



CONSOLATA SHRINE THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



20TH AUGUST 2017 - YEAR A

FIRST READING

Rev: 11: 19; 12:1-6. 10

“A woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet”

A reading from the Book of Revelation

God's temple in heaven was opened. And a great sign appeared in heaven, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars; she was with child and she cried out in her pangs of birth, in anguish for delivery. And another sign appeared in heaven; behold, a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems upon his heads. His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven, and cast them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to bear a child, that he might devour her child when she brought it forth; she brought forth a male child, one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron, but her child was caught up to God and to his throne, and the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God. And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, “Now the salvation and the power and kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come.”



The word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 45: 10-12.16 (10)

Response. **On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir.**

The daughters of kings are those whom you favour.

On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir. **(Response)**

Listen, O daughter; pay heed and give ear:

Forget your own people and your father's house. **(Response)**

So will the king desire your beauty.

He is your lord, pay homage to him. **(Response)**

They are escorted amid gladness and joy;

They pass within the palace of the king. **(Response)**

SECOND READING

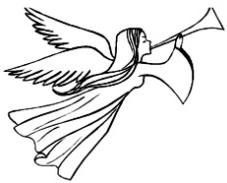
1 Corinthians 15:20-27

“Christ the first fruits, then those who belong to Christ.”

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brethren: Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. “For God has put all things in subjection under his feet.”

The word of the Lord



Alleluia

Mary has been taken up into heaven;
the host of angels rejoices

Alleluia



GOSPEL

Luke 1:39-56

“He who is mighty has done great things for me; he has exalted those of low degree.”

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke



In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a city of Judah, and she entered the house of Zachariah and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the child leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my

ears, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.” And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has regarded the low estate of his handmaiden. For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed; for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. And his mercy is on those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown

strength with his arm he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts, he has put down the mighty from their thrones, and exalted those of low degree; he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent empty away. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his posterity for ever." And Mary remained with her about three months, and returned to her home.

The Gospel of the Lord

REFLECTION

THE LORD DID GREAT THINGS IN HER LIFE

The world is a battlefield where the forces of death and the forces of life battle each other. It is easy to see that the forces of death appear, in many cases, to have the upper hand: hatred, solitude, betrayals, social and economic injustice, fear, disease: these are all points scored in favour of the forces of death. There is however a particular moment when death manifests its overwhelming power: when it ends our days on earth. What does God, who created us for life, do? Does he just look on unmoved at our defeat? Mary, who celebrates today the triumph of life over death, gives us the appropriate reply to these distressing questions. The first reading describes the uneven struggle between the monstrous dragon – symbol of the forces of evil – a defenceless woman and a frail child. The woman and the child win because God intervenes to save them. In the second reading, Paul describes and produces the one who defeat death: Christ. He is the one to crush all the enemies of life and he destroys death, turning it into a womb that will give birth to the fullness of life. The song of the Gospel, that Luke ascribes to Mary, is a thanksgiving hymn to the Lord for the wonders he did: he gave fertility to the womb of a virgin and opened all the graves, those of Christ and Mary as well as our own.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The Apostolate Committee is organizing the annual pilgrimage to Our Lady of Subukia at a cost of Kshs. 1,100. The Pilgrimage will take place next Saturday 26th August. We also encourage parishioners of good will to sponsor those who wish to go but cannot afford. Registration is outside the church. Please note that next Saturday everybody should be here latest at 4.45am. Departure will be punctually at 5am, in order to make it back early enough.
2. Registration for the Sacraments of Confirmation for children and adults has started at the catechist's office. Children who have received their First Holy Communion and are aged 11 years this year are asked to register. Please bring the baptismal card and a contribution of 200/=.
3. On Tuesday 22, we celebrate the memorial of the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary. There will be a candle lit procession after the 5.30pm mass.
4. A Life in the Spirit Seminar organized by Charismatic group is ongoing. The seminar is being conducted every Sunday from 2pm to 5pm in the tent behind the nursery school. The Seminar is open to everyone. All are welcome.
5. Novena of 9 Saturdays to prepare for the celebration of the Nativity of Our Lady is ongoing. The rosary with candles is being prayed every Saturday after the evening mass followed by a flowering to Our Lady and a Marian reflection.
7. The Construction of the Allamano Centre to build a new block of pastoral offices, hall and parking is on-going. We kindly request you to stop by the tables at the entrances of the church

and get detailed information about the project. We also invite you to give your contribution or make a pledge towards the project. We thank all those who donated towards the project by participating in the Raffle. May God bless you all! The pay bill number 804877 and USSD *369*2# remains open for donations.

8. Dear Parishioners, we have been registering professionals in the Parish. Please book in your diaries the dates that belong to your group. Even if you have not registered, you are most welcome.

GROUP NAME	DATE & TIME	MASS TO ATTEND
Doctors	3rd Sept 2017 @ 10:30am	9:00 am
Architects & Quantity Surveyors	3rd Sept 2017 @ 10:30am	9:00 am
Admin & Related Professions	3rd Sept 2017 @ 12:00pm	10:30 am
Media, Communication & Related Professions	3rd Sept 2017 @ 12:00pm	10:30 am
IT & Related	3rd Sept 2017 @ 1:30pm	12:00 pm
Architects & Quantity Surveyors	3rd Sept 2017 @ 1:30pm	12:00 pm
Accounts / Finance	10th Sept 2017 @ 10:30am	9:00 am
Housewives	10th Sept 2017 @ 10:30am	9:00 am
Engineering & Technical	10th Sept 2017 @ 12:00pm	10:30 am
Humanitarian Services & Related Professions	10th Sept 2017 @ 12:00pm	10:30 am
Business & Entrepreneurs	10th Sept 2017 @ 1:30pm	12:00 pm
Civil Servants & Disciplined Forces	10th Sept 2017 @ 1:30pm	12:00 pm
Bankers	17th Sept 2017 @ 10:30am	9:00 am
Contractors	17th Sept 2017 @ 12:00pm	10:30 am
Hospitality	17th Sept 2017 @ 12:00pm	10:30 am
Lawyers	17th Sept 2017 @ 1:30pm	12:00 pm
Teachers & Lecturers	17th Sept 2017 @ 1:30pm	12:00 pm

9. Dear Parishioners; After the call to those who live in Kinoo, 87, Uthiru, Kikuyu and come to Consolata Shrine, the following Small Christian Communities (SCC) have been formed. You can get in touch with the contact person for more information:

SCC	AREA	CONTACT PERSON
St. Maria Goretti Sundays 3pm near Muthiga Academy	Regen, Kinoo, Muthiga	Christine Wangui 0712-181913 341cwmuriathi@gmail.com
St. Faustina Sundays 1.30pm, Prayer Garden	Uthiru, Kabete	Agnes Wairimu Kahihia 0721-241673 agnes@bloomsanddrapes.com
St. Charles Lwanga Sundays 12noon, Prayer Garden	Uthiru, 87, Cooperation	Silvia 0795-431641 jasilenterprises@gmail.com Stella 0721-459420 dzamesmuye@gmail.com
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Sundays at the tent 1.30pm	Kikuyu, Regen	Miriam 0721-805809 rynyam@gmail.com)

They will all eventually move to have meeting in the houses of members

Parish Website: www.consolatashrine.org • **Parish E-Mail:** info@consolatashrine.org

Parish Priest's E-Mail: parishpriest@consolatashrine.org  @ConsoShrine

 Consolata Shrine, Westlands, Nairobi

Parish Mpesa Business Number: **508702** • P.O. Box **14930** - **Nairobi** • Cell Phone: **0722 615 105**