



**CONSOLATA SHRINE
TWENTY SEVENTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**



8th OCTOBER 2017 - YEAR A

FIRST READING

Isaiah 5:1-7

“The vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel.”

A reading from the Book of Isaiah

Let me sing for my beloved a love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it, and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge, I beg you, between me and my vineyard. What move was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briars and thorns shall grow up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting; and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, a cry!

The word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 80:9 and 12-16

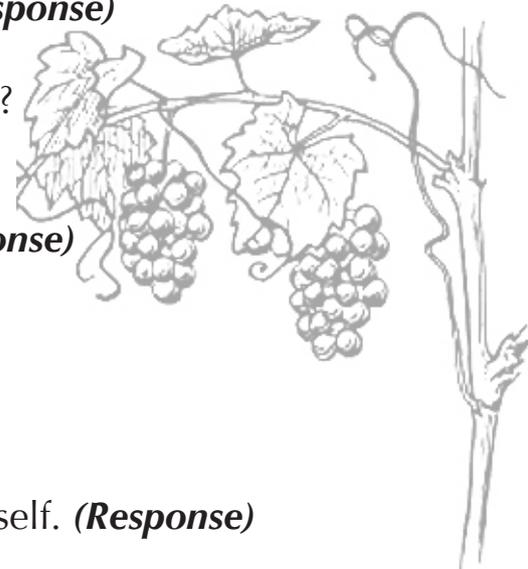
Response. The vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel

You brought a vine out of Egypt;
you drove out the nations and planted it.
It stretched out its branches to the sea;
to the River it stretched out its shoots. **(Response)**

Then why have you broken down its walls?
It is plucked by all who pass by the way.
It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,
devoured by the beasts of the field. **(Response)**

God of hosts, turn again, we implore;
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted,
the son of man you have claimed for yourself. **(Response)**

And we shall never forsake you again;
give us life that we may call upon your name.
O Lord God of hosts, bring us back;
let your face shine forth, and we shall be saved. **(Response)**

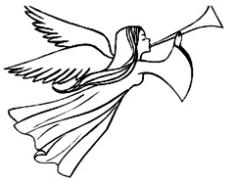


"This do and the God of peace will be with you."

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

Brethren: Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayers and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, do; and the God of peace will be with you.

The word of the Lord



Alleluia

I chose you from the world that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, says the Lord

Alleluia



GOSPEL

Matthew 21:33-43

"He leased the vineyard to other tenants."

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew



At that time: Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people "Hear another parable. There was a householder who planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a wine press in it, and built a tower, and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. When the season of fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants, to get his fruit, and the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first; and they did the same to them. "Afterwards he sent his son to them, saying, "They will respect my son." "But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' And they took him and cast him out of the vineyard, and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, 'He will put those

wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: 'The very stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes'? Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a nation producing the fruits of it."

The Gospel of the Lord

REFLECTION

'LIVING ON THE VINE' by Scott Hahn, Ph.D.

In today's Gospel Jesus returns to the Old Testament symbol of the vineyard to teach about Israel, the Church, and the kingdom of God. And the symbolism of today's First Reading and Psalm is readily understood. God is the owner and the house of Israel is the vineyard. A cherished vine, Israel was plucked from Egypt and transplanted in a fertile land specially spaded and prepared by God, hedged about by the city walls of Jerusalem, watched over by the towering Temple. But the vineyard produced no good grapes for the wine, a symbol for the holy lives God wanted for His people. So God allowed His vineyard to be overrun by foreign invaders, as Isaiah foresees in the First Reading. Jesus picks up the story where Isaiah leaves off, even using Isaiah's words to describe the vineyard's wine press, hedge, and watchtower. Israel's religious leaders, the tenants in His parable, have learned nothing from Isaiah or Israel's past. Instead of producing good fruits, they've killed the owner's servants, the prophets sent to gather the harvest of faithful souls. In a dark foreshadowing of His own crucifixion outside Jerusalem, Jesus says the tenants' final outrage will be to seize the owner's son, and to kill him outside the vineyard walls. For this, the vineyard, which Jesus calls the kingdom of God, will be taken away and given to new tenants - the leaders of the Church, who will produce its fruit. We are each a vine in the Lord's vineyard, grafted onto the true vine of Christ (see John 15:1-8), called to bear fruits of the righteousness in Him (see Philippians 1:11), and to be the "first fruits" of a new creation (see James 1:18). We need to take care that we don't let ourselves be overgrown with the thorns and briars of worldly anxiety. As today's Epistle advises, we need to fill our hearts and minds with noble intentions and virtuous deeds, rejoicing always that the Lord is near.

MASTER THE TEMPEST IS RAGING

1. Master the tempest is raging!
The billows are tossing high!
The sky is o'er shadowed with blackness.
No shelter or help is nigh.
Carest thou not that we perish?
How canst thou lie asleep
When each moment is madly is threat'ning
A grave in the angry deep?

***The winds and the waves shall obey thy will: Peace, be still
Whether the wrath of the storm tossed sea or demons or men or whatever it be,
No water can swallow the ship where lies The Master of ocean and earth and skies.
They all shall sweetly obey thy will:
Peace, be still; peace, be still.
They all shall sweetly obey they will:
Peace, peace, be still.***

2. Master, with anguish of spirit
I bow in my grief today.
The depths of my sad heart are troubled.
Oh, waken and save, I pray!
Torrents of sin and of anguish
Sweep o'er my sinking soul,
And I perish I perish dear Master.
Oh, hasten and take control!

3. Master, the terror is over.
The elements sweetly rest.
Earth's sun in the calm lake is mirrored,
And heaven's within my breast.
Linger, O blessed Redeemer!
Leave me alone no more,
And with joy I shall make the blest harbor
And rest on the blissful shore.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. October is the month of The Holy Rosary. We are encouraged to recite it.
2. Loreto Convent Valley Road, will be holding the Form 1 2018 interviews on Saturday 14th October 2017 from 8.00am to 1.30pm. For more information please read the poster on the notice board.
3. Today there is a visiting choir from Tanzania, they will animate the 12 O'clock mass. The CD is on sale outside the church.
4. The Consolata Shrine Dispensary, Deepsea will hold the annual medical camp on 18th November 2017 in Deepsea. For more information please read the posters on the notice board.
5. Consolata Self Help Group will be holding annual general meeting on **Saturday 21/10/2017, starting from 9:00 am** in the parish hall. all members are requested to attend.
6. The Parishes of Nairobi have organized a MASS WEDDING on 25th November 2017 at Holy Family Basilica to facilitate the reception of the graces of the sacrament of marriage. Come forward to regularize your situation of marriage in a meaningful way. Approach the catechist's office for more information.
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.

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**

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**