



**CONSOLATA SHRINE**  
**Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary**  
**Time C**  
**30th October 2016**



**Those Who Are Themselves Loved  
Can Love Others.**

**FIRST READING**

**Wisdom 11:22-12:2**

*You are merciful to all, for you love all things that exist*

**A reading from the Book of Wisdom**

Lord, the whole world before you is like a speck that tips the scales, and like a drop of morning dew that falls upon the ground. But you are merciful to all, for you can do all things, and you overlook men's sins, that they may repent. For you love all things that exist, and you loathe none of the things which you have made; for you would not have made anything if you had hated it. How would anything have endured if you had not willed it? Or how would anything not called forth by you have been preserved? You spare all things, for they are yours, O Lord who love the living. For your immortal spirit is in all things. Therefore you correct little by little those who trespass, and remind and warn them of the things wherein they sin, that they may be freed from wickedness and put their trust in you, O Lord.

***The word of the Lord***

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**Psalm 145:1-2.8-9.10-11.13cd-14**

**Response. I will bless your name forever, my kind and my God.**



I will extol you, my God and king,  
and bless your name forever and ever.

I will bless you day after day,  
and praise your name forever and ever. **(Response)**

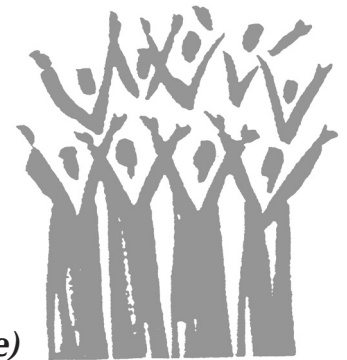
The Lord is kind and full of compassion,  
slow to anger, abounding in mercy.

How good is the Lord to all,  
compassionate to all his creatures. **(Response)**

All your works shall thank you,  
O Lord, and all your faithful ones bless you.  
They shall speak of the glory of your reign,  
and declare your mighty deeds. **(Response)**

The Lord is faithful in all his words,  
and holy in all his deeds.

The Lord supports all who fall,  
and raises up all who are bowed down. **(Response)**



**SECOND READING**

**2 Thessalonians 1:11-2:2**

***"The name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and you in him."***

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

Brethren: We always pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his call, and may fulfill every good resolve and work on faith by his power, so that the name of our Lord Jesus

may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ. Now concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our assembling to meet him, we beg you, brethren, not to be quickly shaken in mind or excited, either by spirit or by word, or by letter purporting to be from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come.

### ***The word of the Lord***



#### **Alleluia**

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,  
that whoever believes in him should have eternal life.

#### **Alleluia**



### **GOSPEL**

**Luke 19: 1-10**

***“The Son of man came to seek and to save the lost.”***

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



At that time: Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. And there was a man named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector, and rich. And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not, on account of the crowd, because he was small of stature. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, make haste and come down; for I must stay at your house today.” So he made haste and came down, and received him joyfully. And when they saw it they all murmured, “He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner.” And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, “Behold, Lord, the half of

my goods I give to the poor, and if I have defrauded any one of anything, I restore it fourfold.” And Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost.”

### ***The Gospel of the Lord***

#### **REFLECTION by Dennis Hamm, S.J.**

What is really going on here in the charming encounter between Jesus and the wealthy head tax collector, Zacchaeus? Is Jesus defending a rich guy who has been wrongly maligned by his neighbors? Or is Jesus inviting himself to dinner to create the occasion for a sinner to be converted from his wicked ways? Some commentators understand Jesus’ action to be a defense of a misunderstood tax collector because they take Zacchaeus’s words to be a defense of his way of life; since the Greek text of his words is actually in the present tense, they take it as a description of his way of life. To paraphrase what he says in the Greek, “I (regularly) give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I happen to extort somebody, I make it up fourfold.” Taken that way, the words imply behavior that is impossible. One cannot routinely give half of one’s possessions (e.g. 320 acres today, 260 tomorrow, 130 the next . . . which would lead to total divestment within a week!). As for regularly repaying fourfold for extortions, that implies the behavior of regularly extorting and then making it up with abundant restoration—and unlikely lifestyle indeed! No, the New American Bible translators have interpreted the present-tense verbs more sensibly--that is, in the way people use the present-tense to express a resolve—as in, “I’m giving up smoking.”

This interpretation is confirmed in Jesus' words, "Today salvation has come to this house because this man too is a descendant of Abraham. For the Son of Man has come to seek and save what was lost." Yes! Zacchaeus had been using his position as chief tax collector to exploit people; and his encounter with Jesus in this moment of hosting him in his home, has led to a profound change of heart, conversion. And how was he so easily led to this conversion? The tipoff was his surprising readiness to climb a tree to "see Jesus, who he is" (to translate literally). This is strikingly childlike behavior for a figure of some power in his town.

But Luke has provided a context for us to understand this properly. In his Gospel, we have just read in the prior chapter that "whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it (18:17). Then we read about a rich official who is blinded by his wealth, and finds himself unready to follow Jesus. Then Jesus heals a blind beggar who knows that he needs healing. Finally, in the story about Zacchaeus we meet another kind of rich man, one who is sufficiently childlike to scamper up a tree to see who Jesus is. His openness to the truth makes him ready to be healed of his blindness regarding his greed and his readiness to exploit others. This Gospel account calls us all to seek the truth with childlike openness, so that we are ready to encounter the Lord Jesus and respond to his surprising initiatives in our lives. He might invite himself to dinner.

### HYMN OF THE JUBILEE OF MERCY

**Misericordes sicut Pater!**  
**(Merciful like the Father) (x2)**

1. Give thanks to the Father, for He is good  
**in aeternum misericordia eius**  
**(His mercy is forever)**  
 He created the world with wisdom...  
 He leads His people throughout history...  
 He pardons and welcomes His children...
2. Give thanks to the Son, Light of the Nations...  
 He loved us with a heart of flesh...  
 As we receive from Him, let us also give to Him...  
 Hearts open to those who hunger and thirst...
3. Let us ask the Spirit for the seven holy gifts  
 Fount of all goodness and the sweetest relief  
 Comforted by Him, let us offer comfort...  
 Love hopes and bears all things...
4. Let us ask for peace from the God of all peace...  
 The earth waits for the Good News of the Kingdom...  
 Joy and pardon in the hearts of the little ones...  
 The heavens and the earth will be renewed...

**PRAYER FOR THE YEAR OF JUBILEE OF MERCY**

Lord Jesus Christ,  
 you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father,  
 and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him.  
 Show us your face and we will be saved.  
 Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew from being enslaved by money;  
 the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking happiness only in created things;  
 made Peter weep after his betrayal,  
 and assured Paradise to the repentant thief.  
 Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us,  
 the words that you spoke to the Samaritan woman:  
 "If you knew the gift of God!"  
 You are the visible face of the invisible Father,  
 of the God who manifests his power above all by forgiveness and mercy:  
 let the Church be your visible face in the world,  
 its Lord risen and glorified.  
 You willed that your ministers would also be clothed in weakness  
 in order that they may feel compassion for those in ignorance and error:  
 let everyone who approaches them feel sought after, loved, and forgiven by God.  
 Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing,  
 so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord,  
 and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may

bring good news to the poor,  
proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed,  
and restore sight to the blind.  
We ask this of you, Lord Jesus, through the

intercession of Mary, Mother of  
Mercy; you who live and reign with the Father  
and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. As part of the Family Life Series, today at 10.30am there is 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.
2. Today we will project the film "Bakanja" at 3pm in the Parish Hall.
3. Today we shall celebrate mass for all departed soul at Langata cemetery at 3.pm
4. Next Sunday being the first Sunday of the month there is the second collection of St Vincent de Paul to assist the needy of the parish.
5. Next Sunday also, we will have the Rosary being prayed in front of the Eucharist after the twelve o'clock Mass.
6. PEA Committee invites all parishioners to the ANNUAL SPECIAL EUCHARISTIC RETREAT to be held on Saturday 12th November, 2016 in the parish Hall from 9.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. The facilitator will be Rev Sr Cecily Goliath of the Sacramentine Sisters of Bergamo. All are warmly welcome.
7. Charities committee appreciate your donation and presence at Karura forest during Upendo Day on 22nd October. It was a remarkable event. Thank you.
8. Next Friday is first Friday of the month. Vigil of prayer and adoration in honor to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Immaculate Heart of Mary starts at 9pm and ends with mass at 5am.
9. The parish is organizing a holiday camp at Consolata Shrine for the youth of age 4 to 16 year, on 8th - 26th November. Activities includes formation talks, basic life skills, indoor and outdoor games. Please registrar at the parish office during the week and for more details will be announced next weekend.

### WEEKLY MEETING

- Ecumenism meeting on Monday 31st, at 6.15pm
- PEA committee on Tuesday 1st November after the evening Rosary.
- Liturgy Committee on Wednesday 2nd, at 12.30pm.

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

Renewal, registration and verification of details for the Consolata Shrine's Short Message Service (SMS) is being done 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**

### DAILY READING

**Monday:** Phil 2:1-4; Ps 131; Lk 14:12-14

**Tuesday:** Rv 7:2-4,9-14; Ps 23; 1 Jn Mt 5:1-12

**Wednesday:** All Souls, or Dan 12:1-3 Ps 23;  
Mt 5:1-12a

**Thursday:** Phil 3:3-8; Ps 105; Lk 15:1-10

**Friday:** Phil 3:17 - 4:1; Ps 122; Lk 16:1-8

**Saturday:** Phil 4:10-19; Ps 112; Lk 16:9-15

### 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**

**Parish Website:** [www.consolatashrine.org](http://www.consolatashrine.org) • **Parish E-Mail:** [info@consolatashrine.org](mailto:info@consolatashrine.org)

**Parish Priest's E-Mail:** [parishpriest@consolatashrine.org](mailto:parishpriest@consolatashrine.org)

Parish Mpesa Business Number: **508702** • P.O. Box **14930 - Nairobi** • Cell Phone: **0722 615 105**