

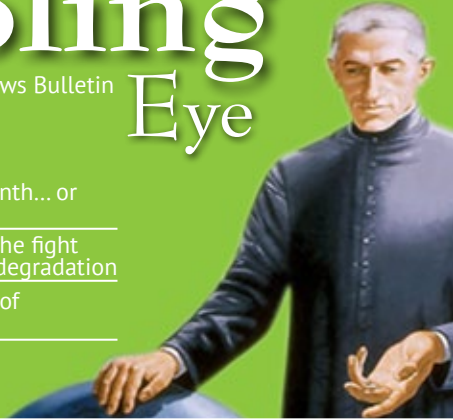
October 2016

# The Consoling Eye

Consolata Shrine Parish Monthly News Bulletin



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## WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

23rd October 2016

*'We are instruments of God's mercy'*



Consolata Shrine, Westlands, Nairobi



@ConsoShrine

# Happy Feast! Happy Month... or better... Blessed month!

**Dear parishioners,  
May the Consolation we receive from God, in  
Jesus Christ through Our Lady be with you all!**

My friends... I know... it is not the first time... but in a special way, today I tell you all... Happy Feast! Happy Month... or better... Blessed month!

I know... we have already started it, but it is never late! Usually in this month... we receive greetings about the Month of the Rosary. It is true, given that on 7th October we celebrated Our Lady of the Rosary. For us, being a Marian Shrine, we are happy to celebrate that event.

However, there is something else that we celebrate this month... Missionaries Why? The month is marked by the memorial of St Theresa of the Child Jesus on 1st October. St. Therese recognized her vocation as love, the Church then, proclaimed her, together with

St Francis Xavier, the patroness and patron of missions respectively.

It is a feast that does not belong only to us Consolata Missionaries, or to a group of Missionaries. It is a feast that belongs to the whole Church!

But do you know that the World Mission Day is a result of the inspiration of Blessed Joseph Allamano, the founder of the Consolata Missionaries?

In 1912 he led a petition to the Pope to establish a World Mission Day to encourage all members of the Church (including the "numb" hierarchy) to be more conscious of their call to serve the missions and bring the good news to all peoples. The Great War intervened, however, and the idea was not pursued. In the meantime, Fr. Allamano continued his saintly support and care for

the Consolata missionaries and the people they served. Fr Joseph Allamano died on 16 February 1926 at Turin, Italy. A year later Pius XI proclaimed World Mission Day in the Church.

As we have benefited from the work of many missionaries throughout the country, it is beautiful to see today many Africans, as a matter of fact many Kenyans not just receiving the awakening call to their faith, but already going out of this country to share it with others in the rest of the world, responding to the call "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations". And we know that as St John Paul II would say, Faith is strengthened when we share it.

We must give thanks for the gift of Faith that we have received from God, as we give thanks also for and to all those who in one way or another helped and help us to grow in faith. For example, our parents, catechists, Father or person who baptized us, our godparents, priests from whom we receive other sacraments or a word of consolation and strength. Please, pause for a while, think on them and thank God for them!

In our Pastoral Plan this year, we remember Mary who, merciful like the Father, "run in haste to the hill country" to visit her cousin Elizabeth. For that reason, we should ask ourselves, what am I doing so to go out and proclaim the Good News of God's love, of God's Mercy? Some might already be engaged elsewhere, and it might be difficult to move beyond the frontiers, but there are

people who have made that fundamental choice.

Now... have you ever thought how you can become a better missionary? Remember that missionary life belongs to all Christians in one way or another. Have you thought of going out of your own land to proclaim the Gospel to other people? If you are young... give it a thought!

Also as a lay person, or if you are a couple you may share in a special way the missionary vocation and be ready either to go out or to support in different ways the missionary activity of the Church.

But as I pen off... Let us remember a couple of events that have happened in our community: A Fire break out in Deep Sea slum on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September left 460 families homeless; and on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October early morning hooligans destroyed some houses in Maasai Village, another slum that is part of our Parish, injuring a few people.

In the midst of all these... how can we also be better missionaries of love, hope and faith?

Asking God's blessings upon us all I wish you a really blessed month appropriate for getting out of our comfort zones, as Pope Francis reminds us constantly!!!! **CE**

**Fr Daniel Berteau  
Parish Priest**

## Pope's Prayers Intentions for October 2016

### General intention: Journalists

That journalists, in carrying out their work, may always be motivated by respect for truth and a strong sense of ethics.

### Evangelization: World Mission Day

That World Mission Day may renew within all Christian communities the joy of the Gospel and the responsibility to announce it.





## Catholics must lead in the fight against environmental degradation

The June, 2015 encyclical letter titled, *Laudato Si' of the Holy Father Francis on Care of our Common Home*, opened a new chapter in the communications and doctrinal direction of the Catholic church. The encyclical, which is taken from a canticle by Saint Francis of Assisi (the Patron Saint of animals and the natural environment) deals exclusively with the here-and-now of our lives on earth, and the major responsibility that humankind must bear in preserving nature.



Chief Guest Westlands MP Hon Tim Wanyonyi gives his key note address before flagging off the clean-up exercise

The encyclical was published with the hope of entering "into dialogue with all people about our common home." Indeed, the Pope laments that "Our Sister, Mother Earth" is now crying out because of the way we humans have harmed her. Just like our own biological mothers, who give birth to us, feed us, clothe us and love us, it is from Mother Earth that we get our sustenance.

She loves us and provides for us by giving us light, food, flora and fauna, water, shelter and fresh air, all free-of-charge. In Kenya, for instance, we are blessed with breath-taking scenic beauty such as majestic mountains, beautiful white sandy beaches, forests rich in biodiversity, rich bird-life, wildlife and the Great Rift Valley, among other marvels of nature. We have been blessed a beautiful, natural green environment.

In response to the Pope's call for Catholics, and humanity as a whole to be custodians of the environment, the Justice and Peace Committee (JPC) invited one of the writers of this article, an environmental expert, to give a talk on the environment at Consolata Shrine. The article is informed greatly by her presentation. Further, in partnership with the Centre for Climate Change Awareness (CCCA), JPC organised a clean-up exercise on 8<sup>th</sup> October.

The event involved mainly the picking of litter and clearing of drainage on Waiyaki Way from Kempinski Hotel to Westlands' central business district. The occasion was held as part of JPC's Works of Mercy, and in observing the UN's World Habitat Day that usually takes place every year on the first Monday of October. Main sponsors included Kempinski Hotel, the Coca Cola Company and Westlands MP Hon. Tim Wanyonyi. The Consolata Youth Rehabilitation Programme and CCCA are now planning for a similar exercise at the Deep Sea slums in December.

Now, do we the children of Mother Earth appreciate her blessings, or do we take them for granted? Do we return nature's kindness by taking care of her the way she takes care of us? Let us

look at a sample of what the Bible says about the environment.

Genesis 2: 15 "The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and keep it". This is element of custodianship.

Genesis 1:26 "Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth".

Man was given dominion over all creatures on earth. But with this authority comes great responsibility.

Jeremiah 2:7 "And I brought you into a plentiful land to enjoy its fruits and its good things.

But when you came in, you defiled my land and made my heritage an abomination". This refers to the earth's provisions. However, just like in modern times, there was lack of appreciation and care for the land.

Leviticus 25: 23 "The land, moreover, shall not be sold permanently, for the land is Mine; for you are but aliens and sojourners with Me". Our life on earth is transitory and, therefore, we should live it better than we found it. We should not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

*Laudato Si'* is a call for all of us to be responsible citizens of the earth, both individually and collectively. At a personal level, we usually think that what we can do is negligible. However, cumulatively the impact of our individual actions is huge. These include things like proper waste

management through actions like segregation and recycling, conserving energy by adapting green habits and technologies, and conserving water by using just the necessary amount for a given task.

Governments can, through environmental authorities like the National Environment Management Agency (NEMA), enforce laws for the protection of the environment. In addition, Governments can enact national laws as well as ratify international protocols such as the Kyoto Protocol on reduction of greenhouse gases and the United Nations Convention on Climate Change, which seek to arrest and/or reverse the effects of climate change.

As the late environmentalist and Nobel laureate cautioned us, nature is unforgiving. If we fail to take care of the environment, we are going to pay a very high price particularly from the twin problems of global warming and climate change. In the spirit of true Christianity, let us be each other's keeper by ensuring we do not in a manner that threatens life on earth, now and forever more! **CE**

Written by Stephen Ndegwa, Executive Director, CCCA and Ms. Elizabeth Wachira, Environmental Consultant, NEMA.

[www.centreforccla.org](http://www.centreforccla.org)

[www.nema.or.ke](http://www.nema.or.ke)





# Message of Pope Francis for World Mission Day 2016

*'Missionary Church, Witness of Mercy.'*

As part of our experience of the Special Jubilee of Mercy, Pope Francis invites us to celebrate this 90<sup>th</sup> Mission Sunday proclaiming **Mercy**. All of us are reminded of our individual missionary obligations: no-one is exempt. We are asked to consider our mission to the people of God as *'an immense and great work of mercy, both spiritual and material. We are invited to "go out" as missionary disciples, each generously offering their talents, creativity, wisdom and experience in order to bring God's tenderness and compassion to the whole world.'* This is because there are places where the Gospel is unknown. How are these people to be saved and experience God's love, if we do not act? The Church *'is commissioned to announce the Mercy of God, the beating heart of the Gospel, and to proclaim Mercy in every corner of the world, reaching both young and old.'*

How can we proclaim what we do not understand? The Holy Father reveals the power of mercy. It is through mercy that we can begin to understanding the loving heart of Almighty God. *'When mercy encounters a person, it brings deep joy to the Father's heart, for from the beginning the Father has lovingly turned towards the most vulnerable because his greatness and power are revealed precisely in his capacity to identify with the young, the*

*marginalised and the oppressed.(Deut 4:30; Ps 80:15; 103:8; 111:4).* We too can be a source of joy to the heart of God when we turn towards those in need.

Pope Francis gives us another view of mercy. He tells us that *'when speaking of the womb, the Bible uses the word that signifies mercy: therefore it refers to the mother's love for her children, whom she will always love, in every circumstance and regardless of what happens, because they are the fruit of her womb. This is also an essential aspect of the love God has for all his children...his heart is overcome by compassion.'* Mercy is more than great love manifested in action. It is a force which is as difficult to quantify as a mother's love for children.

Mercy has another revelation. The Word was made flesh in Our Lord Jesus. He is also *'the most noble and complete expression of Mercy... When we welcome and follow Jesus by means of the Gospel and the sacraments, we can, with the help of the Holy Spirit become merciful as our heavenly father is merciful: we can learn to love as he loves us and make our lives a free gift, a sign of his goodness.'* The Holy Father is reminding us that *'Jesus reveals the face of the Father who is rich in Mercy.'* The Church is sustained by the merciful love of Jesus. *'It is*



*through this love that the Church discovers its mandate, lives it and it makes it known to all peoples through respectful dialogue with every culture and religious belief.'* We cannot be effective missionaries of mercy without Jesus.

Having talked about mercy, Pope Francis again emphasised the need for all us to be involved in spreading the Gospel. There is a task awaiting each of us in the missionary field. The work is not for men alone. *'Women, lay and religious, and today even many families carry out their missionary vocation in various forms from announcing the Gospel to charitable services.'* This group has special qualities to offer: *'women and families more adequately understand the people's problems and how to deal with them in an appropriate and, at times, fresh way.'*

How are we to evangelise? We must have the patience to educate the potential Christians. In such cases *'The Church may be defined as "mother" for those who will one day come to faith in Christ.'* The Holy Father hopes that we shall *'continue to exercise this maternal service of mercy, which helps those who do not yet know the Lord to encounter and love him.'*

In addition *'the disciples of Jesus need to have a love without limits; the same measure of love that Our Lord has for all people.'*

*'All people and cultures have the right to receive the message of salvation which is God's gift to every person.'* This is even more important in a world with many *'injustices, wars and humanitarian crises still in need of resolution.'*

Pope Francis wants us to *'hear the call to a renewed missionary "impulse".'* He quoted from his previous apostolic document, *'The Joy of the Gospel'*: *'Each Christian and every community must discern the path that the Lord points out, but all of us are asked to obey his call to go forth from our own comfort zone in order to reach all the "peripheries" in need of the light of the Gospel.'*

In conclusion, the Holy Father calls upon *'Holy Mary, the model of missionaries of the Church, to teach us "to foster and safeguard the living presence of the Risen Lord".'* It is he who renews us and fills all with joyful mercy. **CE**

**Christian Education Committee**



# Missionary Life

## – by Deacon Bernardo Kim



Deacon Bernado Kim Photo/Eric

When it comes to one's calling in life we can take many paths, but God has a plan for each and every one of us and if we trust in him we will find out calling. My name is Bernardo Kim and this is my story of my journey into missionary life.

On the 9<sup>th</sup> of July 2016 in Sagana, I took the 1<sup>st</sup> profession and thereafter on the 8<sup>th</sup> of August was appointed to the Consolata Shrine as an Assistant Deacon. Since my journey brought me here, I have interacted with the parishioners here and have noted how active and prayerful they are, it is in light of these wonderful qualities I want to say Jambo Consolata parishioners and greet you with the words, "Happy Missionary Month".

Let's go to the beginning when my missionary journey began, in 2005 I entered the seminary at Busan Diocese and stayed at the seminary for 7 years.

In December 2011 I was ordained as a deacon and continued to live at the seminary happy and content but I had a greater desire which I could not understand.

After completing high school, I joined a university and upon completing my first year there it was time to go to the army (In Korea, military service is an obligation for men).

During this time, men agonize about future a lot and I also agonized about my future, at that time I was specializing in Korean literature in the university and therefore thought that I would finish my studies and then look for a job. Alas my plan was not realized because when I finished military service my parish priest advised me to go to the seminary. The following year I completed my courses and gained entrance into the seminary.

My seminary life was exciting with my classmates but deep in my heart I could feel

that something was not clear. To be honest I lived without being concerned about it and after 6 years I was ordained as a deacon.

I dreamed and tried to imagine what kind of the pastor I would become, I imagined going into the countryside and reaching out to the poor while working with the parishioners during the day.

Sometimes driving a small bus to pick up people for mass and after mass we cook and take supper together.

This is an unpopular situation in Korea where almost of all areas have already become urbanized. This difference between reality and ideal discomfited me. But this thing which fluctuated in my heart was still there. It made me to consider becoming a priest and I was advised by my formator and spiritual directors. After that, I decided to quit the seminary to soul-search.

While I stayed at home, I could listen to the inspiration in my heart. And I realized that my dream that I had had before I entered the seminary, was that of a religious life. One day, I met my classmates. While I was sharing my worry and thinking, one of them told me that I was best suited for missions in other counties since I was in the first year in the seminary. When I heard that, I realized what I had wanted before. So I was convinced that,

that something I desired in my heart was religious life and missionary life. After that, I searched missionary congregations, and I found Consolata I contacted them and Korea Consolata community decided to accept me.

If someone asks me why I decided to become a missionary, then my answer is that I do not know, it was an inspiration which formed in my heart. But something fluctuated in me as I said above, and that action which followed was a desire from my heart. This is my missionary vocation and signpost of my life.

In fact, basically, all Christians are missionaries. Especially, you, who serve for the parish from the faith which is moving in your heart, and do act for the society and neighbor from your faith and heart, are living a missionary life. So I greet you "Happy Missionary Month".

Dear brothers and sisters, we are in the missionary month. While I was writing this article, I made a resolution about my missionary life anew. And I pray that you, all parishioners of the Consolata Shrine, are also able to live missionary life which proclaim Jesus in a new light. **CE**

**Be blessed.**

**Deacon Bernardo Kim**  
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Visit: [www.consolatashrine.org](http://www.consolatashrine.org)

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As we enter into missionary month, we should be made to understand that we are all called to evangelize for the Glory of God.

The communications committee is one arm of the Consolata Shrine Nairobi that tries to evangelize in many ways, it is in light of this the decision to revamp one part of the digital platform took place.

With the launch of a new web presence the site presented features such as updated live news feeds to discuss Catholic affairs around the world, online publications, photo gallery, daily readings, daily reflections and more.

New features will be added in the near future but the main objective is to keep the parishioners updated on as many Catholic matters as possible.

Log on to [www.consolatashrine.org](http://www.consolatashrine.org) and get enlightened.





Pictures courtesy of Eric Fernandes



Unveiling of the original replica of the Holy Shroud that is kept in Turin, Italy - 18 September 2016.

During the unveiling Fr. Daniel blessed the replica with Holy Water and Incense. The Holy Shroud replica will provide a source of allowing parishioners to meditate and reflect on what Jesus went through for us, it will also increase our faith for when we see the shroud we know that the Lord rose from the dead to give us eternal life.



Houses burned down in Deep Sea on 24th September and 460 families were left homeless.



Celebrating the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows - 15 September 2016.



PMC at Conclusions of Missionary Rosary at St Austin's Parish on 9th Oct.



I&M Bank recognizing the work that the Parish is doing in Deep Sea, on 7th October donated 60 blankets for the needy. Thank you!



CWA members ready to go for choir competition on Saturday 8th October



Parishioners celebrated the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lady at Consolata Shrine on 10th September.

Partial demolition of Maasai Village on 4th October by unknown people. There has been an ongoing court case.





## Reflections – Subukia Shrine

My soul glorifies the Lord my God. It was the time when I felt the presence of our good Lord through our mother Mary of Subukia. It was my third time to visit that Holy place with the Consolata Shrine parishioners as a



Consolata Shrine parishioners on the Way of Cross at the Subukia Shrine on 20th August.

and when I reached there, I really felt the presence of mother Mary who looked at us with eyes of love and joy, and listened to all what we asked her to grant unto us.

As Kenyans, we are blessed to have such a place where we can get many graces that strengthen our faith at all times. Such pilgrimages helps us to strengthen our faith since in this world we are living today we need to walk together as Christians in order to reach where our good Lord wants us to reach especially in this year of Mercy.

God is expecting us to celebrate His mercy in a humble way in ourselves, to our Neighbours, and to the whole world. We are invited to show mercy and to be merciful to

all people without limit. I thank all the parishioners who accompanied us to Subukia for prayers and worship.

Though we were tired of climbing the mountain, that did not make us lose hope but to

strengthen and deepen our faith more for we compared it with the journey of Jesus Christ carrying the heavy cross to the place of His crucifixion, Golgotha. Let us join together, pray for each other so we may all strengthen and live our faith and the teachings of the Holy Catholic Church especially in this year of mercy.

May we also learn to follow our Lord Jesus Christ with love, joy and Humility. May our mother Mary intercede for us so that we may receive more graces in our families, communities, in our Church and in the whole world at large. **CE**

**By Sr. Lucy Ndanu,  
Ivrea Sisters**

## Europe pilgrimage



Consolata Shrine pilgrims at St Francis, Assisi, Italy.

### Pilgrims' testimonies

The Parish organized a pilgrimage to Europe on 3<sup>rd</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> September. The first stop was at the Vatican, for the canonization (proclamation to sainthood) of Mother Teresa in St Peter's square. Thereafter, the pilgrims visited parts of Italy such as Assisi, the home town of St Francis; Turin, the place of Blessed Joseph Allamano and the Consolata Shrine.

The pilgrims then travelled to Lourdes in France, where we followed the footsteps of St Bernadette; then we went Spain, visiting Loyola –the land of St Ignatius- and to Avila, – home to St Theresa of Avila. The last part of the



Our Lady Consolata Shrine, Turin, Italy

pilgrimage was in Fatima, Portugal, where we also prayed at the tomb of Lucia, Jacinta and Francisco.

### Here are some testimonies from the pilgrims

- ✓ I thank God for giving me this opportunity to visit all these godly places. I have grown in Faith.
- ✓ Fatima calls me to daily conversion
- ✓ Lourdes enriched my spiritual revival
- ✓ We had strong spiritual leaders and my spiritual curiosity was re-kindled
- ✓ It enriched me spiritually. The places selected for us to visit were excellent. I loved Lourdes the most!
- ✓ It is difficult to describe in few words but the words that come to my mind are: emotional, challenging, liberating, peaceful
- ✓ It was beautiful with all the blessings and communion with others especially during mass. The daily recitation of the rosary was nice.
- ✓ It was for me a time to forget my "laziness" and find my being
- ✓ It was a time of reflection and meditation, though it was not enough
- ✓ It was a spiritual transformation by looking closely at the sacrifices made by the saints and devoted men and women of God
- ✓ It has been a journey of faith. Fatima was the climax... I wish we had more time to pray in every Basilica.
- ✓ I hope to put to use what I learnt for betterment of self and society.
- ✓ It was a turning point in my spiritual life
- ✓ I believe that I am converted and I have



- started a journey of faith
- ✓ It strengthened my faith through prayers.
- ✓ A powerful journey of faith. A great pilgrimage for all Catholics!
- ✓ Words cannot express what my soul has experienced... It is possible to change the world with love to heal souls and I pray that I make a difference and be an instrument of God's will.
- ✓ I just cannot express my feelings
- ✓ It has been inspiring from the works of those who have gone ahead of us especially St Mother Theresa. It helped me to make clear what was not clear about the religious sites and notable personalities.
- ✓ I noted how the spirit of Mary is still alive in the whole world!
- ✓ The climax was learning about the saints. This pilgrimage made me feel that I need to work on my spiritual life and to honor Mother Mary more.
- ✓ I realized that humility and love, especially towards the poor, are the virtues of all the saints. As Christians we should imitate and live in humility and love. I witnessed and experienced the presence of our Mother Mary in the whole pilgrimage.
- ✓ I have learnt the value of patience during prayer
- ✓ I learnt a lot about my Catholic faith. I pray and hope to spread and share what I have learnt to other people, especially in actions.



Our Lady of Lourdes, France

- ✓ Mother Theresa's canonization was a call to humility in service of God and His people. Visiting the tombs of great Saints (Peter, Francis, Clare, Ignatius, Theresa...) and Blessed Allamano enkindled the spirit to struggle each day to live my faith better and join them in heaven one day.
- ✓ It was a moment of inner reflection and mediation on my relation with God. I experienced a lot of His love and mercy.
- ✓ It was uplifting and edifying for both mind and spirit... The shroud of Turin is spectacular and defies human explanation. The visit to the Consolata houses and Shrine made me appreciate the Blessed Giuseppe Allamano better.
- ✓ How much my own faith has grown in the last two weeks! I will never forget this blessed experience!
- ✓ I have learned humility and that helping the poor is the key to open the door to heaven
- ✓ It was a time of renewal and re-focusing on my spiritual goals.
- ✓ I learned the importance of being open and ready to do God's will. God can then do great things through you by the help of his grace. **CE**



Canonization of Mother Teresa of Calcutta at St Peter's Square, Vatican

## The Month of October is the Month of the Most Holy Rosary

The month of October is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary. This is primarily due to the fact that the liturgical feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated annually on October 7. It was instituted to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary in gratitude for the protection that She gives the Church in answer to the praying of the Rosary by the faithful.



Our Lady of the Holy Rosary

The feast was introduced by Pope St. Pius V (1504-1572) in the year 1571, to commemorate the miraculous victory of the Christian forces in the battle of Lepanto on October 7, 1571. The Pope attributed it more to the "arms" of the Rosary than to the power of Cannons and the Valor of the soldiers who fought there.

Legend tells us that the Rosary as a form of prayer was given to St Dominic (1170-1221) by Mary, the Mother of Our Lord, who entrusted it to him as an aide in the conflicts with the Albigensians. The Dominican Pope, St. Pius V, did much to further the spread of the Rosary and it thereafter became one

of the most popular Devotions in the Christendom. It was the same Pope St. Pius V, who in 1569 officially approved the Rosary in its present form with the Papal Bull, *Consueverunt Romani Pontifices*. It had been completed by the addition of the second half of the Hail Mary and the "Glory be to the Father" at the conclusion of each mystery.

Middle Ages where it came into being in various mediaval

monasteries as a substitute for the Divine Office for the lay monks and devout lay persons who did not know how to read, instead of the 150 psalms, they would pray 150 "Our Father", counting them on a string of beads known as the crown or "Corona" with the growth of popularity of Marian devotion in the twelfth century, the "Psalter of the Blessed Virgin Mary" developed, now substituting 150 "Hail Marys" in place of the "Our Father".

The 150 "Hail Marys" were subsequently subdivided into fifteen decades by the young



Dominican friary, Henry Kalkar (1328- 1408), with each decade referring to an event in the life of Jesus and Mary. The Dominican, Alanus de Rlyze (1428-1478), further divided the episodes in the history of Salvation into Joyful, Sorrowful and Glorious mysteries. He also attributed the origin of the Rosary, then known as the "Psalter of the Blessed Virgin" to St. Dominic and thus spurred the Dominican Order to make the Apostolate of the Rosary their special concern. The Dominicans have since then, promulgated the Rosary with notable results.

The practice of dedicating the entire month of October to the Holy Rosary developed toward the end of the last century. Pope Leo XII (Papacy 1878- 1903) strongly promoted the increase of devotion to the Blessed Mother by encouraging the constant use of the Rosary.

Beginning on September 1, 1883, with Supreme Apostolatus Officio, he wrote a total of eleven encyclicals on the Rosary, ending with Diuturni Temporis in 1898. We are currently celebrating the centennial of these papal encyclicals.

Many other Popes have contributed to help increase devotion to the Rosary by their writings. In the recent past, Pope Paul VI (Papacy 1963- 1978) devoted the last section of his Apostolic Exhortation Marialis Cultus to the Angelus and the Rosary (MC 40-55). In this document, he wrote that the Rosary retains an unaltered value and intact freshness. (MC.41). The Rosary is primarily a scriptural prayer. This can be

summarized by the traditional phrase used by Pope Pius XI (Papacy 1939-1958), that the Rosary is "a compendium of the entire Gospels" (AAS 38(1946) p419). The Rosary draws its mysteries from the New Testament and is centered on the great events of the incarnation and redemption.

St John Paul II called the Rosary his favorite prayer, in which we meditate with Mary upon the mysteries which She as a Mother meditated on in her heart (Lk. 2: 19) (Ossertore Romano, 44, 30 Oct. 1979) St. John Paul II also instituted the new Mysteries of the Light. In this month of October, let us consider this beautiful prayer of the Rosary as a means that we too can use in order to draw closer to Jesus and Mary by meditating on the great mysteries of Our Salvation.

We could also consider participating in the activities of the Rosary Group in our Parish, there are many favors to be derived from the participation.

Let us all honor Our Lady of the Rosary by our participation in the prayers of the Rosary both in public and in private. **CE**

#### Sources:

- 1) International Marian Institute, University of Dayton, Dayton Ohio, USA.
- 2) [www.therosary.org](http://www.therosary.org)

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## I am a Living Testimony of God's Divine Mercy

Jane Frances Angalia – Breast Cancer Victor

In August 2014, I was diagnosed with stage 3B breast cancer while being treated for other ailments. To say I was devastated is an understatement! After this prognosis, I went straight to the Adoration Chapel at Consolata Shrine, and being the first Friday of the month, I decided to stay and attend the overnight prayers dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. While in the church premises, I met Fr. Daniel Berteza, the Parish Priest, with whom I shared the devastating news. He arranged for Fr. Francis Viotto to pray for and bless me the next morning immediately after the night vigil. It is my firm belief that those prayers, anointing and blessings from Fr Viotto gave me unique grace to stoically face the long cancer treatment journey that lay ahead of me.

After this, I received overwhelming support in various forms from innumerable people and teams to facilitate immediate commencement of treatment which was lengthy and involved 4 phases. During this period, I joined the Faraja support group at Cancer Care providing me an opportunity to interact with other cancer patients and care-givers. This triggered a desire in me to reach out to other cancer patients who did not have the privilege or energy to join such a support system, birthing my cancer advocacy



Jane Frances of Consolata Shrine receives Blessings from Pope Francis.

initiatives through home and hospital visits, radio, TV and newspapers interviews and presentations, which I still do whenever I am well enough, to create awareness for prevention is better than cure. Unfortunately, since my diagnosis in August 2014, I know and have witnessed many succumb to this illness including my loved ones like my beloved 70-year-old mother, who had lost her own mother and uncle to the same. I am forever grateful that the Lord has blessed and kept me.



It is now just over two years since that morning of healing and it has been well. While this is a joy I celebrate every single day, I continue to recuperate and still undergo a number of necessary tests and treatments to ensure I regain my full health. On 2nd January 2016, with great joy and together with family & friends, I celebrated my golden jubilee of life, relishing the mercies of God upon my life, especially giving a life of freedom from cancer malignancy in the tumors. In 2017, I am scheduled for more tests to determine my future treatment and road to recovery.

When Pope Francis visited the country in November 2015, despite my strong desire to attend the Holy Mass at the UON grounds, the odds were against me due to my medical condition. However, all was not lost as I miraculously managed to meet, greet and gift the Pope with His own Penciled Portrait at the Apostolic Nuncio. He in turn blessed and prayed over my illness, and gave me a rosary. I felt an overwhelming sense of confidence in Christ's gift of total healing, *"Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease"* (Mark 5:34).

This cancer healing journey would not have been possible without the immense love and tireless support of family, friends, alumnae, Consolata Shrine community, Our Lady of Fatima Jumuyi (SCC), St. Jude's chapel community, Deogratias Chama group, CATSI, Loreto Sisters and Parklands Baptist Church to mention but just a few. I am forever indebted to all of you, and may the Lord bless

you abundantly for your immense kindness and generosity!

Last but not least, I have journeyed far in faith and trust in God. My interactions with the Church, God's servants and ordinary people have played a great role in providing me with spiritual nourishment and encouragement. To all who may need a shoulder to lean on in such a tough journey that you or your family or friends may be undergoing, I am just a call a way, "acallaway"!

I share this personal journey publicly so that my experience may enlighten others on prevention, treatment and encouragement to soldier on. Through this cancer journey I have witnessed God's immense love and divine mercy.

Thank you Jesus for daily assuring me of your immense love and mercy!

You have Blessed me so that I Bless others. Give me the strength to be faithful!

Jesus, I trust in you! **CE**

For more details, kindly visit this link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NMEe4wZz9iw>

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## OCTOBER: THE MISSIONARY MONTH

We are all called to be missionaries! Hence, all children, below the age of fourteen years, are expected to be members of the **Pontifical Missionary Childhood (PMC)**, also known as **The Holy Childhood**. This organization is all over the world and is under the care of the Holy Father (i.e. Pontifical).



In 1843 a French Bishop, Charles de Forbin Jansen created the PMC.

He was upset about the lives of the children in China. They were suffering from poverty and had no knowledge of a loving God. The Bishop was also very concerned about the children of France. At that time the Church was unpopular with the Government and people were not going to church. This meant the French children, although they had food to eat, did not know God either! The PMC was formed to help the children in both countries.

The PMC are called to perform two important tasks to:

- Pray for the suffering children in the world and
- Make small sacrifices by saving money to give to children who have less than themselves.

All this is summarized by the PMC motto: **'CHILDREN HELPING CHILDREN'**

This motto is at the centre of the PMC flag and is represented by an image of two small children holding hands.

The flag has the four PMC colours:

- White - the **PURITY** of children.
- Yellow - the **MATURING** of children as they grow (like the Child Jesus) loved by the people and God.
- Black - the people of **AFRICA** and
- Red - the **ZEAL** of the PMC to spread the **GOSPEL** like the martyrs.

Find out more about the PMC by attending meetings in the Parish Hall at 2pm - 5pm every Saturday. During the school holidays there are formation talks, Bible Studies, trips and preparation for the commissioning of new members.



On 23rd October this year the Church will celebrate Mission Sunday. This year the theme is in line with the **Special Jubilee of Mercy: MERCY changes the WORLD.**





It is a special day for all PMC members. They are asked to remember to tell other children about the **MERCIFUL Jesus Christ**. This is the mission of the **PMC**.

Learn the following **PMC** prayer and try to pray each day for the children of the world.

Lord Jesus, we pray that all children may come to know you and believe in your love for them. Help us through kind words and good deeds to spread **YOUR LOVE** to the whole world. **AMEN**.

During this Missionary Month, please join the PMC at 4.30pm each Saturday to pray the Missionary Rosary.

The Patron of the PMC is the Child Jesus. In addition there are two patron saints: St Therese of Liseux and St. Francis Xavier. This month's puzzle is based on the life of St. Therese Liseux.

## THE LIFE STORY OF THERESE OF LISEUX

Therese \_\_\_\_\_ was born in Alencon \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ She had \_\_\_\_\_ sisters and \_\_\_\_\_ brothers. When she was \_\_\_\_\_ she entered the \_\_\_\_\_ Convent and became a religious sister. From an early age she loved anything to do with \_\_\_\_\_. Every \_\_\_\_\_ she did, she \_\_\_\_\_ up to God. While she was in the convent, she wrote her famous book about her life called '\_\_\_\_\_. She died a very painful death from \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 1897. She was only \_\_\_\_\_ years old. St. Therese is often called \_\_\_\_\_. Her feast day is \_\_\_\_\_. Her motto is \_\_\_\_\_ of God. Do \_\_\_\_\_ that you do with \_\_\_\_\_.

Please make sure you have submitted your answers before the last Saturday of the month. Include your name, age and telephone contact.  
**Christian Education Committee**

## Baptisms in September

1. Bastian Odida of Pernille Milthers and Jude Tadeo Odida
2. Chloe Jade Claver of Delvin Mongina and Peter Claver Ngugi
3. Alvaro Njuguna of Jane Njuguna and James Muiruri
4. Valeria Wanjiru of Jane Njuguna and James Muiruri
5. Allan Koome of Caroline Apiyo and Eric Gitonga Bengi
6. Uriel Mutugi of Susan Njuguna and Richard Kathambana
7. Melian Letoya of Winfred Waceke and Paul Saitoti Letoya
8. Geona Nyambura of Miriam Wairimu and Pius Kebito
9. Zoey Makena of Viva Thogori and Tija Mzamokumala
10. Gabriel Kamau of Elizabeth Mugure and Paul Waweru
11. Edwin Richard Otieno of Josephine Akinyi Owuor
12. Shyanne Nekesa of Lydia Jidayi and Erick Sikuku
13. Santos Harerimana Jimana of Susan Kathure and Darius Musumba
14. Hope Tendwda Gathu of Patricia Nabwire and Michael Gathu
15. Ethan Mbwaya of Caroline Nduta and Moses Angode

## Marriage Banns in October 2016

**There is a promise of marriage between:**

1. Grace Wanjiku Igecha and Dennis Albert Mbogua
2. Beatrice Mukuhi Ndungu and Charles Mainanganga Gicho
3. Margaret Wothaya Nduati and Philip Mwenda Hinga
4. Cecilia Wambui Kiiru and Moses Weboko Juma

5. Jackline Milkah Muthoni Mwangi and Martin Achieng Ocholla
  6. Caroline Murugi Nyaga and Joshua Sindiga Moenga
  7. Evelyn Nyawira Wanjira and Joseph Kiruri Gichamba
  8. Judith Naibei Sakana and Martin Mutuku Muvua
  9. Laurancia Arochi Barasa and Jean Edgar Ojiambo
  10. Veronica Mbaika and Godfrey Oneko
- Note: If anyone knows of any particular reason why the above ceremony cannot take place, please report immediately to the Parish Priest.**

## Weddings in September/ October 2016

1. Sylvia Muthoni Munyoki and Wycliffe Gitonga Mati
2. Esther Nyokabi and Jose Lourenco Franque
3. Dorris Chepkoech Kirui and Bernard Kubasu
4. Josephine Roselyne Mwikali Mwinzi and Edward Ngothe Ngatia
5. Janet Wanyora Kiambuthi and Alex Kanyi Kahure
6. Irene Wanjiru Muraguri and Nicholas Maina Njeri

## Deceased of the Parish

Name	Date of death
1. Teresia Aloo Makio	24/9/16
2. George Njenga Miugi	18/9/16
3. Michael Raphael Wanderi	8/9/16
4. Joseph Muiruri Githongo	8/9/16
5. Loise Mueni Kilonzo	7/8/16

**Eternal rest grant unto them. And let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls rest in peace. Amen.**

**Sammy Kakai, Catechist,  
Consolata Shrine**



# EVENTS OF THE PARISH FOR OCTOBER 2016

OCTOBER Missionary Month	
Missionary Intention: That World Mission Day may renew within all Christian Communities the joy of the Gospel and the responsibility to announce it.	
Sat 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Saint Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop, Martyr</li> <li>• Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin, Doctor</li> <li>• 2nd Confession for children of 1st Holy Communion</li> </ul>
Sun 16	29th Sunday in Ordinary Time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Recollection for Adult Catechumens</li> <li>• Youth outdoor activities</li> <li>• Commissioning of New Proclaimers</li> </ul>
Sun 16 – Fri 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Catechists annual retreat, 1st Group (ASN Uzima Centre, Thika)</li> </ul>
Mon 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Saint Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop, Martyr</li> </ul>
Tue 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St. Luke Evangelist, Feast</li> </ul>
Wed 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St. Paul of the Cross</li> </ul>
Thu 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hero's Day- Public Holiday</li> <li>• Masses as per Saturday's schedule</li> </ul>
Sat 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thursday of week 29 in Ordinary Time</li> <li>• or Saint John Paul II, Pope</li> <li>• 2nd Rite of Initiation – Parents meeting (Cardinal Otunga Plaza)</li> <li>• Mass for children of 1st Holy Communion</li> <li>• St John Paul II, patron feast, mass</li> </ul>
Sun 23	30th Sunday in Ordinary Time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WORLD MISSION SUNDAY</li> <li>• Formation for parents and sponsors of Infant Baptisms (3pm)</li> <li>• CMA General Assembly (members) at Holy Family Basilica</li> </ul>
Wen 26 – Fri 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Choir Urban Seminar</li> </ul>
Fri 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Saints Simon and Jude, Apostles Feast</li> <li>• Catechists Deanery On-going formation (St Catherine of Siena)</li> </ul>
Sat 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Saturday of week 30 in Ordinary Time</li> <li>• or Saturday memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary</li> <li>• Pilgrimage to Nyeri (Blessed Irene)</li> <li>• 4th Archdiocesan Pastoral Council Meeting (Cardinal Otunga Plaza)</li> <li>• Infant Baptisms (2.30pm)</li> <li>• On-going formation for children that have received 1st Holy Communion from 10am to 1pm.</li> <li>• St John Paul II – Home visits, 3pm</li> <li>• PMC Animators General Meeting (St Raphael, 9am)</li> </ul>
Sun 30	31st Sunday in Ordinary Time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• World Priests Day (Marriage Encounter)</li> <li>• Children mass at 9am</li> <li>• Mass at Langata Cemetery 3pm</li> </ul>