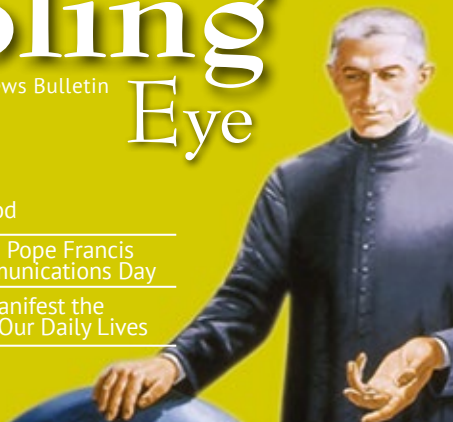
May 2017

The Consoling Eye

The Consolata Shrine Parish Monthly News Bulletin



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Our Lady of Fatima

Centennial Celebration

1917 – 2017



Consolata Shrine, Westlands, Nairobi



@ConsoShrine

The motherly care of God

Dear parishioners,

The month of May is here with us.

I do not want to say "it is here with us again" as if then I am going to be repetitive.

We have come from the celebration of Easter, we are still in the Easter-time and other celebrations are coming.

From our Christian and Catholic perspective, the month of May is dedicated to Our Lady, due to the celebration of Our Lady of Fatima on 13th May, remembering when on 13th May 1917, she appeared to three little children, Francisco, Lucia and Jacinta. For us, at Consolata Shrine, we also start to prepare for the Feast of Our Patroness, Our Lady Consolata, which is celebrated on the 20th June throughout the world, or on the nearest Sunday, to facilitate the participation of more people.

Therefore, the months of May and June, will find us reflecting and having different activities around the figure and role of Our Lady.

I would like us just to remember and to reflect shortly on three things:

- The motherly care of God
- The figure, role and intercession of Our Mother Mary

- Our mission to become channels of the above realities

The motherly care of God

As we proclaim God as Our Father, we know that he does not display only authority and power – which He has – but we recognize in Him a tender Father, a Father who loves and is very careful of looking out for all his children. Moreover, in his Divine plan he manifested in a very unique way that motherly care by

1. Giving us his own and only Son
 - a. to reveal Himself clearly and fully and not remain just in the revelations and human interpretations of the Old Testament
 - b. to save us from our sins and to reconcile as with Him and with one another by accepting His death
 - c. deciding to remain with us forever by giving us the eternal presence of Jesus in the Eucharist and the gift of the Holy Spirit. Such a care!
2. By preparing a woman
 - a. who would reveal the true plan of God so as to overcome the old woman Eve
 - b. who would become the mother of Jesus
 - c. who would be given to us as Mother forever at the foot of the cross. Such a care!

We all know the capacity of love that a woman,



Pope's Prayers Intentions for May 2017

Christians in Africa:

That Christians in Africa, in imitation of the Merciful Jesus, may give prophetic witness to reconciliation, justice, and peace.

and much more a mother, may have! God knew it! God made it!

The figure, role and intercession of Our Lady

Mary is not just a woman, Mary is a young girl, prepared by God and nourished by her parents, Joachim and Anne, to be attentive to obey God and to dedicate her life to Him. Most of the apparitions of our Lady and devotion to her, reveal the will of the Father to reach the needy, the poor, those who are not respected by the society, the humble... it is a constant in God's revelation, just as the Angel appeared to the simple shepherds after the nativity of Jesus.

The more we are humble of heart, the more we are simple and live in order not to show off, or searching for recognition, we will definitely recognize God's and Our Lady's presence in our lives. She is the woman of silence in order to search God's will, to understand it and to accept it. May she, in this year of the family, be the model for all of us, and in a special way for each and every member of the family, not only for mothers or women.

She became company to the children, she became consolation to the afflicted, she became the intercessor at the wedding...

She assures company to all of us at all times; she offers the true consolation, Jesus Christ to all those who are afflicted in their different circumstances... violence, sickness, missing a dear one, lack of job, sadness, not finding meaning in life, at times not finding that companion in life you have been looking for...

That is why... bring to her all your needs, and she will present them to Jesus, while telling you at the same time "Do whatever He tells you". And do it together as a family!

Our mission to become channels of the above realities

You and me, created in God's likeness and image, we have both the gift of having the capacity of loving tenderly and of bringing that caring love to others.

During this month of May, and until the beginning of the Novena of Our Lady Consolata, the special icon of Our Lady Consolata will be visiting one family each day. Our Lady wants to bring blessings... she knows how to do it! She has the experience of taking care of a family – the family of Nazareth –; she knows of how to go to look for lost children – she went back with Joseph to search for Jesus –; she knows how to walk the path of suffering of anybody within the family – she walked the way of the cross with Jesus –; she knows of how to celebrate and get the best for others – she did it at Cana –; she knows how to take care of all – she accepted the role given to her at the foot of the cross and while being with the disciples gathered together waiting for the Holy Spirit...

Especially in the last aspect she showed us that just like her own Son is brother and sister of all, she became mother of all!

It is our task and our mission to look at her, and admire her humility to search and do God's will.

Looking at her, we get inspiration and ideas. Working with her, we have an extra assistance from Heaven.

I welcome you to the great celebration of 100 years of the apparition of Fatima. Great efforts have been put by one of our Small Christian Communities, that is Our Lady of Fatima. Please look in the next pages for more details.

May she intercede for our country and for our nation as we approach the elections. May she intercede for all our leaders, so that even if they speak different tongues and have different agendas, they may look out for the goodness of all! May God, through the intercession of our Lady, bless this nation, our community and each and every group that works for the good of all. **CE**

**Fr Daniel Berteau,
Father in Charge**

Sister Leonella Sgorbati, Consolata Missionary Sister



I wonder how many people remember the tragic story that hit our Consolata family in 2006. A Consolata nun had been shot in Mogadishu, on September 17, 2006 gunned down as she was crossing the road. Two Somali gunmen emerged from behind nearby taxis and kiosks and shot Sister Leonella Sgarbati in her back. She was rushed to the SOS Hospital and died shortly thereafter. Her last words apparently were Italian: "Perdono; perdono." (English: "I forgive; I forgive.")

Somalian officials vowed justice for the nun's slaying. Two suspects were arrested and investigations were launched by Somalia's Islamic Courts Union. Nothing has been heard ever since. By now you must be asking who is this nun.

Sr. Leonella Sgorbati was born on December 9, 1940 at Rezzanello of Gazzola (Piacenza), Italy. Since she was a teenager she wished to become a missionary nun, but her mother did not approve the choice and ask her to wait until she would be

twenty. When finally, sister Leonella was twenty, she said she did not change her mind and joined the Consolata Missionary Sisters in San Fre, Cuneo in May 1963 and took her perpetual vows in November 1972.

During this time, she followed nursing course in England (1966–1968), and in September 1970 she was appointed to Kenya. From then until 1983 she served alternately at Consolata Hospital

Mathari, Nyeri, and Nazareth Hospital in Kiambu County on the outskirts of Nairobi. In mid-1983, Sister Leonella started her advanced studies in nursing and in 1985 became the principal tutor at the school of nursing attached to Nkubu Hospital, Meru, Kenya.

In November 1993 she was elected regional superior of the Consolata Missionary Sisters in Kenya, a duty she performed for six years. After a sabbatical year, in 2001 she spent several months in Mogadishu, looking at the possibility of setting up a nursing school in the hospital run by the SOS Children's Village organization. Hermann Gmeiner School of Registered Community Nursing opened in 2002, with Sister Leonella in charge. The first 34 nurses graduated from the school were awarded certificates and diplomas by the World Health Organization because Somalia has had no government since 1991.

Sister Leonella was keen to train tutors for the nursing school. She returned to Kenya with three of her newly graduated nurses, to register them for further training at a medical training college. She faced difficulties in obtaining her own re-entry visa to Mogadishu, due to the new rules of the Islamic courts that now control the city and its environs. She managed to return to Mogadishu on 13 September 2006.

Four days later she was gunned down outside her children's hospital. Her bodyguard, Mohamed Osman Mahamud, was also killed. The attack was believed by someone to be in response to the comments made by Pope Benedict XVI during the Regensburg lecture, but this has never been absolutely confirmed, additionally, several humanitarian workers and Christian volunteers have already been murdered by Islamic gunmen in Somalia in the recent years, including Italian bishop Salvatore Colombo shot dead during celebrating mass in Mogadishu in 1989, Graziella Fumagalli, an Italian medical doctor, killed in 1995 in the anti-TBC Center she was running; the UN Nansen Refugee Award winner Annalena Tonelli assassinated in 2003 in a unique relief center in Borama, after 33 years of service to the poorest, and Dick and Enid Eyeington in 2003.

In October 2008 Sr. Leonella's cross has been transferred to the church San Bartolomeo all'Isola in Rome, which is dedicated to the martyrs of the 20th century. She had been recognized as the



Servant of God and recently Pope Francis elevated her to a Martyrdom in 2017.

The closing paragraph is taken from the Consolata Missionary Sisters' website and is a beautiful testimony to the life of Sister Leonella:

"Sister Leonella was well aware of the danger surrounding her. As she used to say, she knew that there was a bullet with her name engraved on it just waiting for her in Mogadishu. But this never deterred her or discouraged her. She was certain that God wanted her in Somalia. For her, that was the will of God. So nothing could stop her in the mission undertaken, not even the knowledge that she could be killed any time. For this reason, she dedicated herself completely, sparing no effort and truly turning every stone to accomplish the mission of setting up the school of nursing, to give hope and a future to a country ravaged by war. Her love for God and the Somali people was stronger than any fear, and she strongly believed in the people she was serving." **CE**

Dennis Maina,
Communications Committee



SAINT JOSEPH the WORKER

The feast of St. Joseph the Worker was established by Pope Pius XII in 1955 to Christianize the concept of labor and give to all workmen a model and a protector, and is also dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Feast is celebrated on the first day of May by honoring St. Joseph in his role as a worker who provided and protected his family, and is also a very special day for the Josephites, who have been serving in the African-American community in the United States since 1871.

The liturgy for this feast celebrates the necessity of work imposed on man by God, demonstrating that idleness is not acceptable. Personal efforts promote the Creator's work, confer benefits on fellowmen, and help to realize God's plan in history as stated in several scriptures.

2 Thessalonians 3:6-9 New King James Version

(NKJV) - Warning Against Idleness

⁶But we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you withdraw from every brother who walks disorderly and not according to the tradition which he received from us. ⁷For you yourselves know how you ought to follow us, for we were not disorderly among you; ⁸nor did we eat anyone's bread free of charge, but worked with labor and toil night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, ⁹not because we do not have authority, but to make ourselves an example of how you should follow us".

According to the Gospels, Joseph is depicted as the husband of Mary, mother of Jesus, and is venerated as Saint Joseph in the Catholic Church, Orthodox Church, Oriental Orthodox Church, Anglican Communion, Lutheranism and Methodism. In both Catholic and Protestant traditions, Joseph is regarded as the patron saint of workers and is



associated with various feast days. He was declared by Pope Pius IX to be both the patron and the protector of the Catholic Church, in addition to being the patron of the sick and of a happy death, due to the belief that he died in the presence of Jesus and Mary. Pope John XXIII, Pope Paul VI, the Second Vatican Council and Pope John Paul II have provided documents that urge Christians to infuse their work with St. Joseph's spirit to bring about the special dignity and value to the work done in caring for the family.

A Prayer for Workers

"O glorious Joseph! Who concealed your incomparable and regal dignity of custodian of Jesus and of the Virgin Mary under the humble appearance of a craftsman and provided for them with your work, protect with loving power

your sons, especially entrusted to you.

You know their anxieties and sufferings, because you yourself experienced them at the side of Jesus and of His Mother. Do not allow them, oppressed by so many worries, to forget the purpose for which they were created by God. Do not allow the seeds of distrust to take hold of their immortal souls. Remind all the workers that in the fields, in factories, in mines, and in scientific laboratories, they are not working, rejoicing, or suffering alone, but at their side is Jesus, with Mary, His Mother and ours, to sustain them, to dry the sweat of their brow, giving value to their toil. Teach them to turn work into a very high instrument of sanctification as you did". Amen. CE

(Pope Saint John XXIII (1958-63). Updated by Scott P. Richert - February 28, 2017

Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for the 51st World Communications Day

Fear not, for I am with you (Is 43:5): Communicating Hope and Trust in our Time



"I ask everyone to offer the people of our time storylines that are at heart "good news". This is the message from Pope Francis during the 51st World Communications Day celebrations. The Holy Father reminds us that the early Christians compared the human mind to a constantly grinding millstone; it is up to the miller to determine what it will grind: good wheat or worthless weeds. Our minds are always "grinding", but it is up to us to choose what to feed them (cf. SAINT JOHN CASSIAN, *Epistle to Leontius*). As such, the Pope has encouraged everyone to engage in constructive forms of communication that reject prejudice towards others and foster a culture of encounter, helping

everyone to view the world with realism and trust.

Pope Francis has decried the constant focus on "bad news" which has resulted in a vicious circle of anxiety and fear, proposing instead that everyone works at overcoming that feeling of growing discontent and resignation that can at times generate apathy, fear or the idea that evil has no limits. He cautioned that a communications industry

which thinks that good news does not sell, and where the tragedy of human suffering and the mystery of evil easily turn into entertainment, runs the risk of dulling our consciences or encouraging us to slip into pessimism.

The Pope has thus shared his contribution to the search for an open and creative style of communication by concentrating on solutions and hoping to inspire a positive and responsible approach on the part of its recipients.

According to Pope Francis, "Everything depends on the way we look at things, on the lens we use to view them. If we change that lens, reality

itself appears different. So how can we begin to "read" reality through the right lens?"

The Pope emphasizes that for Christians, that lens can only be the good news, beginning with *the* Good News par excellence: "the Gospel of Jesus Christ, Son of God" (Mk 1:1). With these words, Saint Mark opens his Gospel not by relating "good news" *about* Jesus, but rather *the good news that is Jesus himself*. Indeed, reading the pages of his Gospel, we learn that its title corresponds to its content and, above all else, this content is the very person of Jesus.

This good news – Jesus himself – is not good because it has nothing to do with suffering, but rather because suffering itself becomes part of a bigger picture. In Christ, God has shown his solidarity with every human situation. Seen in this light, every new tragedy that occurs in the world's history can also become a setting for good news, inasmuch as love can find a way to draw near and to raise up sympathetic hearts, resolute faces and hands ready to build anew.

Pope Francis has also reminded us that Jesus often used parables to introduce his disciples and the crowds to this Gospel mindset and to give them the right "lens" needed to see and embrace the love that dies and rises. He frequently compares the Kingdom of God to a seed that releases its potential for life precisely when it falls to the earth and dies (cf. Mk 4:1-34). This use of images and metaphors is an effective way to express the immense dignity of the Paschal mystery, to communicate the paradoxical beauty of new life in Christ.

"The Kingdom of God is already present in our midst, like a seed that is easily overlooked, yet



silently takes root. Those to whom the Holy Spirit grants keen vision can see it blossoming. They do not let themselves be robbed of the joy of the Kingdom by the weeds that spring up all about" says Pope Francis

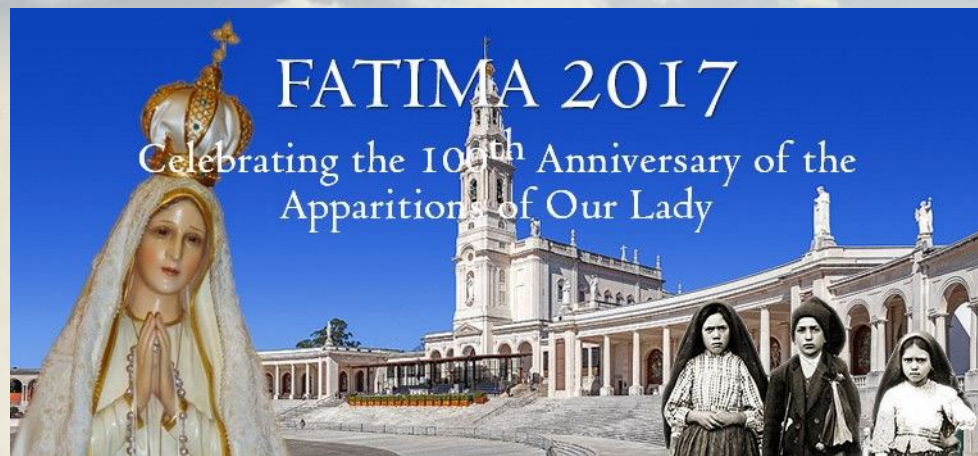
The Pope goes on to say that confidence in the seed of God's Kingdom and in the mystery of Easter should shape the way we communicate. This confidence enables us to carry out our work with the conviction that it is possible to recognize and highlight the good news present in every story and in the face of each person.

He concludes with the assurance that the Spirit continues to sow in us a desire for the Kingdom, thanks to all those who, drawing inspiration from the Good News amid the dramatic events of our time, shine like beacons in the darkness of this world, shedding light along the way and opening ever new paths of confidence and hope. **CE**

Visit our website www.consolatasharine.org to read the complete message from his Holiness Pope Francis on World Communications Day 2017.

Pauline Kathambana
Communications Committee

Our Lady of Fatima



The feast of our Lady of Fatima is celebrated on the 13th day of May every year. For us to have a deeper appreciation of the feast day let us look at a brief history of Our Lady of Fatima.

Our Lady of Fatima, the Queen of Peace first appeared to three shepherd children, in the year 1917, in the village of Fatima located in Sierra da Ave some miles north of Lisbon, Portugal. Before her apparition to them, an angel of peace had appeared in the previous year 1916 to Lucia dos Santos who was aged ten, her cousin Francisco Marto, aged nine, and Lucia's little sister, Jacinta who was aged seven. The angel appeared to them as they tended sheep near the village of Fatima. The angel came down to pray with the children and taught them new prayers. He emphasized that there are many souls in need of saving and that they have to pray on their behalf as well as perform acts of

reparation for them to be saved. The angel told the children to pray continuously. He made two other appearances to the children months apart emphasising on the need of constant prayer.

In the year 1917 on 13th May to be precise, Our Lady of Fatima first appeared to the children as they tended their sheep, just after the children had finished reciting the rosary. She came down to them with a message of peace and told the children to continue coming back to that very place for the next six months on the thirteenth day of the month and on the sixth month she promised to reveal to them who she was. At this time there was the infamous World War I that was on going, people were dying in millions and Christians were being persecuted. Our Lady of Fatima explained to the children that the war was punishment for sin and that God would further castigate the world for its

disobedience to his will by means of war, hunger and persecution of the church, the Holy Father and the Catholic faithful.


Our Lady of Fatima made five other appearances to the children on 13th June, 13th July, 13th and 19th of August, 13th of September and 13th of October. On her appearances she would emphasize on the necessity of praying the rosary on a daily basis, wearing of the scapular of Mt Carmela and performing acts of reparation and sacrifice.

On her visits she also revealed to the children what has come to be known as the "Secrets". These secrets formed the heart of Our Lady's message. The first of them was the vision of hell. The earth opened up and the children were able to see hell and its fire and demons and human souls that were suffering. This vision of hell helped the children to see the adverse effects of the war and the fact that people were sinning and not asking for God's forgiveness and it was for this reason that our Lady asked the children to pray for God's mercy upon the whole world.

The second Secret was the prophecy of World War II and the consecration of Russia as a condition of peace. She predicted that the "errors" of Russia would be spread throughout the world, these errors referred to include materialism, militant atheism, totalitarianism, abortion, euthanasia and genocide which have spread throughout the world. Our Lady of Fatima had told the children that World War I would come to an end however if people did not change their

sinful ways another war would erupt. She asked the children to make a devotion to her Immaculate heart for people to be saved. The third secret is yet to be revealed as it was not revealed to the last of Our Lady of Fatima's seer, Lucia. However there have been speculations that it may be the fact the Catholic Church is going through difficult and trying times. As the number of Catholic faithful has decreased drastically over the years and so has those who take up the vocation to priesthood which has seen a decline in the number of priests.

Being true to her word on the 13th day of October 1917, at noon, Our Lady of Fatima, revealed to the children that she is the Lady of the Rosary and that she wanted a chapel be built where she first appeared in her honour. She then proceeded to perform a miracle for all to see and believe. This miracle of the sun happened in the presence of 70,000 eye witnesses. They all give a similar account of the sun dancing, they describe it as the sun appeared from the sky and seemed to fall on the ground before resuming its normal place in the heavens. The witnesses proceeded to add that as they looked at the sun it did not hurt their naked eyes and they watched this miracle happen.

As we celebrate the feast of our Lady of Fatima, Our Lady of the Rosary let us offer true devotion to the rosary for our salvation and in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world. 

Bernadette Mukobi,
Chairperson, Consolata Youth

Pictures courtesy of Eric Fernandes



Celebrating the Risen Lord with the feast of Easter Sunday mass. (16 April 2017)



A week after Easter there was celebration of the Feast of Divine Mercy. (23 April 2017)



As the old buildings are torn down paving way for the new Allamano Center, we will have memories of the old area and, but in light of the new building let us support to donate towards the new construction.



13th May the universal church held the centenary celebrations of Our Lady's apparitions in Fatima. Locally, the feast was held at Consolata Shrine.



One of the raffle winners being presented his prize by Fr. Daniel. Buy a raffle for a chance to WIN.



The month of May is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary

During this month of May, the Catholic faithful is encouraged to pray the Rosary as a commitment of devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. What a better occasion than to make a resolution to start to pray the Rosary everyday, than the month of May. Among the many heavenly investments, the Rosary is after Mass attendance, of course- most probably the best. Padre Pio and countless other saints insisted on the Rosary. Praying the Rosary devoutly everyday is a beautiful sign of predestination.

The Power of the daily Rosary

The message the Mother of God gave to the Three Children; Jacinta, Francesco and Lucia in Fatima in 1917, was a call to prayer and penance, which is the heart of the Gospel message. The penance She stressed was fidelity to the sacrifices that one must make in order to observe the Commandments of God and fulfill the duties of one's state in life. And the prayer she singled out in a special way was the Rosary. So central is the Rosary in the Fatima message that the Mother of God identified herself as the "The Lady of the Rosary." In each of the six apparitions She asked for the daily Rosary, and on three of those visits, She asked for the Rosary to obtain peace for the world.

Singled out the Rosary as a Key Weapon

The Lord has placed in the hands of the Mother the task of countering the powers of evil and She in turn has singled out the Rosary as a key weapon in that conflict. The Blessed Mother has renewed her request for the prayer She gave to the Church centuries before, a prayer that has proven a powerful against enemies of Christianity, as history bears witness. Referring to this, Sister Lucia of Fatima commented: "My impression is that the Rosary is of greatest value not only according to the words of Our Lady of Fatima, but according to the effects of the Rosary one sees throughout history. My impression is that Our Lady wanted to give to ordinary people who might not know how to pray, this simple method of getting closes to God.

The Rosary must be Prayed Properly

In order that the Rosary is a "simple method of getting closer to God," it must be prayed properly. Praying it properly requires each decade to be a reflection on some aspect of the mysteries of Our redemption. Without that, the Rosary would become monotonous repetition.

As Pope Paul VI pointed out in Devotion to Mary(Marialis Cultus) : "without this (reflection) the Rosary is a body without

a soul, and its recitation is in danger of becoming a mechanical repetition of formulas." In this prayer we can well take Our Lady as a model, for the scriptures tell us " She kept all these words (bearing on the mysteries of Our redemption), pondering them in her heart."

The Rosary is pleasing to Our Lady

The Rosary is a simple form of prayer that can be prayed by young or old, the learned or uneducated, the saint or sinner. Each can adopt to his or her own capacity. The Rosary is pleasing to Our Lady, because it causes us to review again and again the life of her divine Son and the mysteries of Our redemption. It is helpful to us for, as Pope Paul VI pointed out, because it not only recalls these mysteries, but stimulates the will to draw from them, the norms of living. That is it not only points out the way, but helps us obtain the graces needed to follow that way.

Praying the Rosary for peace might seem like relying on something extremely insignificant in light of the magnitude of evil in today's world. Yet this is the weapon in today's world. It is the weapon that Our Lady has chosen- so insignificant in itself- precisely that the power of God behind it might be all the more manifest.

Heaven chooses lowly and insignificant instruments in reference to those that the world relies on, to make it more clear that the end result is more the work of God than the work of Man.

Place Great confidence in the Holy Rosary

Pope Pius XII Wrote: " Place great confidence in the Holy Rosary. Use this most powerful form of prayer with the utmost possible zeal, and let it become more and more esteemed, and more fervently recited daily.... It is not with physical force, not with arms, not with the divine help obtained through this prayer, that the Church (and all its members) strong and undaunted like David with his sling, will be able to confront the infernal enemy. Remember the words of St. Padre Pio: the Rosary is the weapon!

Join the Rosary Group in our Parish

There exists already a Rosary Prayer Group in our Parish, and the Group members meet in the Church to recite the Rosary every week day, both morning and evening from 6.25 am , to 6.55 am, and evening from 6.00 pm to 6.30 pm. Saturday from 8.25 am to 8.55 am(morning), and also after the evening Mass on Saturdays. The group also holds their monthly meetings and reflections on the third Friday of the month after the evening Mass. All are welcome to join the group.

For more information please contact the Parish office. ☎

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CONSOLATA SHRINE

P.O. BOX 14930 - 00800 Nairobi, Westlands

Nairobi, 25th April 2017

Greetings to all Priests, Religious, Youth Leaders and people of good will

May the Risen Christ be with you all.

At Consolata Shrine, we have started a project called Allamano Centre, after the Founding Father of the Consolata Missionaries, Blessed Joseph Allamano, which consists in building new offices, rooms for pastoral care (catechesis, choirs, SCCs, associations and movements, etc); a larger hall, a room for a museum of the missionary activity of the Church, some few accommodations for small groups who wish to have a retreat, and more parking.

It is in view of such a venture, that we are collecting funds to make this project a reality. One of the methods for this purpose that we came up with is a Raffle whereby people are donating to the project and at the same time having fun, and standing a chance to win very significant prizes for each entry which costs only Kshs. 50/-

In order to raise funds to carry out this project, a two-phase lottery has been organized in collaboration with Renault Kenya, Cellulant, and Pacis Insurance. The first phase has been launched on Saturday 18th March at Consolata Shrine. The raffle as such started last weekend. Each phase will last for three months and consist of weekly prizes, on a rolling monthly basis. The prizes vary per week:

Week 1: 2 smartphones

Week 2: smartphones and 2 petrol vouchers worth 2000/Ksh

Week 3: 2 smartphones and 2 generators

Week 4: 2 smartphones and 2 Renault Kwids, fully insured for a year.

All participants can enter by dialing *369*2#, and select Consolata Shrine Lottery. I repeat, each entry costs 50shillings. We also have a website to raise awareness of the lottery campaign and its cause, the Allamano Centre <http://consolatashrine.org/theallamanocentre/>.

Please note that the tickets are valid for the whole lottery period. The system is digital so there is no human influence.

For those who wish to donate but not through the raffle, they can approach the office or offer their contribution through Mpesa Pay Bill 804877.

We would be so grateful if you could spread the message to your parishioners and support us in this good cause. We have also generated a list of frequently asked questions you may receive and we have listed them below with some answers you may wish to use.

Yours sincerely,

Fr Daniel Berteau
Father-in-charge



Frequently Asked Questions

1) Isn't it against our religion to gamble?

The lottery is based on a charitable activity to support a project that is going to benefit a community. In order to motivate people to participate, we have organised some prizes rather than just asking for donations. This lottery is not about earning money and making a profit, it is about building something for the community.

This kind of activity happens all around the world and there are many activities which take place that have prizes as incentives. If you are happy to support the Allamano Centre project without an incentive, you are most welcome to give us a pledge. We would be grateful either way.

2) Why are we doing a lottery?

It was seen an exciting way to support a project that is building facilities to serve the community better. Rather than just ask the community for donations to raise money, a lottery has incentives which gives individuals the chance to win.

3) Where are the proceeds going?

The church has been functioning here since the 1950s and growing little by little. The community has grown significantly. We have a number of areas that need renovations, so rather than spending on repairs we would like to have more valuable rooms for pastoral activities, offices, halls and parking which is currently proving to be a real problem.

7) How do I play?

To play, dial *369*2#, follow the Consolata lottery instructions and stand a chance to win. There is an automated, audited system that picks random winners every Monday. The more you play, the more chances you have of winning with phones, fuel vouchers, generators, and cars.

5) How do I win?

To get a chance to win, dial *369*2#, follow the Consolata lottery instructions. There is an automated, audited system that picks random winners every Monday. The more you play, the more chances you have of winning with phones, fuel vouchers, generators, and cars.

6) What can I win?

Wiko Jerry smartphones, fuel vouchers worth Sh2000, Aksa generators, and fully insured Kwid cars to be won every month over three months.

Answering the Call to Manifest the Resurrection of Jesus in Our Daily Lives

On Sunday 30th April 2017, Consolata Shrine was honored to host an Inter-churches forum on the theme: The Importance of the Death and Resurrection of Jesus.

Rev. Joyce Muraya, Rev. Dr. Shem and Ev. Charles Karuri from St. Mark's ACK Church Westland's, Fr. Agapius and Catechist Richard Njoroge from St George Orthodox Church, Kibra, and Fr. Daniel Berteau from Consolata Shrine presided over the discussion, which was attended by parishioners from all the churches gathered.



Rev. Joyce and Rev. Dr. Shem from ACK church receiving a gift from Fr. Daniel.

The sharing opened with a celebration of the unity of the universal church through our common consecration to God through baptism. Rev. Joyce expounded on the equal measure of grace poured out by God through

the Holy Spirit, to all believers who have received the sacrament. In 1 Corinthians 12:13 we read: *"For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body - whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free - and we were all given the one Spirit to drink."* Therefore, though we are separated into different denomination by virtue of our doctrinal differences, this does not take away the fact that we are unified in communion with Christ and with each other, through this common grace that we share.

Fr Agapius reminded us that the death and resurrection of Christ is a fact that we can stand firmly on. In John 19:32-34, the bible tells us that the soldiers under instruction from Pilate broke the legs of the men on the cross, but when they came to Jesus, they found that he was already dead. Again in Matthew 28, we see the guards going to the chief priest to report on the resurrection, we read their reaction: *"12 When the chief priests had met with the elders and devised a plan, they gave the soldiers a large sum of money, 13 telling them, 'You are to say, 'His disciples came during the night and stole him away while we were asleep.'"*

He explained that the same power that resurrected Jesus lives in us (Romans 8:11), therefore we are called to live our Christianity with fortitude and to spread the word of God. In Acts 1:8, Jesus Himself instructs us: *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*



Fr Agapius with members from Orthodox church at the grotto

The Holy Spirit imbued Peter and the disciples with courage to preach boldly despite facing numerous challenges and even mortal danger (Acts 4:31). We too have the same grace to do as the disciples did,

and are called to demonstrate our faith by bringing the reality of Jesus' resurrection into our everyday lives.



Fr. Agapius receiving a gift from Mr. Wambua PPC vice-Chairman

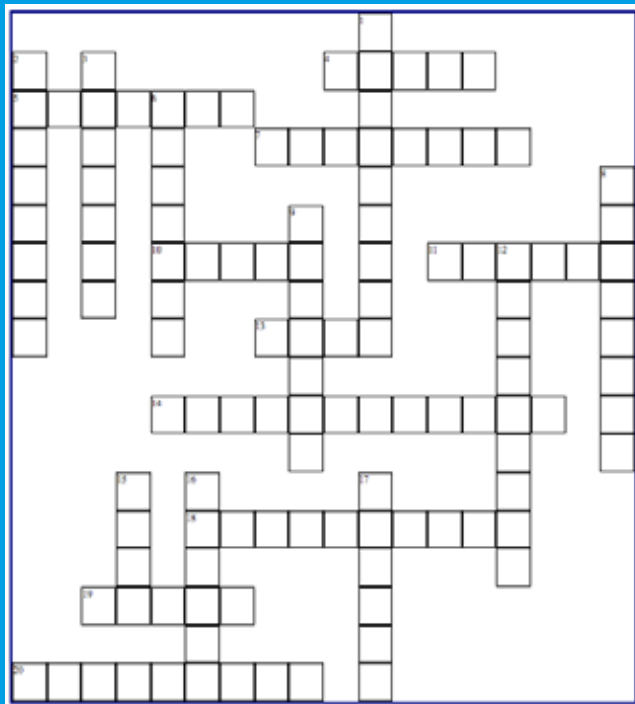
Fr. Daniel shared some practical ways in which we can manifest the reality of Jesus' resurrection today - by being beacons of hope in our families and communities; helping the poor in spirit and in material needs; promoting justice for the oppressed; praying constantly for the grace to recognize God in each day's events and meetings; and to continually trust in God when He calls us to cast our nets, firmly believing that He will fill our boats to overflowing with graces and good works that will contribute to building and unifying the Body of Christ. All was created for him and He reconciled all for himself.

May unity and peace prevail. **CE**

Joseph Kamau, Ecumenism Group

Crossword Puzzle: Fatima

Note: Omit spaces and punctuation.



CHOOSE ANSWERS
FROM HERE:

ACROSS: Lucia,
chastisement, Dance,
Thirteen, Rosary,
Immaculate, Flesh, Our
Lady, Francisco.

DOWN: Triumph,
Seventeen, Sacrifice,
Portugal, O My Jesus,
Angelic, Pius XI, Russia,
Hell, Jacinta

Across

4. ____ of the sun
5. ____ of the Rosary
7. Day of month
10. Sr. ____ dos Santos
11. Daily ____ for peace
13. First ____ Saturdays Devotion
14. Warning of ____
18. ____ Heart
19. "More souls go to Hell because of sins of the ____ than for any other reason." (Bl. Jacinta)
20. Brother

Down

1. Call to prayer and ____
2. Fatima, ____
3. "In the end, my Immaculate Heart will ____." (Our Lady of Fatima)
6. Preceded by ____ apparitions
8. Prayer to be said after each decade of the Rosary
9. Youngest seer
12. 19____ (spell out)
15. Vision of ____
16. Predicted election of Pope ____
17. Will spread her errors throughout the world before being converted

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MARY AND THE THREE CHILDREN OF FATIMA

Fatima is a village in Portugal. On **May 13th 1917**, a hundred years ago this month, something incredible happened to three ordinary shepherd children: **Lucia** (10 years); **Francesco** (9 years) and **Jacinta** (7 years). The Blessed Mother Mary appeared to them from May to October 1917. She spoke to them and taught them many things.

Before these special meetings with Our Lady, the children had been visited a year earlier by an Angel. He knelt, bent his fore head to the ground and prayed: "My God, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love You. I ask pardon of You, for those who do not believe nor adore nor hope nor love You." He taught them other prayers and reminded them that the **Hearts of Jesus and Mary** were counting on them.

Our Lady appeared the following year on the 13th of the month between May and October. There were so many miracles and signs. Many people came to believe. Let us see what happened in the first two months.

- **May 13th** - Lucia described what she saw: "A lady clothed in white, brighter than the sun, radiating light more clear and intense than a crystal cup filled with sparkling water, lit by sun light.' We can only imagine how bright and dazzling her appearance must have been! Lucia asked the Lady where she was from. She was told 'from heaven' Mary asked the children: "Will you offer yourselves to God and bear any suffering which He sends you, in reparation for the sins which offend Him and in supplication for the conversion of sinners?"
- **June 13th** - Mary asked them to pray the Holy Rosary every day and to say after each mystery - O My Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell. Lead all souls to heaven especially those in most need of Your Mercy.' Our Lady said she would take Jacinta and Francisco to heaven soon. But Lucia would remain on Earth to teach people about her Immaculate Heart.

Mary wanted them to comfort Jesus. He was very hurt by the great number of sins. Both the Hearts of Jesus and Mary were surrounded by thorns representing the pain we cause by our sins.

Most of what we know comes from Lucia. Francesco died, age 11, of influenza. His sister, Jacinta, died less than a year later from TB. Both children loved God very much. They were not afraid to die. Today we refer to them as Blessed Francesco and Blessed Jacinta. They are the only children beatified without being martyrs. This year they may be proclaimed saints!

Their cousin, Lucia became a nun and lived in a Carmelite convent until her death, age 98, in 2005. Mary continued to visit her.

Let us comfort the Hearts of Jesus and Mary by making small sacrifices, praying our Rosary and the beautiful prayers of Fatima every day. Our Lady also told the children to dedicate the first Saturday of the month to her Immaculate Heart.

Christian Education Committee

DONATE AND WIN



To raise Money for the new Allamano Centre
Monthly Digital Raffle Prizes:



1st Week
2 Smart phones



2nd Week
2 Petrol vouchers
2 Smart phones



3rd Week
2 Generators
2 Smart phones



4th Week
2 Renault Kwid
2 Smart phones

Get your entry ticket and have 14 chances to win per month

HOW TO DONATE

Option 1: Dial *369*2# and select Consolata Shrine

Option 2: Pay via mpesa by entering paybill number 804877

All prize winners will be drawn and announced on the Monday following the Sunday Service. Valid till end of August.

Sacraments

Baptisms/Reception/Confirmations in April

1. Brian Kantai of Justa Eyan and Charles Kasaine
2. Caroline Nellie Wanjiku of Rose Mwhaki and Josiah Kamenida
3. Jackson Ireri of Phides Wanjagi and Alexander Njiru
4. Roselyne Thaara of Judith Mbuko and Gerald Nyaga
5. Ruth Kwamboka of Florence Momanyi and Richard Momanyi
6. Alexander Jesse Njenga of Virginia Wangui
7. Jesse Kamuny of Elizabeth Wangari and George Ngugi
8. Collins Marigiri of Jane Nyaboke and Patrick Marigiri
9. David Simiyu of Pelitah Tete and Charles Tete
10. Isaac Chol of Abak Manak and Makuach Dut
11. Monica Silpah Anyango of Margaret Owich and Hesbon Owich
12. Felix Obara of Esther Ombari and Moses Ombari
13. Velma Khalui of Mary Lichotti and Aggrey Lichotti
14. Mercy Concilia of Hellen Otema and John Otema
15. Patrick John Marigiri of Maureen Wangare and Collins Marigiri
16. Mary Wangui of Bilha Wangare and Solomon Njuguna
17. Eunice Ruhunga of Renah Mudagale and Absalom Karani
18. Winnie Adisa Ingato of Praxedes Inagto and Anthony Lihanda
19. Lydia Wanjiru of Esther Wanjiku and John Thagisho
20. Lilian Anyango of Margaret Outa and Alfred Outa
21. Mary Anyango Nyongesa of Saraphine Were and Emily Juma
22. Wagura Kamwana of Wangechi Kamwana and Wambugu Kamwana
23. Dickson Oruko of Mary Awino and Ezekiel Adero
24. Grace Nduta of Mary Wairimu and Amos Nganga
25. Evans Ngambariga of Rebecca Ngambeki and James Gochi
26. Veronicah Nyambura of Salome Wabue
27. Betty Kalekye of Rachael Kavitha and Titus Mwanthi
28. Dinah Malaki of Gaudencia Indechi and Edgar Malaki
29. Silvia Wanjiru of Lucy Mbugua and James Mbugua
30. Victoria Atieno of Beatrice Owiti and Charles Owiti
31. Joseph Geoffrey Ochieng of Mary Mulla and Christopher Owino
32. Ann Wangui of Jane Muthoni and Douglas Kanyo
33. Moses Njuki of Margaret Njeri and Naphtali Nderitu
34. Mary Wairimu of Beth Munjua and David Munjua
35. Pauline Wavinya of Benendeta Mutio and Nelson Mutua
36. Veronica Nasambu of Rebecca Nafula and Pius Simiyu
37. Miriam Nduku of Esther Mbithe and Kasimu Mumo
38. Villana Mmogi of Susan Naikuru and Jeremiah Ndurungo

39. Aleksander Matheus of Marzena Julia Sequeira and Alistair Cyril
40. Ava Njoki of Josephine Wandia Karoki and James Karoki Muru
41. Ann Njeri Arangu of Susan Wachira and Thomas Agunga
42. Jeyden Jabali Osero of Mary Ogolla and Joel Nyabuto
43. Josephine Githiora of Yvonne Wambui and Andrew Murimi
44. Markray Mwaura of Lilian Kangere and Johnson Njoroge
45. Amelia Gathoni of Pauline Kimani and Mathew Karanja
46. Saint Wendal Wendo of Adhiambo Ogolla and John Paul Okwiri
47. Aiden Alipo of Wairimu Alice and Antony Alipo Mutambi
48. Ayden Kamau of Susan Nyawira and Paul Gituchah Kamau
49. Kate Isabel Malemba of Anastasia Ngatti and Jonson Mwangi
50. Keegan Ligombe of Monicah Wambui and Fredrick Musinya
51. Tara Rose Obonyo of Marita Obare and David Obonyo
52. Precious Hope Gathoni of Winfred Gathoni
53. Levis Malega of Doreen Agosa and Mathias Mwashi
54. Gabriel Ilia Nthiwa of Franciscan Mwikali and Alphonse Nthiwa Isaiha

Marriage Banns in May 2017

There is a promise of marriage between:

1. Salome Wangui Wanjohi and Eric Kanyagia Mungai
2. Fridah Nyabate Nyakundi and Victor Omondi Okinda
3. Kiprotich June Siakwei and Hartnell Kithusi Mulatya Ndungu

Note: If anyone knows of any particular reason why the above ceremony cannot take place, please report immediately to the Parish Priest.

Weddings in April 2017

1. Margaret Wambui Murigi and Moses Nganga Kimani
2. Teresa Nyakarundu Hunyu and Samuel Wahome Maina
3. Roselyne Thaara and Jackson Ireri Getah
4. Caroline Nellie Wanjiku and Thuku Mwangi
5. Clara Auma Kasuku and Brian Adungo Ikol
6. Mercy Wambui Kihui and James Alfred Gichuhi
7. Wanjiku Githitu and Gilbert Gathuo Chege
8. Maureen Cherotich Chepkwony and Dennis Nguue Makau

**Sammy Kakai,
Catechist, Consolata Shrine**

EVENTS OF THE PARISH FOR MAY 2017

MISSIONARY INTENTION: Evangelization: Christians in Africa.

That Christians in Africa, in imitation of the Merciful Jesus, may give prophetic witness to reconciliation, justice, and peace.

Invite families to recite the rosary during this month

PMC Missionary Rosary

Sat 13	Our Lady of Fatima 4th of the 9th Saturdays of the preparation of Our Lady Consolata. Candle lit rosary procession after mass at the grotto. Youth charity at Langata Women's Prison Zone A Deaneries Pastoral Council leaders seminar (Central, Western, Eastern, Outering and Makadara) at Resurrection Garden Zone A PMC mass with cardinal OLOF SCC Day, Recollection and Mass & Charitably activity
Sun 14	5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER Prayer for the sick, for their families and for health workers at all masses Executive Pastoral Council, 10.30am Parish choirs: Spiritual Formation Youth in-house talk/Choirs Spiritual Formation
Sat 20	4th of the 9th Saturdays of the preparation of Our lady Consolata. Candle lit rosary procession after mass at the grotto. Mass for children of First Holy Communion (9am and 3pm) Legion of Mary Mass at Msongari, Ven. Edel Quinn
Sun 21	6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER Prayer for the family at all masses Pastoral Council Meeting, 10.30am Formation for Parents and sponsors of infant baptisms at 3pm St Jude SCC, Nyumba ya Wazee and full month Rosary in the Garden Youth in-house activities, movie and games Group 2 Catechists Workshop 21 st to 26 th at Karibaribi, Thika
Thu 25	THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD <i>Solemnity</i>
Sat 27	5th of the 9th Saturdays of the preparation of Our Lady Consolata. Candle lit rosary procession after mass at the grotto Ongoing formation for children who received first Holy communion. Infant baptism at 2.30pm Alpha Choir Festivals A.D.N. Youth Sports, at Kilimambogo TTC
Sun 28	7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER/ASCENSION OF THE LORD Children Mass at 9am Youth in house talk with Deacon Kim and probable youth barbeque sale