

Reflection: David and Saul.

The story of David and Saul in today's First Reading functions almost like a parable. Showing mercy to his deadly foe, David gives a concrete example of what Jesus expects to become a way of life for His disciples. The new law Jesus gives in today's Gospel would have us all become "Davids"—loving our enemies, doing good to those who would harm us, extending a line of credit to those who won't ever repay us. The Old Law required only that the Israelites love their fellow countrymen. The new law Jesus brings makes us kin to every man and woman. His kingdom isn't one of tribe or nationality. It's a family. As followers of Jesus, we're to live as He lived among us—as "children of the Most High". As sons and daughters, we want to walk in the ways of our heavenly Father, to "be merciful, just as your Father is merciful." Grateful for His mercy, we're called to forgive others their trespasses because God has forgiven ours. In the context of today's liturgy, we're all "Sauls"—by our sinfulness and pride we make ourselves enemies of God. But we've been spared a death we surely deserved to die because God has loved and shown mercy to His enemies, "the ungrateful and the wicked," as Jesus says. Jesus showed us this love in His Passion, forgiving His enemies as they stripped Him of cloak and tunic, cursed Him and struck Him on the cheek, condemned Him to death on a cross. "He redeems your life from destruction," David reminds us in today's Psalm. That's the promise, too, of today's Epistle: that we who believe in the "last Adam," Jesus, will rise from the dead in His image, as today we bear the image of the "first Adam," who by his sin made God an enemy and brought death into the world.

DAILY READINGS

Monday: Sir 1:1-10; Ps 93; Mk 9:14-29

Tuesday: Sir 2:1-11; Ps 37; Mk 9:30-37

Wednesday: Sir 4:11-19; Ps 119; Mk 9:38-40

Thursday: Sir 5:1-8; Ps 1; Mk 9:41-50

Friday: Sir 6:5-17; Ps 119; Mk 10:1-12

Saturday: Sir 17:1-15; Ps 103; Mk 10:13-16

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 am,
5.30 pm Kiswahili



CONSOLATA SHRINE SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 24th February 2019



Love Your Enemies.

FIRST READING

1 Sam 26:2,7-9, 12-13,22-23

The Lord gave you into my hand today, and I would not put forth my hand against the Lord's anointed.

A reading from the first Book of Samuel

In those days: Saul arose and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, with three thousand chosen men of Israel, to seek David in the wilderness of Ziph. So David and Abishai went to the army by night; and there lay Saul sleeping within the encampment, with his spear stuck in the ground at his head; and Abner and the army lay around him. Then said Abishai to David, "God has given your enemy into your hand this day; now therefore let me pin him to the earth with one stroke of the spear, and I will not strike him twice." But David said to Abishai, "Do not destroy him; for who can put forth his hand against the Lord's anointed, and be guiltless?" So David took the spear and the jar of water from Saul's head; and they went away. No man saw it, or knew it, nor did any awake; for they were all asleep, because a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen upon them. The David went over to the other side, and stood afar off on the top of the mountain, with a great space between them. And David said, "Here is the spear, O king! Let one of the young men come over and fetch it. The Lord rewards every man for his righteousness and his faithfulness; for the Lord gave you into my hand today, and I would not put forth my hand against the Lord's anointed."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Ps 103:1-4,8,10,12-13

RES: *The Lord is compassionate and gracious.*

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all within me, his holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all his benefits. **(R)**

It is the Lord who forgives all your sins, who heals every one of your ills, Who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with mercy and compassion? **(R)**

The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and rich in mercy. He does not treat us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our faults. **(R)**

As far as the east is from the west, so far from us does he remove our transgressions. As a father has compassion on his children, The Lord's compassion is on those who fear him. **(R)**

PARISH WEBSITE: www.consolatashrine.org; PARISH E-MAIL: info@consolatashrine.org;

PARISH PRIEST'S E-MAIL: parishpriest@consolatashrine.org;

Tithe Account No: 002215001004856 – ABC Bank: A/C Name: Consolata Fathers – Shrine;

Allamano Project Account No. 002215001004394.: ABC Bank: Consolata Father-Shrine Project;

PARISH MPESA NUMBER: 508702;

ALLAMANO PROJECT MPESA NUMBER: 804877;

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

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15:45-49

Jesus as we have born the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

Brethren: "The first man Adam became a living soul"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual which is first but the physical, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.

Alleluia

A new commandment I give to you, says the Lord, that you love one another, even as I have loved you. Alleluia



GOSPEL

Luke 6:27-38

"Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful."

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke



At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, "I say to you that hear, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. To him who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from him who takes away you cloak do not withhold your coat as well. Give to every one who begs from you; and of him who takes away your goods do not ask them again. And as you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those

who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for he is

kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. "Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For the measure you give will be the measure you get back"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Today the Homeless of Nairobi will be polishing shoes outside the Church please support them.
2. There will be special workshop for all members of SCC's and those who would like to join SCC's today at 10.30am in the parish hall. All are welcome.
3. Next Sunday on 3rd, March there will be the blessing of our Tithe, our families and our work at the end of all Masses. Kindly pick an envelope from the blue box to prepare.
4. Next Sunday 3rd, the newly elected parish executive leaders will be presented to the parishioners in all Masses. They will be commissioned during 12.00pm mass. The rest of the elected leaders will be commissioned on 17th March.
5. Registration for pilgrimage to Israel is ongoing in the parish Office and the desk outside the Church.
6. Consolata Mountain Climbers will climb Mt Kilimanjaro from 22nd to 29th April to raise funds for Allamano Centre. Registration for climbers closes 3rd of much. Visit the desk outside for more information.
7. The Consolata Bankers group invite donations for cancer children in KNH. Kindly visit the desk outside the church or the parish office.
8. The Apostolate of Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration will hold a half day interactive Seminar on Saturday 9th, March from 9.30am to 1.30pm in the Parish Hall. All are welcome.

Next Friday 1st, March is the first Friday of the month. There will be a night vigil from 9pm and ends with Holy Mass at 5pm.

Next Sunday 3rd, the Rosary will be prayed in front of the Eucharist after the twelve o'clock Mass.