



**CONSOLATA SHRINE**  
**Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary**  
**Time C**  
**6th November 2016**  
**All Have Life Because of Him.**



**FIRST READING**

**2 Maccabees 7:1-2.9-14**

***“The king of the universe will raise us up to an everlasting renewal of life.”***

**A reading from the second Book of Maccabees**

In those days: It happened that seven brothers and their mother were arrested and were being compelled by the king, under torture with whips and cords, to partake of unlawful swine's flesh. One of them, acting as their spokesman, said, "What do you intend to ask and learn from us? For we are ready to die rather than transgress the laws of our fathers."

And when (the second) was at his last breath, he said, "You accursed wretch, you dismiss us from this present life, but the King of the universe will raise us up to an everlasting renewal of life, because we have died for his laws." After him, the third was the victim of their sport. When it was demanded, he quickly put out his tongue and courageously stretched forth his hands, and said nobly, "I got these from Heaven, and because of his laws I disdain them, and from him I hope to get them back again." As a result the king himself and those with him were astonished at the young man's spirit, for he regarded his suffering as nothing. When he too had died, they maltreated and tortured the fourth in the same way. And when he was near death, he said, "One cannot but choose to die at the hands of men and to cherish the hope that God gives of being raised again by him. But for you there will be no resurrection to life!"

***The word of the Lord***

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**Psalm 17:1.5-6.8 and 15**

**R. When I wake, O Lord, I shall be filled with the vision of your presence.**

O Lord, hear a cause that is just,  
pay heed to my cry.

Turn your ear to my prayer:  
no deceit is on my lips. **(Response)**

I kept my steps firmly in your paths.  
My feet have never faltered.  
To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God.  
Turn your ear to me; hear my words. **(Response)**

Guard me as the apple of your eye.  
Hide me in the shadow of your wings.  
As for me, in justice I shall behold your face;  
when I awake I shall be filled with the vision of your presence. **(Response)**



**SECOND READING**

**2 Thessalonians 2:16-3:5**

***May the Lord establish you in every good work and word.***

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

Brethren: May our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us

eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed on and triumph, as it did among you, and that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men; for not all have faith. But the Lord is faithful; he will strengthen you and guard you from evil. And we have confidence in the Lord about you, that you are doing and will do the things which we command. May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ.

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



#### **Alleluia**

Jesus Christ is the firstborn of the dead;  
to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever.

#### **Alleluia**



### **GOSPEL**

**Luke 20:27-38**

***“He is not God of the dead, but of the living.”***

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

At that time: There came to Jesus some Sadducees, those who say that there is no resurrection,

and they asked him a question, saying, “Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man’s brother dies, having a wife but no children, the man must take the wife and raise up children for his brother. Now there were seven brothers; the first took a wife, and died without children; and the second and the third took her, and likewise all seven left no children and died. Afterwards the woman also died. In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had her as wife.”

And Jesus said to them, “The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage; but those who are accounted worthy to attain to that age and to the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage, for they cannot die anymore, because they are equal to angels and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection. But that the dead are raised, even Moses showed, in the passage about the bush, where he calls the Lord the God of

Abraham and the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob. Now he is not God of the dead, but of the living; for all live for him.”

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

#### **REFLECTION**

**THEME: WE WILL LIVE WITH HIM FOREVER!**

Whenever I attend a funeral service I am reminded of the great secret revealed by St. Paul, “Listen, I will tell you a mystery! We will not all die, but we will all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed” (1Cor 15:51). Today many people do not believe in God, heaven, angels, saints and matters of life after death. For such people money,

wealth, success, marriage, making children and having many friends is very important. These things are important for the believers too. But as followers of Jesus, we make Kingdom of God and His righteousness as first priority of life. "But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well" (Mat 6:33).

Luke 20:27-38: The Sadducees belong to the priestly class, which administer the Temple of Jerusalem. They belong to the aristocracy, which controls the economic and political life of the Israelite nation. In contrast to the Pharisees, they do not believe in the resurrection of the dead, among other things. Their sacred scripture is limited to the Torah. So in v.27, we are not surprised that they challenge the teaching of Jesus (also of the Pharisees) regarding the resurrection of the dead (which is not found in the Torah).

They craftily present an argument from an imaginary marriage according to the law of the Jews to prove against the possibility of resurrection. If a woman was a wife to seven brothers one after the other because of their deaths, whose wife will she be during her life of resurrection. Jesus totally believed in God and life after death. He had the perfect idea of how we will be after resurrection. He makes it very clear that we will be like angels in resurrection and there will be no marrying and begetting of children. So there will be no worldly relationships; rather we will all be children of the Heavenly Father and shine like stars of heaven in heaven (Phil 2:15). God is passionately interested in how we live. Therefore human life is all about loving and living justly. Therefore Jesus loved us all and gave His life for us so that we live with Him forever in heaven.

2 Macc 7:1-2, 9-14: We have the example of seven brothers and their mother who were compelled by the King to break the commandments of God. They preferred to die than go against the sacred laws. Seldom do we hear a story of a whole family willing to die rather than violate a law. In the modern world, we rather violate the law than die. Life is more important than following laws. The story gives a strong message that it is better to die with dignity and honour than to live devoid of principles. God will vindicate our faithfulness, by raising us up. The reading encourages people to continue fighting for their faith and principles in the face of death.

2 Thes 2:16-3:5: St. Paul prays that the Thessalonians will continue doing good. He also encourages them to speed up work of evangelization. The encouragement that we need is to be faithful to the teachings of the Church in spite of all persecution. We believe in resurrection and not just life here on earth. When we are in crisis of faith, we are also asked to go back to our original experience and motivation.

***Let us pray: Lord Jesus, we praise you for the gift of faith you have given us. I want to know you and the power of your resurrection. If I share your sufferings and become like you in death, I will attain the resurrection and life with you forever (Phil 3:10-11). Make me persevere in my communion with you. Amen.***

**Rev. Fr. Abu SVD**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. Today is the first Sunday of the month there is the second collection of St Vincent de Paul to assist the needy of the parish.
2. Today also, we will have the Rosary being prayed in front of the Eucharist after the twelve o'clock Mass.
3. 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 Sr Cecily Goliath of the Sacramentine Sisters of Bergamo. All are warmly welcome.

4. Next Friday at 6.15pm in the Parish Hall, we shall Screen the movie of hope: HEAVEN IS REAL. It is a beautiful story about a young boy who experienced the joy of heaven.
5. In November we remember all the departed souls. Envelopes with the November Cards are available at the entrance of the Church for you to fill in and deposit in the blue boxes. The departed will be remembered in all masses during the month.
6. 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.
7. Those who have registered to join Small Christian Communities there will be a meeting next Sunday 13th in the parish hall at 10.30am. Registration for new members will be ongoing during the meeting.
8. The parish is organizing a holiday camp at Consolata Shrine for the youth of age 4 to 16 year, on 8th - 26th November. Please register at the desk outside the church.
9. Today we will have an ecumenical meeting with our brothers and sisters from the Anglican Church to strengthen Christian Unity. It will be at St Mark's Church in Westlands from 2.30 - 4.30pm. Those who wish to go can gather at the gazebo at 2pm.

### WEEKLY MEETING

- Apostolate on Monday 7th, at 6.15pm
- Charities committee on Wednesday 9th at 6.15pm

### 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**

### 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:** Ti 1:1-9; Ps 24; Lk 17:1-6

**Tuesday:** Ti 2:1-8.11-14; Ps 37; Lk 17:7-10

**Wednesday:** Ez 47:1-2.8-9.12; Ps 45; Jn 2:13-22

**Thursday:** Phlm 7-20; Ps 146; Lk 17:20-25

**Friday:** 2 Jn 4-9; Ps 119; Lk 17:26-37

**Saturday:** 3 Jn 5-6; Ps 112; Lk 18:1-8

### 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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