

Reflection: 'The Church's Mission' By Scott Hahn, Ph.D.



In commissioning the Apostles in today's Gospel, Jesus gives them, and us, a preview of His Church's mission after the Resurrection. His instructions to the Twelve echo those of God to the Twelve Tribes of Israel on the eve of their exodus from Egypt. The Israelites were sent out with no bread and only one set of clothes, wearing sandals and carrying a staff. Like the Israelites, the Apostles are to rely solely

on the providence of God and His grace. Perhaps Mark also wants us to see the Apostles' mission, the mission of the Church, as that of leading a new exodus—delivering peoples from their exile from God and bringing them to the promised land, the kingdom of heaven. Like Amos in today's First Reading, the Apostles are not "professionals," who earn their bread by prophesying. Like Amos, they are simply men summoned from their ordinary jobs and sent by God to be shepherds of their brothers and sisters. Again this week, we hear the theme of rejection: Amos experiences it, and Jesus warns the Apostles that some will not welcome or listen to them. The Church is called not necessarily to be successful, but only to be faithful to God's command. With authority and power given to it by Jesus, the Church proclaims God's peace and salvation to those who believe in Him, as we sing in today's Psalm. This word of truth, this Gospel of salvation, is addressed to each of us, personally, as Paul proclaims in today's Epistle. In the mystery of God's will, we have been chosen from before the foundation of the world—to be His sons and daughters, to live for the praise of His glory. Let us, then, give thanks for the Church today, and for the spiritual blessings He has bestowed upon us. Let us resolve to further the Church's mission—to help others hear the call to repentance and welcome Christ into their lives.

DAILY READINGS

Monday: Ex 1:8-14, 22; Ps 124; Mt 10: 34- 11:1
Tuesday: Ex 2:1-15; Ps 69; Mt 11:20-24
Wednesday: Ex 3:1-6, 9-12; Ps 103; Mt 11:25-27
Thursday: Ex 3:13-20; Ps 105; Mt 11:28-30
Friday: Ex 11:10-12:14; Ps 116; Mt 12:1-8
Saturday: Ex 12:37-42; Ps 136; Mt 12:14-21

Schedules for Masses:

Sunday: 7.30 am Kiswahili
9.00 am; 10.30 am; 12.00 noon & 5.30 pm English
Saturday: English 7.00 a.m; 9.00 am & 5.30 pm
Monday to Friday: English 7.00 am & 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

PARISH MPESA BUSINESS NUMBER: 508702;

P.O. Box 14930 - Nairobi; TEL: 0722-615105



CONSOLATA SHRINE

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

15th July 2018

The Announcement of the Gospel and Money



FIRST READING

Amos 7:12-15

"Go, prophesy to my people."

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Amos

In those days: Amaziah the priest of Bethel said to Amos, "O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, and eat bread there, and prophesy there; but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom." Then Amos answered Amaziah, "I am no prophet, nor a prophet's son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, and the LORD took me from following the flock, and the LORD said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.'"

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

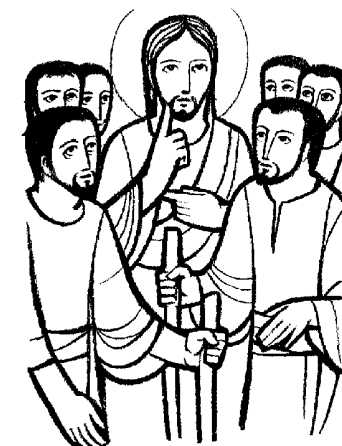
Psalm 85:9-14 (R.8)

R: Let us see, O Lord, your mercy, and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what the LORD God speaks;
he speaks of peace for his people and his faithful.
His salvation is near for those who fear him,
and his glory will dwell in our land. (R)

Merciful love and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have kissed.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth,
and justice look down from heaven. (R)

Also the LORD will bestow his bounty,
and our earth shall yield its increase.
Justice will march before him,
and guide his steps on the way. (R)



SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:3-14

"He chose us in him before the foundation of the world,"

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. He destined us in love to be his sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace

which he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace which he lavished upon us. For he has made known to us in all wisdom and insight the mystery of his will, according to his purpose which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In him, according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to the counsel of his will, we who first hoped in Christ have been destined and appointed to live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, who have heard the word of truth, the Gospel of your salvation, and have believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.



Alleluia

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart that we might know what is the hope to which he has called us.



Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Mark 6:7-13

"He began to send them out."

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus called to him the Twelve, and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He charged them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not put on two tunics. And he said to them, "Where you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. And if any place will not receive you and they refuse to hear you, when you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet for a testimony against them." So they went out and preached that men should repent. And they cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many that were sick and healed them.



Announcements

1. Today we will have Harambee collection in every at all masses to Support Mr. George Kihara our Guest of Honour. The main Mini Harambee will be at 12 o'clock mass. Please attend.
2. Next Sunday 22nd, there will be a second collection to support Fr. Caesar to join the prayer walk to climb Mt Kenya. Kindly visit the table at the gazebo for more information on how to support him.
3. The remaining Events in support of the Allamano Centre, are as follows:
 - Mini Harambee on 19th August 2018, our guest of honour Dr Samuel Kiruthu.
 - Prayer walk to climb Mt Kenya, 20th to 24th August 2018. 40 pilgrims are required at a cost of Kshs 150,000 each. Those who wish to sponsor and contribute towards the pilgrimage can do so at the gazebo.
 - Consolata Shrine Dinner by CWA will be on 31st August 2018 at Kshs. 5,000/ per head. Tickets available at the gazebo.
 - Various souvenirs also on sale at the gazebo.

Your support, prayers, presence and contributions towards the project is appreciated.

4. The Apostolate Committee is organizing the annual pilgrimage to Our Lady of Subukia on the 18th of August at a Cost of KShs. 1,100. Kindly register at the desk in the gazebo.
5. A Novena of 9 Saturdays in preparation to the Feast of Nativity of Our Lady on 8th of September has started at the evening mass, followed by the rosary and a special reflection. We welcome you for the 3rd day of novena next Saturday and the theme is "Vehicle of Salvation".



Various Souvenirs. Get one for your loved ones.

A LIFE IN THE HOLYSPIRIT SEMINAR is ongoing every Sunday from 2pm to 5pm in the Parish Hall. Come and enrich our faith in Christ Jesus. Open to all Parishioners.