



**CONSOLATA SHRINE**  
**Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary**  
**Time C**  
**23rd October 2016**



**Before God**  
**We All Stand Empty-handed.**

**FIRST READING**

**Sirach 35:12c-14.16-18b**

*“The prayer of the humble pierces the clouds”*

**A reading from the Book of Sirach**

The Lord is the judge, and with him is no partiality. He will not show partiality in the case of a poor man; and he will listen to the prayer of one who is wronged. He will not ignore the supplication of the fatherless, nor the widow when she pours out her story. He whose service is pleasing to the Lord will be accepted, and his prayer will reach to the clouds. The prayer of the humble pierces the clouds, and he will not be consoled until it reached the Lord; he will not desist until the Most High visits him, and the just judge executes judgment. And the Lord will not delay, neither will he be patient with them.

*The word of the Lord*

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**Psalm 34:2-3.17-18.19 and 23**

**Response. The lowly one called, and the Lord heard him.**

I will bless the Lord at all times,  
praise of him is always in my mouth.  
In the Lord my soul shall make its boast;  
the humble shall hear and be glad. **(Response)**

The Lord turns his face against the wicked  
to destroy their remembrance from the earth.  
When the just cry out, the Lord hears,  
and rescues them in all their distress. **(Response)**

The *Lord* is close  
to the  
**BROKENHEARTED**  
He *saves* those who are  
**CRUSHED** in Spirit.  
*Psalm 34:18*

The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;  
those whose spirit is crushed he will save.  
The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants.  
All who trust in him shall not be condemned. **(Response)**

**SECOND READING**

**Timothy 4:6-8.16-18**

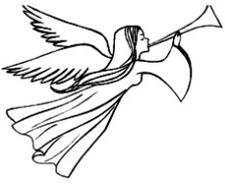
*“From now on there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness.”*

**A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy**

Beloved: I am already on the point of being sacrificed; the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

At my first defence no one took my part; all deserted me. May it not be charged against them! But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength to proclaim the word fully, that all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

*The word of the Lord*



## Alleluia

God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself,  
and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

## Alleluia



## GOSPEL

Luke 18:9-14

*“The publican went down to his house justified  
rather than the Pharisee.”*

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke**

At that time: Jesus told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and despised others: “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, I give tithes of all that I get.’

“But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast saying ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ “I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other, for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

*The Gospel of the Lord*



## REFLECTION

### THEME: NO FAVORITES

Jesus draws a blunt picture in today's Gospel.

The Pharisee's prayer is almost a parody of the thanksgiving psalms (see for example Psalms 30, 118). Instead of praising God for His mighty works, the Pharisee congratulates himself for his own deeds, which he presents to God in some detail.

The tax collector stands at a distance, too ashamed even to raise his eyes to God (see Ezra 9:6). He prays with a humble and contrite heart (see Psalm 51:19). He knows that before God no one is righteous, no one has cause to boast (see Romans 3:10; 4:2).

We see in the Liturgy today one of Scripture's abiding themes—that God “knows no favorites,” as today's First Reading tells us (see 2 Chronicles 19:7; Acts 10:34-35; Romans 2:11).

God cannot be bribed (see Deuteronomy 10:17). We cannot curry favor with Him or impress Him—even with our good deeds or our faithful observance of religious duties such as tithing and fasting.

If we try to exalt ourselves before the Lord, as the Pharisee does, we will be brought low (see Luke 1:52).

This should be a warning to us—not to take pride in our piety, not to slip into the self-righteousness of thinking that we're better than others, that we're “not like the rest of sinful humanity.”

If we clothe ourselves with humility (see 1 Peter 5:5-6)—recognize that all of us are sinners in need of His mercy—we will be exalted (see Proverbs 29:33).

The prayer of the lowly, the humble, pierces the clouds. Paul testifies to this in today's Epistle,

as He thanks the Lord for giving him strength during his imprisonment. Paul tells us what the Psalmist sings today—that the Lord redeems the lives of His humble servants.

We too must serve Him willingly. And He will hear us in our distress, deliver us from evil, and bring us safely to His heavenly kingdom.

Yours in Christ,

**Scott Hahn, Ph.D.**

### MISSIONARY PRAYER

God our Father,  
We thank you for the gift of faith,  
we recognize that it is a gift,  
to be cherished and shared.

We thank you for all the people, who  
share the love of God, through their lives  
and their word, who are nurturing and  
strengthening our faith.

We thank you for all men and women, who  
are ready to go until the ends of the world,

to share their talents in order, to promote  
communion, solidarity and human dignity.

Lord, give us strength, especially in this  
year dedicated to the Jubilee of Mercy to be  
true instruments

of bringing many to your Kingdom.

May your mercy enkindle in us,  
the willingness to witness.

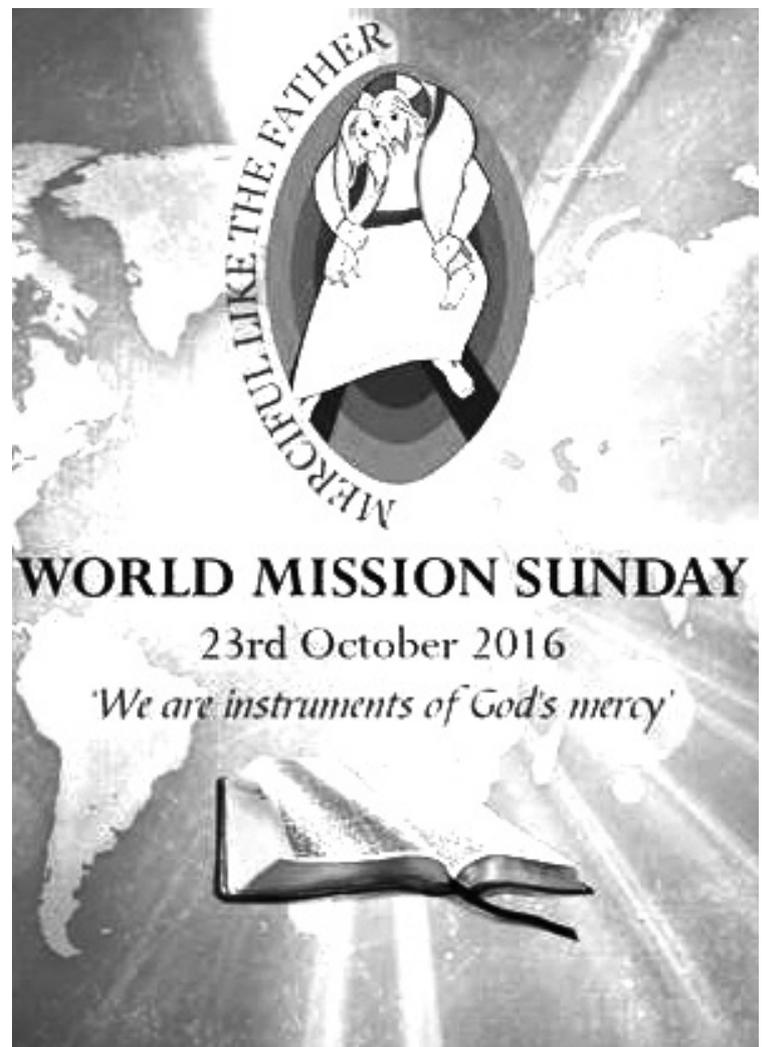
Bless our Holy Father, Bishops, Priests,  
Religious,

and all lay leaders who carry the  
responsibility of announcing the Good  
News.

May the Holy Spirit make our hearts  
burn with missionary zeal.

Grant this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

Blessed Virgin Mary, Star of Evangelization,  
pray for us.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Today as we celebrate **World Mission Sunday**, let us continue praying for missions all over the world. There is now a second collection which is sent to the Pope to assist in the missionary activity of the Church.
2. Today we will project the film "The Courage to Love" at 3pm in the Parish Hall.
3. Next Friday 28th, as part of the program of the Missionary Month, we will be showing the film "Bakanja", a film about Blessed Isidore Bakanja. He was a catechist in the DRC – Democratic Republic of Congo who was martyred for the sake of the gospel at 22 years of age. The film will be in the Parish Hall at 6.15pm
4. The Archdiocese of Nyeri has organized a series of events to celebrate the feast of Blessed Sister Irene Nyaatha among which there is a Mass and a commemoration event on Saturday 29th October at Nyeri. Parishioners who would like to attend are welcome to register outside the Church or in the Parish office during the week.
5. Next Saturday there will be a round table on the topic of Christian Style of Life, organized by the Ecumenical Movement. It will be at Our Lady Queen of Peace, South B, from 3pm to 5pm. For more information, please look at the posters outside the Church.
6. On Sunday 30th October, as part of the Family Life Series, there will be a talk and discussion on positive Godly family values. The talk, '**A LASTING FAMILY LEGACY**', given by Victor Salamba will be in the Parish Hall at 10.30am.
7. Next Sunday we will have the street boys offering the service of shoe-polishing.

### CONSOLATA SHRINE'S SHORT MESSAGE SERVICE (SMS)

Renewal, registration and verification of details for the Consolata Shrine's Short Message Service (SMS) will be done next Sunday at desks outside the Church after Masses. The service has enabled great sharing on the word of God, activities and events at the Shrine and other important notices for your information. Please visit the Parish Office for registration.

**Cost: Kshs 300/ year**

**Mpesa – Paybill no. 508702**

**Period: 2016 - October 2017**

**Account: your (first) name**

### CONSOLATA SHRINE ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Let's use social media to spread God's word.

Remember to "**follow**" and "**like**" us.

 **@ConsoShrine**    **Consolata Shrine, Westlands, Nairobi**

### DAILY READING

**Monday:** Eph 4:32 - 5:8; Ps 1; Lk 13:10-17

**Tuesday:** Eph 5:21-33; Ps 128; Lk 13:18-21

**Wednesday:** Eph 6:1-9; Ps 145; Lk 13:22-30

**Thursday:** Eph 6:10-20; Ps 144; Lk 13:31-35

**Friday:** 2:19-22; Ps 19; Lk 6:12-16

**Saturday:** Phil 1:18b-26; Ps 42; Lk 14:1.7-11

### 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**

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