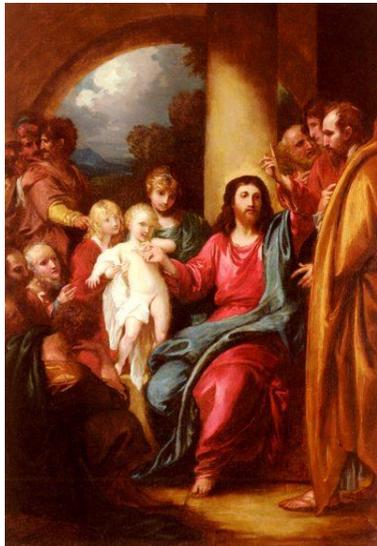


Reflection: Servant of All by Scott Hahn, Ph.D.

In today's First Reading, it's like we have our ears pressed to the wall and can hear the murderous grumblings of the elders, chief priests, and scribes—who last week Jesus predicted would torture and kill Him. The liturgy invites us to see this passage from the Book of Wisdom as a prophecy of the Lord's Passion. We hear His enemies complain that "the Just One" has challenged their authority, reproached them for breaking the law of Moses, for betraying their training as leaders and teachers. And we hear chilling words that foreshadow how they will mock Him as He hangs on the Cross: "For if the Just One be the Son of God, He will . . . deliver Him . . .". Today's Gospel and Psalm give us the flip side of the First Reading. In both, we hear of Jesus' sufferings from His point of view. Though His enemies surround Him, He



offers Himself freely in sacrifice, trusting that God will sustain Him. But the Apostles today don't understand this second announcement of Christ's passion. They begin arguing over issues of succession—over who among them is greatest, who will be chosen to lead after Christ is killed. Again they are thinking not as God, but as human beings. And again Jesus teaches the Twelve—the chosen leaders of His Church—that they must lead by imitating His example of love and self-sacrifice. They must be "servants of all," especially the weak and the helpless—symbolized by the child He embraces and places in their midst. This is a lesson for us, too. We must have the mind of Christ, who humbled Himself to come among us. We must freely offer ourselves, making everything we do a sacrifice in praise of His name. As James says in today's Epistle, we must seek wisdom from above, desiring humility, not glory, and in all things be gentle and full of mercy.

Saints of the Week

Sts Cosmas & Damian, Wednesday 26th,

St Vincent de Paul, Thursday 27th,

St Wenceslas, St Lawrence & Companions, Friday 28th,

Sts Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, archangels, Saturday 29th,



CONSOLATA SHRINE
25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

23rd September 2018



A Community that Embraces the Least Privileged

First Reading

"Let us condemn him to a shameful death"

Wisdom 2:12, 17-20

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

[Ungodly men said:] "Let us lie in wait for the righteous man, because he is inconvenient to us and opposes our actions; he reproaches us for sins against the law, and accuses us of sins against our training. "Let us see if his words are true, and let us test what will happen at the end of his life; for if the righteous man is God's son, he will help him, and will deliver him from the hand of his adversaries. Let us test him with insult and torture, that we may find out how gentle he is, and make trial of his forbearance. Let us condemn him to a shameful death, for, according to what he says, he will be protected."

Responsorial Psalm

R. Behold, the Lord is the upholder of my life.

Ps 54:3-6 and 8

O God, save me by your name;
by your power, defend my cause.
O God, hear my prayer;
give ear to the words of my mouth. **R**

For the proud have risen against me,
and the ruthless seek my life.
They have no regard for God. **R**

See, I have God for my help.
The Lord sustains my soul.
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart,
and praise your name, for it is good. **R**



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

Second Reading

James 3:16-4:3

“The harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.”

A reading from the Letter of Saint James

Beloved: where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, without uncertainty or insincerity. And the harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace. What causes wars, and what causes fightings among you? Is it not your passions that are at war in your members? You desire and do not have; so you kill. And you covet and cannot obtain; so you fight and wage war. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.



Alleluia

God has called us through the Gospel,
to obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia



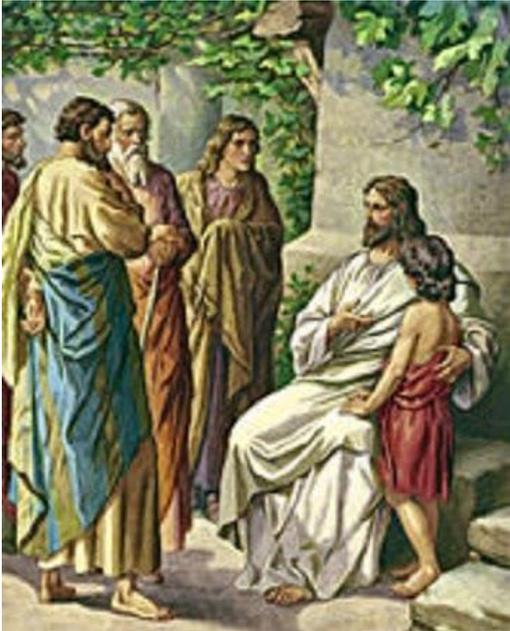
GOSPEL

Mark 9:30-37

“The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men...If anyone would be first, he must be the servant of all.”

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

At that time: Jesus and his disciples went on from the mountain and passed



through Galilee. And he would not have any one know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them. “The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him; and when he is killed, after three days he will rise. “But they did not understand the saying, and they were afraid to ask him. And they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you discussing on the way?” But they were silent; for on the way they had discussed with one another who was the greatest. And he sat down and called the Twelve;

and he said to them, “If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all.” And he took a child, and put him in the midst of them; and taking him in his arms, he said to them, “Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me; and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me.”

Announcements

1. The National Prayer Day will be on 6th October 2018 at the Subukia Shrine. We are all invited to participate and kindly register at the gazebo or parish office during the week at Kshs 1,100/=.
2. Children who have received First Holy Communion, and are not in Confirmation classes, are reminded about Ongoing Formation this coming Saturday from 10am to 1pm.
3. Parents are reminded that next Sunday there will be no Children’s Sunday Service. Instead all children are invited to the Children’s Mass at 9.00am.

Weekly Meeting

- Apostolate of Eucharistic Adoration on Tuesday 25th, at 6.30pm

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