

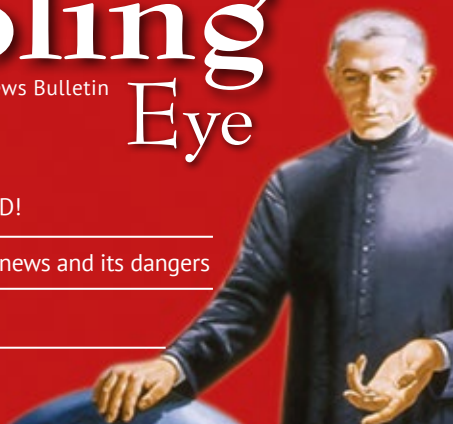
May 2018

The Consoling Eye

The Consolata Shrine Parish Monthly News Bulletin



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Pope Francis has decreed to the inclusion of Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, which will be celebrated annually as a Memorial on Mondays after the Pentecost effective this year.



Consolata Shrine, Westlands, Nairobi



@ConsoShrine

YouTube

Consoshrine/live



Fr. Daniel Berteau acknowledges greeting from parishioners during his last days at Consolata Shrine. He has served at the Shrine as an Assistant Parish Priest and Parish Priest since his reposting to the Parish in 2011. He has been transferred to the General House of the Consolata Missionaries in Rome, effective 5th May 2018. With him is the Parish Pastoral Council Chairman, Mr. George Kihara.

Kwaheri ya kuonana Fr. D!



We welcome our new Parish Priest, Father Jackson Murugara. He is a Consolata Missionary, ordained on the feast of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 2001. He has been serving in Sagana.

Karibu Father!

Pope's Prayers Intentions for May 2018

Evangelization; The Mission of Laity

That the lay faithful may fulfill their specific mission, by responding with creativity to the challenges that face the world today.



Universal Feast Day for the Blessed Virgin Mary Mother of the Church

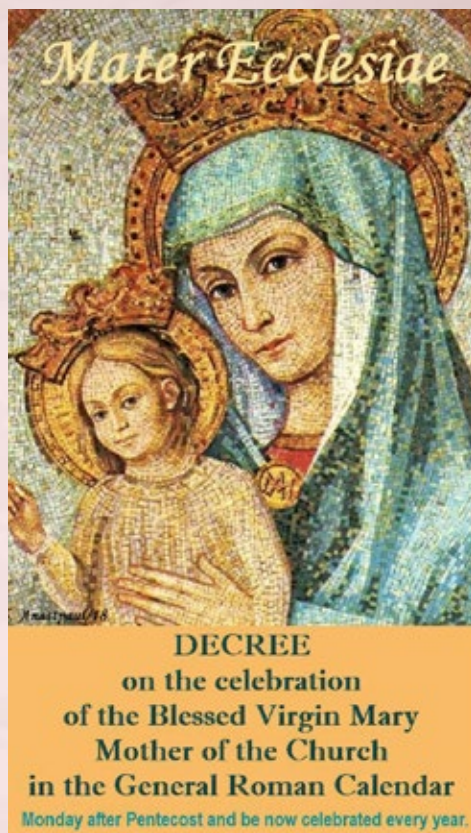
Mary was declared Mother of the Church in 1964, at the close of the Second Vatican Council (1962-65), by Blessed Pope Paul VI. In 1975 a special Mass, called a *votive Mass*, in honour of Mary under the title **Blessed Mary Mother of the Church**, was established.

On 11th February 2018, the memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Lourdes, Pope Francis declared this votive celebration in honour of Mary to be a feast for the Universal Church. This is to be celebrated on the Monday after Pentecost every year under the same title: **Mary Mother of the Church** (*Mother of all Christian People*). This is meant to promote devotion to our Mother Mary who is the Mother of the Church.

The intention of the Holy Father, in promoting this devotion, is to encourage the growth of the maternal sense of the Church in the pastors, religious and faithful, as well as a growth of genuine Marian piety.

The Pope wants the feast day to encourage a loving and tender spirit among Catholic leaders and faithful. He says, *"The Blessed Mother Mary is not just the Mother of Jesus but the Mother of the Church."* She is an important figure in the life of Christ because everything about her points to Christ. She represents the spiritual maternity of all Christians.

In our spiritual journey, the more we are united with Mary, the more we are united



with Christ because she participated actively in the physical and spiritual life of Jesus. So, seeking Jesus through Mary does not take away the glory from God, but rather gives Him great glory.

In one of his writings; St. Augustine says,



"Mary is the mother of the members of Christ, because with charity she cooperated in the rebirth of the faithful into the Church." On the same note St. Leo the Great said, *"The birth of the Head is also the birth of the body."* Both the saints indicate that Mary is at once Mother of Christ, the Son of God, and mother of the members of his Mystical Body, which is the Church.

Mary became the Mother of the Church when she accepted her Son's testament of love by welcoming all people, as sons and daughters, to be reborn unto life eternal in the person of the beloved disciple. She is the tender Mother of the Church which Christ begot on the Cross handing on the Spirit (cf. Jn 19:25).

Mary began her mission of motherhood in the Upper Room, praying with the Apostles while awaiting the coming of the Holy Spirit. Her presence was an encouragement to the Apostles.

Pope Francis tells us that Mary was not only Christ's Mother, but also His obedient disciple and a model of concrete service to others: *"Throughout her life, Mary did everything that the Church is asked to do in perennial memory of Christ"*.

She is a mother who teaches us to open our hearts to obey God, to be sensitive to the needs of others; both physical and spiritual. She teaches us what it means to be a disciple of Christ, because while she was eternally chosen to be His Mother, she also learned how to be His disciple. She also joins us on our pilgrimage of life, so that we may never be left alone, especially at times of trouble and uncertainty.

She is our dear mother who *loves us as the apple of her eye*. With the confidence of loving sons and daughters, she wants us to have recourse to her whilst trying to listen to her commands and desires. The latter are concerned with our duty to become good and holy.

Mary is not just someone from history; she is still our Mother *today* and is always praying for us, supporting us and leading us closer to her Son. She is always attentive to our physical and spiritual needs. St. Thomas Aquinas said, *"As Mariners are guided into port by the Shining of a Star, so Christians are guided to Heaven by Mary"*. She who was taken to heaven, body and soul, the Mother of the Church, is working hard for us, her children, to join her in heaven.

May the creation of this feast of Mary Mother of the Church in the Liturgical Calendar increase our devotion to her. **CE**

Mary Mother of the Church, Pray for us your children. AMEN.

Fr. Evans

A review of His Holiness's message on WORLD COMMUNICATIONS Day 2018

On world Communication's Day 2018, Pope Francis in glorious and stark tradition attacks an issue of our time: Fake News. His message is headlined "The Truth will set you free-fake news and journalism for peace".

the other hand, when we are faithful to God's plan, communication becomes an effective expression of our responsible search for truth and our pursuit of goodness.

Fake news is crafted disinformation meant to deceive and manipulate the reader. Spreading fake news can serve to advance specific goals, influence political decisions and serve economic interests.

The effectiveness of fake news is primarily due to its ability to *mimic* real news, to look real.

Secondly, false but believable news is “captious”, as it grasps people’s attention by appealing to stereotypes and common prejudices and exploits instantaneous emotions like anxiety, contempt, anger and frustration. The ability to spread such fake news often relies on manipulative use of Facebook, WhatsApp and Twitter. Untrue stories spread so quickly that even authoritative denials fail to contain the damage.

[illegible]

The difficulty of unmasking and eliminating fake news is also because people interact in homogeneous digital environments impervious to differing perspectives and opinions.

Yet preventing and identifying the way disinformation works also calls for a profound, careful process of discernment. Journalists must unmask “snake-tactics” used by those who disguise themselves in order to strike at any time and place.

In the account of the first sin, the tempter approaches the woman by pretending to be her friend, concerned only for her welfare, and begins by saying something only partly true: "Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?" (*Gen 3:1*). Fact is: God never told Adam not to eat from *any* tree, but only from the *one* tree: "Of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you are not to eat" (*Gen 2:17*).

Eve lets herself be taken in by his provocation: "Of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, 'You must not eat it nor touch it, under pain of death' (*Gen 3:2*). Her answer is couched in legalistic and negative terms; after listening to the deceiver and letting herself be taken in by his version of the facts, Eve is misled. So she heeds his words of reassurance: "You will not die!" (*Gen 3:4*).

Constant contamination by deceptive language can end up darkening our interior life. Dostoevsky observed: "People who lie to themselves and listen to their own lie come to such a pass that they cannot distinguish the truth within them, or around them, and so lose all respect for themselves and for others."

So how do we defend ourselves? The most radical antidote to the virus of falsehood is purification by the truth. The truth is not just bringing to light things that are concealed, “revealing reality,” as the ancient Greek term *aletheia* (from *a-lethēs*, “not hidden”) might lead us to believe. Truth involves our whole life.

We discover and rediscover the truth when we experience it within ourselves in the loyalty and trustworthiness of the One who loves us. The truth will set you free! (*Jn 8:32*).

Freedom from falsehood and the search for relationship: these two ingredients cannot be lacking if our words and gestures are to be true, authentic, and trustworthy.



The best antidotes to falsehoods are not strategies, but people: people who are not greedy but ready to listen, people who make the effort to engage in sincere dialogue so that the truth can emerge; people who are attracted by goodness and take responsibility for how they use language for peaceable ends.

His Holiness invites us to promote a *journalism of peace*—especially for those with no voice. Be truthful and opposed to falsehoods, rhetorical slogans and most importantly sensational headlines.

A journalism less concentrated on breaking news than on exploring the underlying causes of conflicts, in order to promote deeper understanding and contribute to their resolution by setting in place virtuous processes. Journalism committed to alternatives to the escalation of shouting matches and verbal violence. **CE**



Communication is meant to steer us express and share the true, good and beautiful. We describe our own experiences and the world around us and thus create historical memories.

But when we yield to our own pride and selfishness, we can also distort our ability to communicate. This can be seen in Cain and Abel and the Tower of Babel (cf. *Gen 4:4-16; 11:1-9*). The capacity to twist the truth is symptomatic of our condition, both as individuals and communities. On

Pope Francis released his 6th Apostolic Exhortation titled '*Gaudete Et Exsultate*' **Rejoice and be Glad** on 19th March 2018, in Rome on the Feast of St Joseph. It is a thoroughly interesting read. The style of writing is simple and easy to digest. It gives tips for everyday living with reference from Bible verses, previous Apostolic Exhortations, homilies and the lives and times of some of the Saints who have been canonized. The Exhortation is in five chapters and offers simple and practical tips for the times in which we are living. Simply put, how to live in holiness in today's world.

In this brief write up, I will make reference to the first chapter of the Apostolic Exhortation on the Call to Holiness.

Pope Francis makes reference to the letter to the Hebrews 12:1 and reminds us that the Saints of God protect us, sustain us and carry us. He brings to our attention the Saints "Next Door" and says that the Holy Spirit bestows holiness in abundance among God's Holy and faithful people. Those who acknowledge Him in truth and serve Him in holiness. He contemplates holiness in those parents who raise their children with immense love, those moms and dads who work really hard to support their families, in the sick who offer their suffering to God, in the elderly religious who do not lose their smile, in our next door neighbor, ordinary

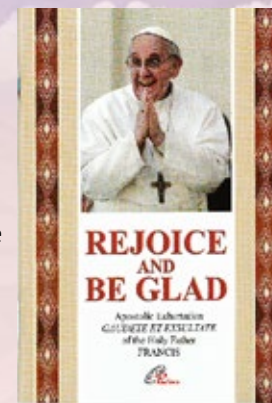
people who live in our midst and reflect God's presence.

His emphasis on the call to Holiness is informed by the Lord's call on each one of us "Be Holy for I am Holy" (1 Peter 1:16). We are called upon, as believers, to discern our own paths individually, the path that brings out the very best of ourselves, the most personal gifts that God has placed in our hearts. (1Cor 12:7). God's messages for our lives are communicated to us in different and in personal ways.



The Holy Father has drawn our attention to women and speaks of feminine styles of holiness which reflect God's holiness in the world. In times when women have been ignored and overlooked, the Holy Spirit has brought out women who brought out new

spiritual vigor and important reforms in the church such as St Catherine of Siena and St Teresa of Avila. He writes, also, about those unknown or forgotten women who in their own ways, sustained and transformed families and communities by the power of their witness.



Holiness is for all of us. We often mistakenly think that holiness is for those in consecrated life. Yet this is not the case. Are you a parent or a grandparent? Be holy by patiently teaching the little ones how to follow Jesus. Are you in a position of authority? Be holy by working for the common good and not for personal gain. Think of a mother who gets home after a long day at work and one of her children wants to speak to her about his day. Despite being so tired, she listens patiently and lovingly. The holiness to which the Lord calls us grows through such small gestures. To love in the ways Pope Francis suggests is not easy because we are often busy and weak. But he reminds us to love as Christ loved us, and in this way, our lives demonstrate Christ's power, amidst human weakness.

We are called upon to listen to God in prayer and to recognize the signs that he gives us. This is because God wants to speak to the world by our lives. We should therefore let ourselves to be transformed, to be renewed by the Spirit. The Lord has bestowed on the church the gifts of scripture, the sacraments, holy places, living communities, and the witness of the saints; all of which help us grow towards holiness.

The Holy Father cautions us that actions done out of anxiety, pride or the need to impress others will not lead to holiness. What we do should identify us all the more with Jesus Christ. He also warns that often, we are overwhelmed by superficial pleasures, consumerism, and we leave no personal space which we need to carry out a heartfelt dialogue with God. These, and many other distractions make

our commitment to our mission frail. As he concludes this first chapter of *Gaudete et Exultate*, the Holy Father tells us that holiness is an encounter between our weakness and the power of God's grace. We need a spirit of holiness that fills both our solitude and our service so that every moment can be an expression of self-sacrificing love in the Lord's eyes.

He urges us not to be afraid of holiness. It does not take away any of our energy, vitality or joy. Instead, it makes us what our Father had in mind when he created us and we will bear greater fruit for our world. For when all is said, the only great tragedy in life is not to become a saint. **CE**

We will continue with chapter 2 in the next edition of the Consoling Eye.

You can buy a copy of this Apostolic Exhortation from the bookshop.

*Reviewed by Njeri Muathe, Consolata Shrine
Communications Professional Group*

Feast of Divine Mercy and the Promise

(.....cont'd from last issue)

How we should we prepare for this great Feast of Mercy and the promise

During the course of Jesus' revelations to St. Faustina on the Divine Mercy, He asked on numerous occasions that a feast day be dedicated to the Divine Mercy and that this feast be celebrated on the Sunday after Easter (Diary 300). The liturgical texts of that day, the 2nd Sunday of Easter, concern the institution of the Sacrament of Penance, the Tribunal of the Divine Mercy, and are thus already suited to the request of Our Lord as documented in the diary of St. Faustina.

Preparation for the feast of Divine Mercy consists of one observing the following requirements:

- 1) Celebrate the feast on Sunday after Easter
- 2) Sincerely repent of all our sins,
- 3) Place our complete trust in Jesus,
- 4) Go to Confession, preferably before that Sunday,
- 5) Receive Holy Communion on the day of the feast,
- 6) venerate the image of the Divine Mercy,
- 7) Be merciful to others, through our actions, words and prayers on their behalf.

Jesus told St. Faustina that this Feast of Mercy would be a very special day when **all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened.**" (Diary 699) Our Lord made a great promise to all those souls who would go to confession and then receive Him in Holy Communion on the Feast of Mercy, on Sunday after Easter, which is now called Divine Mercy Sunday throughout the Catholic Church.



Jesus promised that **"The souls that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain the complete forgiveness of sins and punishment."** (Diary 699) He went on to say **"I want to grant a complete pardon to the souls that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on the Feast of My Mercy."** (Diary 1109). Our Lord said **"I want the image to be solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter, and I want it to be venerated publicly so that every soul may know about it. I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish"**. (Diary 341, 48).

Jesus said to S. Faustina **"I am offering people a vessel with which they are to keep coming for graces to the fountain of mercy. That vessel is this image with the signature: Jesus, I trust in You"**. (Diary 327) **"The two rays denote Blood and Water. The Pale rays stands for the water which makes souls righteous. The red ray stands for the Blood which is the life of souls. These two rays issued forth from the very depths of My tender mercy when My agonized Heart was opened by a lance on the cross...Happy is the one who will dwell in their shelter, for the just hand of God shall not lay hold of him."** (Diary 299)

About the feast day "Divine Mercy Sunday", Jesus said...**"tell the whole world about my inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon the souls who approach the Fount of My mercy. On that day all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet....mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy"**. (Diary 699).

Our Lord said **"When you go to Confession, to this fountain of My mercy, the Blood and Water which came forth from my Heart always flows down upon soul..."** and every time you go to confession, immerse yourself entirely in My mercy with great trust, so that I may pour the bounty of my grace upon your soul. When you approach the confessional, know this that I Myself am waiting there for you. I am only hidden by the priest, but I Myself act in your soul. Here the misery of the soul meets the God of mercy" (Diary 1602). **Make your confession before Me. The person of the priest is...only a screen. Never analyze what sort of a priest that I am making use of; open your soul in confession to me, and I will fill it with My light"** (Diary 1725)



Plenary Indulgence to be granted

In a decree dated August 3, 2002, the Apostolic Penitentiary announced that in order "to ensure that the faithful would observe this day (Divine Mercy Sunday) with intense devotion, the Supreme Pontiff himself established that this Sunday be enriched by a plenary indulgence... so that the faithful might receive in great abundance the gift of the consolation of the Holy Spirit. In this way, they can foster a growing love for God and for their neighbor, and after they have obtained God's pardon, they can in turn might be persuaded to show a prompt pardon to their brothers and Sisters"

The plenary indulgence is granted (under the usual conditions of a sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion and a prayer for the intention of the Supreme Pontiff) to the faithful who on Divine Mercy Sunday, in a spirit that is completely detached from the affection for a sin, even venial sin, recite the Our Father and the Creed and also adding a devout prayer (e.g. Merciful Jesus, I trust in you!). The full text of the decree of the Apostolic Penitentiary may be found at: www.mercysunday.com

Elements/ Pillars or Form of the Divine Mercy Devotion:

The pillars of the devotion to the Divine mercy are in five categories, simply abbreviated as FINCH.

F – Feast, I desire that the first Sunday after Easter be the feast of Mercy (Diary 300),

I – Image- I am to people a vessel with which they are to keep coming for graces to the fountain of mercy. That vessel is this image with signature: "Jesus I trust in You" (Diary 327).

N – Novena, In preparation for the feast of the Divine Mercy, The Lord asked Sr. Faustina to make a novena of prayer from Good Friday to the following Saturday (Diary 1209)

C – Chaplet – The Lord's promise: "The souls that will say this chaplet will be embraced by My Mercy during their lifetime and especially at the hour of their death" (Diary 754).

H – Hour, the hour of great mercy – at three o'clock, implore My mercy, especially for sinners..... (Diary 1320).

In His revelations to St. Faustina, the Lord asked for a special prayer and meditation on His Passion each afternoon at the three o'clock hour, the hour that recalls His death on the cross. At this hour, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy should be recited. **CE**

**Article by Charles Peter Otieno,
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Pictures courtesy of Eric Fernandes



PMC during Mass at the Divine Mercy Shrine, Chumvi



Celebrating the Feast of Divine Mercy.



Celebrating Easter Sunday.



Farewell party for our parish priest Fr. Daniel, he has done a lot of good work for the parish and we ask God to bless and guide him on his new appointment in Rome.



Workers busy on the construction site, seen here on the third floor of the Allamano Centre.



Representatives from St. Joseph, Deep Sea also graced Fr Daniel's farewell occasion.

Legion of Mary

What is it?

Legion of Mary is an association of Catholic men and women who, with the permission of the Church and under the powerful leadership of Mary Immaculate, Mediatrix of all Graces, have formed themselves into a Legion for service in the warfare which is perpetually waged by the Church against the world and its evil powers.

Why Mary?

Mary was chosen by God from the very beginning to bring salvation. That is why Legion of Mary regards her as the instrument in bringing Christ to the world.

Origin and Growth

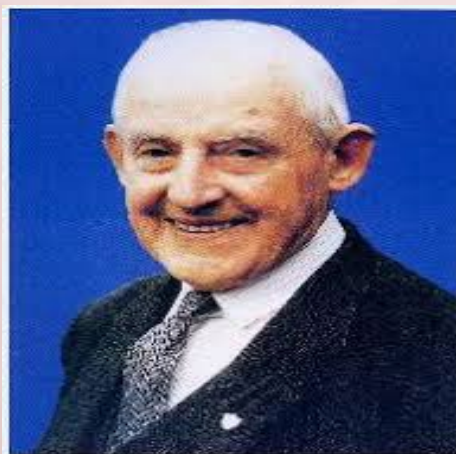
The first branch of the Legion of Mary known as the Patronage of Our Lady of Mercy was founded in the parish of St. Nicholas of Myra, Dublin in Ireland on 7th September 1921 by the servant of God Frank Duff with

the permission of Fr. Canon John. Fifteen members attended the first meeting.

The name Legion of Mary or "*Legio Mariae*" was adopted by this body for the association and the central council became known as the *Concilium Legionis Mariae* on 8th March 1927. The *Permissu Ordinarii Diocesis Dublinensis* was given for printing of the prayers to be recited at the Legion of Mary meeting. On 30th September 1928 the first draft of the Legion handbook was approved by the *Concilium Legionis Mariae* and submitted for diocesan approval.

Works of the Legion

1. Visiting the sick at homes and in hospitals;
2. Visiting Catholic homes to encourage and promote membership of solidarities and enthronement of homes to the Sacred Heart;



3. Inviting interested non-Catholics to attend information classes etc.

Africa

In 1937 a Dutch priest was driving an Irish girl to a Legion of Mary meeting miles away from his mission in Africa. They came to a river so flooded that the bridge across could not be seen. He was about to turn back when the girl cried out "Oh Father, please go on, I'm sure our Lady will protect us." They made it across the river. The priest was amazed by the faith of the simple girl. Her name was Edel Quinn. She had been sent to establish the Legion of Mary in East and Central Africa. On 8th December 1936, Edel Quinn established the Immaculate Conception Praesidium at Holy Family Basilica, Nairobi. This was the first Praesidium in East and Central Africa. The Legion of Mary is now spread all over the world with an active membership of one



Recollection at the Prayer Garden with Sister Mary Mathew
Date: 18th March 2018

and a half million and an auxiliary roll of eleven million. Today, the group has spread in Catholic parishes across the region and Edel Quinn is well on her way to Sainthood. On 12th May 2018 we shall be celebrating the 74th anniversary of her death.

Consolata Shrine:

On 2nd July 1978, the Legion of Mary was established at Consolata Shrine – **Mama wa Amani Praesidium** with Fr. Jordan. The membership of the legion includes primary school children known as Junior Legionary. On 28th February 2017, the Legion of Mary was established at St. Joseph Deep Sea – **Nyumba ya Dhahabu Praesidium** with Sister Stephanie of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Sisters.

May God bless you! As you read, be encouraged. **CE**

Legion of Mary, Consolata Shrine



Home Visitation at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Sisters Convent with Sister Stephanie.
Date: 17th December 2017

Come Holy Spirit, Come

Happy birthday to the Catholic Church! Happy birthday to you, who are the Body of the Church. Pentecost is the Church's birthday, and yours as well. And like any birthday, it is a cause for celebration.



The word Pentecost is Greek and it means "fiftieth day." Pentecost always occurs fifty days after the Death and Resurrection of Jesus, and ten days after His Ascension into heaven. The reason Pentecost falls fifty days after Easter comes from a parallel Jewish holiday, *Shavu'ot*, which falls fifty days after Passover. *Shavu'ot* is sometimes called the Festival of Weeks, referring to the seven weeks since Passover.

Originally a harvest feast, *Shavu'ot* now commemorates the sealing of the Old Covenant on Mount Sinai, when the Lord revealed the Torah to Moses. Every year, the Jewish people renew their acceptance of the gift of the Torah on this feast. Every year, this celebration of the outpouring of the **Holy Spirit** on Pentecost in Liturgical churches and communities, presents us with an invitation to experience the very same encounter. It is the **Holy Spirit** who makes it possible for us to live lives of sacrificial love, holiness and service in a world that God still loves - a world into which He still sends His Son, through the Body of Christ, the Church - of which we are all members. (John 3:16)

It is the **Holy Spirit** who will lead us in truth (John 16:13) and empower us to do the works of Jesus in this hour. (John 14:12).

At Consolata Shrine we have been organizing the Novena of Pentecost every year, praying for the renewal of our Christian Faith in Christ Jesus who has promised us this precious gift of power.

This year the Novena will take place from Friday 11th- Saturday 19th May.

Among the readings of the Catholic Liturgy or Mass on Pentecost Sunday is the account of that first Christian Pentecost: "*When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together. And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim.*" (Acts 2)

In the Third Millennium, we are being commissioned to carry forward the very same mission of those first disciples who gathered with Mary the Mother of the Lord. Jesus promised His followers¹⁶ I shall ask the Father, and he will give you another *Paraclete* to be with you



*forever;*¹⁷ the *Spirit of truth* whom the world can never accept since it neither sees nor knows him; but you know him, because he is with you, he is in you.¹⁸ I shall not leave you orphans; I shall come to you.¹⁹ In a short *time* the world *will* no longer see me; but you *will* see that I live and you also *will* live.²⁰ On that day you *will* know that I am in my Father and you in me and I in you. (John 14:16-17).

In many respects, the **Holy Spirit**, the Third Person of the Blessed Trinity, seems mysterious to many Christians in our own day. Some live as though there is no **Holy Spirit**. When I consider this reality, I am reminded of one of the many missionary stories recounted in the Acts of the Apostles.

Chapter 19 of Acts begins with these words, "*While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul traveled through the interior of the country and came (down) to Ephesus where he found some disciples. He said to them,*

"Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They answered him, "We have never even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." (Acts 19: 1, 2)

Too often Christians live our lives like those disciples in Ephesus. We act as though we did not realize there even is a **Holy Spirit**, still at work, still pouring out gifts and still making it possible for us to bear spiritual fruit. The same **Holy Spirit** is still at work, changing each one of us, individually and collectively, into the image and likeness of Jesus Christ. The same **Holy Spirit** is also calling us to make disciples of all the Nations - **TODAY**. That same **Holy Spirit** can fill us with power, equip us with gifts, and use us to continue the work of the Lord!

An examination of the teaching of Jesus and the New Testament reveals the essential role of the **Holy Spirit** in the life and mission of the Church - and in the life and mission of every individual believer. A study of the Tradition, the magisterial teachings of the Church and the Catholic Catechism underscores that this reality is meant to continue. It was not a onetime event.

The purpose of Pentecost was - and still is - the empowering and renewing of the Christian Church with the same power that raised Christ Jesus from the dead! The **Holy Spirit** draws us into communion with the Lord and a participation in His Divine Life and Mission. That communion is lived in the Church. The Catholic Catechism, quoting St Augustine, affirms "*What the soul is to the human body, the Holy Spirit is to the Body of Christ, which is the Church.*" (CCC # 797) **CE**

By The Charismatic Group, Consolata Shrine

Consolata youth walking with the Pope

On Vocation Sunday, the Youth discussed issues of faith with Fr Nicholas Makau, the Consolata Missionaries Vocation Director. Using a series of questions, he led the group into a discussion about their faith and the role it has in their lives. The Youth were divided into groups and their conclusions were summarized.

1. What in your opinion entails/indicates holiness?

Holiness is the state of purity and willingness of an individual to follow and be close to God. Holiness entails acts of love, charity and service.

2. What can be an obstacle/ a challenge in becoming Holy?

Friends – peer pressure from friends
Family – sometimes our families may have different plans and intentions which hinder one's desire to achieve holiness.
Career – ambitions and responsibilities may hinder one from dedicating enough time and effort towards the attainment of holiness.

3. Name three main problems faced by young people these days.

Unemployment – this gives rise to other vices, such as crime and idleness.
Drug abuse – the Youth may turn to drugs to escape problems they may be encountering or as a result of peer pressure.
Sex abuse – due to embracing too much of Western Culture, traditional morals have been eroded and people are sexually active.

4. List five interest/issues that young people often discuss amongst themselves.

Sports

Trends in technology, fashion, music and celebrities.
Relationships
Movies
God.

5. List five job opportunities that young people consider good.

Medicine
Human Resource
Engineering
Law
Finance
Sports personalities

6. To make life hopeful, cool, comfortable and better for young people, what should

a. Church leaders do?

Tailor Mass and teachings to be relevant to young people
Offer guidance and counseling.

b. The government/society do?

Allocate student loans more efficiently
Organize workshops that teach young people skills.

c. Parents/family do?

Be more supportive of the Youth
Encourage them in their endeavours.

d. Young people themselves do?

Be accountable partners to each other
Seek mentors who inspire and advice
Encouraging and correcting each other when they do wrong.

*Compiled by: Raymond Chege
Youth member, Consolata Shrine*

The discussion had focused the Youth on their attitudes towards holiness and faith.

What was the response? Did they see a pathway towards deeper faith and a desire for holiness? Or did they see obstacles and struggles challenging their quest for closer union with God? What does holiness look like?



Consolata Shrine Junior Youth after celebrating Mass with Fr. Marino at Resurrection Garden recently.

To assist them with these questions, Fr. Makau

introduced Scriptures to illustrate the driving forces towards a life of holiness. In the Beatitudes (Matt 5 and Luke 6), Jesus states clearly and simply the qualities and rewards of a 'blessed' individual. But, how do the Youth see themselves? In his first letter, Peter, states that each Christian has a personal call on his or her life. Are the Youth aware that they are a people set apart? They are called individually to share in the perfect Priesthood of Christ - to be Imitators of Christ. They do not belong to themselves but to God. Their lives must be lived in obedience to His Will. Such lives are steeped in Mercy.

It can be difficult to pursue holiness. The community or even families may be the source of daily obstacles. True holiness comes from seeking God even in the sinful and desperate situations. St. Paul's letter to the Philippians shows that what may be considered an obstacle may be holy and vice versa.

Regardless of the circumstances, Christians must avoid 'selfishness' and 'vulgarity' when dealing with others. In fact, the Youth were invited to embrace the greatest of challenges: 'humility'. Jesus accepted the humiliation and agony of death on a cross. This is what His community demanded of Him. Yet, even this most bitter moment was accepted by Him and offered up to Almighty God. This great act of humility was rewarded by God who, 'greatly exalted Him and bestowed upon Him the name that is above any other.' (Philp 2)

How can the Youth be assisted on their 'walk with the Pope'?

There is no doubt that the Youth are challenged by their environment. During this session it emerged that they would very much appreciate parental guidance. There was a sense that parents were on their own personal Journeys of Faith. They were not encouraging their children to pray or share with them. Consequently,

the Youth are left alone to follow their own paths. They are uncertain. Since they lack reinforcement in the home, they lack the confidence to declare and live their faith openly. Peer pressure can become a factor and holiness can become a burden. This may surprise many parents.

Fr. Makau suggested the following:

- Parents with children in the Youth should open their homes to members of the group. It would be good to share with them and pray with them in a home setting. This will also strengthen the resolve of the members.

- The Youth should be encouraged to publicly share aspects of their spiritual journeys. It is important for them to learn to respect individual journeys towards God and holiness. Mutual support and respect must be encouraged. No one should be an obstacle for another.
- The Youth should be encouraged to have as many celebrations of Mass as possible. They should be allowed to plan and indicate the inspiration behind each celebration.

Christian Education Committee

Welcome to
NOVENA OF PENTECOST

Pre-Pentecost retreat

THEME:
EMPOWER YOURSELF BY THE DIVINE POWER
ACTS 1:8

VENUE: CONSOLATA SHRINE WESTLANDS

DATE: 14th-17th May
TIME: 2Pm - 8Pm

Facilitators:
Vincentian Fathers and team

0720217242 / 0716915431 All Are Welcome

10 APPS TEENS ARE USING THAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW

+ - x % Calculator% This app looks like a calculator but functions like a secret photo vault.	Hot or Not Strangers rate your profile. Goal is to lead to a hook up.
Omegle A free online chat website that promotes chatting anonymously to strangers.	Burn Book Post anonymous rumors about people through audio messages, texts, and photos.
Snapchat This is the way most teens communicate with each other. Sending messages and snaps that disappear within seconds and stories go away after 24 hours. Teens live for a "streak" of communication.	Wahlzone An app that allows users to compare kids against each other and rate them on a scale.
Whisper An anonymous app where the creators promote sharing secrets and meeting new people.	Kik Messaging app. Kik has built in apps and web content that would be filtered on home computer.
Ask.fm Ask an anonymous question and get an answer. This app has been linked to the most severe forms of cyberbullying.	Instagram Many kids are now creating fake accounts "firsts" to hide content from parents. Kids also like to text using Instagram because most kids know parents won't check messages.

FOR MORE INFO: APPSOLUTELYAPRIL.COM
Please note: Due to the nature of the Internet and App Store, web and app resources change often. Any outdated material will be corrected and updated.
This graphic was created by April Pearson.

How to pray the Holy Rosary

Monday: Joyful Mysteries
Tuesday: Sorrowful Mysteries
Wednesday: Glorious Mysteries
Thursday: Luminous Mysteries
Friday: Sorrowful Mysteries
Saturday: Joyful Mysteries
Sunday: Glorious Mysteries

1 Sign of the Cross and 'The Apostle's Creed'
2 1 'Our Father'
3 3 'Hail Mary's'
4 1 'Glory Be'
5 1st Mystery: 1 'Our Father'
6 10 'Hail Mary's'
7 1 'Glory Be'
8 2nd Mystery: 1 'Our Father'
9 10 'Hail Mary's'
10 1 'Glory Be'
11 3rd Mystery: 1 'Our Father'
12 10 'Hail Mary's'
13 1 'Glory Be'
14 4th Mystery: 1 'Our Father'
15 10 'Hail Mary's'
16 1 'Glory Be'
17 5th Mystery: 1 'Our Father'
18 10 'Hail Mary's'
19 1 'Glory Be'
20 'Hail Holy Queen' 'Concluding Prayer'
21 Sign of the Cross

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I. Baptisms in April 2018.

1. George Grayson Gumbé of Andrew Young Gumbé and Anne Ayesinga Mugenyi.
2. Christa Angelene Nnassanga of Kakembo Godfrey Bogere and Theresia Expery Mallya.
3. Mateo Guillermo Seco Cetina of Juan Francisco Seco Delgado and Luisa Helena Cetina Tavera
4. Nicolas Francisco Seco Cetina of Juan Francisco Seco Delgado and Luisa Helena Cetina Tavera.
5. Peter Kinyua of Andrew Kamuru and Hannah Njambi
6. Jeremy Githua Mbugua of Samuel Githua Mbugua and Maureen Akoto Mbugua
7. John Jason Muchugi Kuria of David Kuria Muchugi and Eunice Njeri Njuguna
8. Maria Samara Amor Myfanwy Odhiambo of Wycliffe Allan Odhiambo and Jaqueline Helna Odhiambo.
9. Stephanie Khavetsa Nyonje of Brian Lunalo Anami and Velma Khaluhi
10. Jeremy Kipkemai Kandie of Philip Kiptoo Kandie and Shanna Alexandra Fernandez
11. Maria Jewell Mokaya of Vincent Mokaya and Brenda Kerubo
12. Lucy Tiffany Wanjiru of Salome Muthoni
13. Alexis Wanyonyi Kilongi of Aron Xavier Kilongi and Phyllis Nasirumbi Ogutu
14. Claudia Nyakii Wambulwa of Cleophas Wambulwa and Cecilia Makena
15. Salome Ariana Wangechi Njau of Michael Njau Kiarie and Ann Mwaniki
16. Gabrielle Mandere Kihongozi of Maleva Selestine and Stella Oporé.
17. Rita Njeri Waiganjo of Joseph Waiganjo Mwaura and Joan Metian Waiganjo.
18. Austine Jabali Koome Mwitwi of Erastus Mwitwi Kaume and Priscillar Wangari Githiny.
19. Thaniel Njenga Rurii of Josephat Rurii Mbogoh and Salome Ngina Njenga.
20. William Doyle Nganga of Grace Njeru.
21. Brianna Wambui Maina of Samuel Maina Muguku and Phyllis Wanjiru Kimani.
22. Brandon Mati Gitonga of Wycliffe Gitonga and Sylvia Muthoni.
23. Megan Nyangi Marwa of Joseph Marwa and Nancy Atieno.
24. Amara Nthenya Mulwa of Patrick Mulwa Nzyoka and Roselyne Naliaka Mbanacho.
25. Lexie Wanjiru Onyango of Dennis Onyango Muganda and Rachael Wairimu Njuguna.

26. Zara Musanga Mulama of Kevin Bukhaya Mulama and Daisy Mukui Kioko.
27. Imani Njeri Ndegwa of John Ndegwa Wakaba and Stella Wambui Kimani.

II. Marriage Banns in May 2018.

There Is a Promise of Marriage Between;

1. Stephen Karanja and Gloria Kimeli
2. Walter Mokandu Nyabicha and Christine Nanjala Simiyu
3. Eric Njoroge and Betty Kalekye Mwanthi
4. John Ogandi Oganda and Michelle Midika Agufa
5. Nicholas Kahiro Gichuki and Dorcas Wambui Ndengeri.

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

III. Weddings in April 2018.

1. Doreen Bosibori Ombui and Gilbert James Machio
2. Carolyn Mbwea Kyonze and Edwin Justus Muhindu
3. Monicah Mwende Kivindu and Sandy Omondi Okoth
4. Juliana Mueni Kituma and Kenneth Davis Omitto
5. Jemimah Waithira Kimindu and Peter Kinyua Kamuru
6. Maryline Cherotich and Joseph Kipkemai Komen
7. Janeth Bosibori Omwenga and Paul Mose Mwema.



Doreen Bosibori and Gilbert James during their wedding on 6th April 2018

From the Catechist's desk

EVENTS OF THE PARISH FOR MAY 2018

MISSIONARY INTENTION: Evangelization: The Mission of the Laity. That the lay faithful may fulfill their specific mission, by responding with creativity to the challenges that face the world today.	
Invite families to recite the Holy Rosary during this month	
PMC Missionary Rosary	
Sat 12	Our Lady of Fatima Nine Saturdays Novena for the Solemnity of Our Lady Consolata (5) Proclaimers :Retreat to prepare for the renewal of the commitment Legio Maria: Van Edel Mass, St. Mary's School Msongari St. Maria Goretti SCC: Charity Event Youth: Visit to the Children's Ward, KNH
Sun 13	LITURGICAL CELEBRATION OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD Youth Mass, 9am followed by Formation Talk/Open Forum Prayer for the sick, for their families and for health workers at all Masses. Youth: Movie OLOF SCC: Our Lady of Fatima Feast Day Charities Committee: Jumble sale St. Theresa of the Child Jesus SCC: Reflection on the Ascension of the Lord, Prayer Garden
Sat 19	Nine Saturdays Novena for the Solemnity of Our Lady Consolata (6) First Holy Communion: Mass – The Marks and people of the Church; Seasons of the Church. Pentecost Vigil, 10am -5pm Youth: All Night Vigil for Pentecost, St. Catherine of Siena.
Sun 20	PENTECOST Renewal of commitment by all Proclaimers, 10.30am Pastoral Council: Executive Meeting, 10.30am Formation for parents and sponsors of infant baptisms, 3pm Catechists: Group 2 Workshop (20-25 th May)
Mon 21	Mary, Mother of the Church Memorial
Fri 25	St. Gregory VII, Pope, Memorial St. Bede , the Venerable, Priest, Doctor, Memorial
Sat 26	Nine Saturdays Novena for The Solemnity of Our Lady Consolata (7) Ongoing formation for children who have received first Holy Communion, 10am- 1pm. Infant baptism, 2.30pm Youth: Sports, at Kilimambogo TTC/Utume Choir festivals, C and D
Sun 27	THE MOST HOLY TRINITY, Solemnity Children's Mass, 9am Youth: In house Talk Pastoral Council Meeting, 10.30am
Wed 30	Triduum of Eucharistic Adoration for CORPUS CHRISTI (DAY 1)
Thur 31	CORPUS CHRISTI, Solemnity Triduum of Eucharistic Adoration for CORPUS CHRISTI (DAY 2)