



CONSOLATA SHRINE
Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary
Time C
13th November 2016
Courage, Raise Your Head!



FIRST READING

Malachi 4:1-2a

“The sun of righteousness shall rise for you.”

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Malachi

Behold, the day comes, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who fear my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

The word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

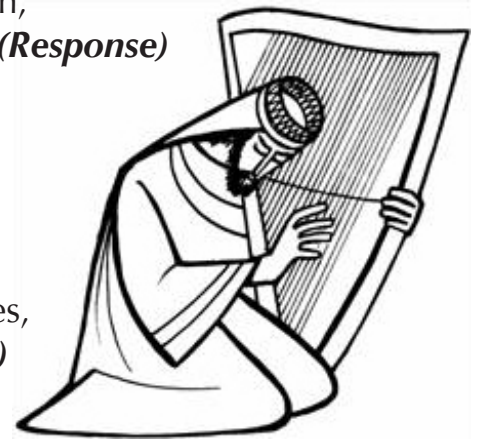
Psalm 98:5-6.7-9ab.9cd

Response. The Lord comes to judge the peoples with fairness.

Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp,
with the harp and the sound of song.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn,
raise a shout before the King, the Lord. *(Response)*

Let the sea and all within it thunder;
the world, and those who dwell in it.
Let the rivers clap their hands,
and the hills ring out their joy
at the presence of the Lord, for he comes,
he comes to judge the earth. *(Response)*

He will judge the world with justice,
and the peoples with fairness. *(Response)*



SECOND READING

2 Thessalonians 3:7-12

“If any one will not work, let him not eat.”

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

Brethren: You know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, we did not eat any one's bread without paying, but with toil and labour we worked night and day, that we might not burden any of you. It was not because we have not that right, but to give you in our conduct an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: If any one will not work, let him not eat. For we hear that some of you are walking in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work in quietness and to earn their own living.

The word of the Lord



Alleluia

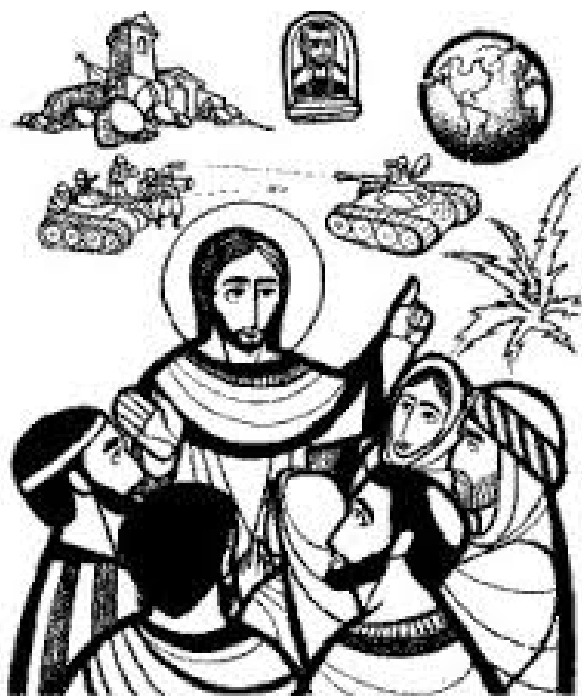
Look up and raise your heads,
because your redemption is drawing near.

Alleluia



“By your endurance you will gain your lives.”

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke



At that time: As some spoke of the temple, how it was adorned with noble stones and offerings, Jesus said, “As for these things which you see, the days will come when there shall not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down.” And they asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign when this is about to take place?” And he said, “Take heed that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is at hand!’ Do not go after them. And when you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified; for this must first take place, but the end will not be at once.”

Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences; and there will be terrors and great signs from heaven. But before all this they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for my name’s sake. This will be a time for you to bear testimony. Settle it therefore in your minds, not to meditate beforehand how to answer; for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be delivered up even by parents and brothers and kinsmen and friends, and some of you they will put to death; you will be hated by all for my name’s sake. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your lives.”

The Gospel of the Lord

REFLECTION

THEME: END TIMES !!!

We are nearing the end of the third Liturgical Cycle (Year C). Of course, there is an end for time. Everything on earth has its end. Even though, I do not know if the end of the world would happen during my life time, I know for sure that my earthly life will end one day. Samuel Johnson once commented that nothing concentrated the mind of a person better than the prospect of one’s death. Therefore, the apocalyptic readings are here:

First Reading (Mal.3:19-20a): Prophet Malachi in the first reading prophesies about the end time. His prophecy is timeless since it warns that the Day of the Lord is coming with doom for evildoers. “See, the day is coming...when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up...so that it will leave them neither root nor branch” (Mal.3:19). Contrastingly, there is also hope for the just, those who follow God’s ways will have joy and salvation, “But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall” (Mal.3:20).

Gospel Reading (Lk.21:5-19): The gospel starts with Jesus’ disciples admiring the splendour of the Jerusalem Temple. Whereas Jesus foretells its destruction, “As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down” (Lk.21:6). Jesus then predicts much chaos, disorder, violence and destruction at the end times. Some of these are -“Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs

from heaven" (Lk.21:10-11). Further he says, "But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you..." (Lk.21:12). "You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name" (Lk.21:16-17). However, Jesus also promises protection for God's faithful. He tells clearly, "When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified..." (Lk.21:9). He says, "This will give you an opportunity to testify" (Lk.21:13)

Second Reading (2 Thes.3:7-12): Though there is an end to everything and even to our lives; this should not make us idle! Therefore, in the second reading Paul instructs us to keep working, earning our bread by the sweat of our brow! He says, "For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work should not eat" (2 Thes.3:10). He tells us about his own life as an example, "We did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labour we worked day and night, so that we might not burden any of you" (2 Thes.3:8).

Of course, there is an end to everything, but we need not fear instead we are to be witnesses to God. We are called to be ready and alert at all times! On one occasion St. Aloysius Gonzaga was asked what he would do where he told on the playground that he was about to die! While others said that they would go for confession or make an act of contrition, his reply very promptly was, "I will carry on playing for the love, honour and glory of God!"

Prayer: Lord God, help me realise the shortness of my life here on earth. Grant me your grace to be ready to meet you anytime you come. Amen.

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. Today at 3pm, we will Screen the movie of hope: HEAVEN IS REAL. It is a beautiful story about a young boy who experienced the joy of heaven.
2. There will be a meeting for the Small Christian Communities today at 10.30am for both the old and new members in the parish hall. Registration for new members will still be ongoing during the meeting.
3. Small Christian Community of St Francis Xavier are residents along Waiyaki way - Waterfront Gardens, Loresho Springs estate. They are recruiting new members and for more information, please visit the desk outside the church.
4. In the month of November, we remember all the departed souls. Envelopes with the November Cards are available at the entrance of the Church. Please fill and deposit in the blue boxes. The departed will be remembered in all masses during the month.
5. Renewal, registration and verification of details for the Consolata Shrine's Short Message Service (SMS) is ongoing at the desks outside the Church after all Masses.
6. Charities Committee has organized a Jumbo sale for 20th November to assist the needy of the Parish. Please come and support the course.
7. The holiday camp organized by the parish for the youth of age 4 to 16 year, is ongoing from Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 4.30pm. Comfortable sports warm wear, packed sufficient lunch and registration on arrival. Volunteers are needed to help in any activities.
8. Consolata Shrine is organizing a Family Thanksgiving Day to be held on Sunday 27th November as part of closure of the Year of Mercy. Thanksgiving envelopes are available at the entrance of the church. There will also be many people exhibiting their products. Co-operates who wish to exhibit on that day, registration is ongoing in the parish office during the week at a cost of Kshs. 10,000. Please hurry and register as slots are limited. All are kindly requested to come and support the event.

WEEKLY MEETING

- Communication Meeting on Monday 14th, at 6.15pm
- Ministers of the Sick Tuesday 15th, at 2.30pm
- Justice and Peace Committee on Thursday 15th at 6.15pm

Registration for the Boys Rite of Passage is still ongoing, kindly collect registration forms from the Parish Office.

DAILY READING

Monday: Rv 1:1-4; 2:1-5; Ps 1; Lk 18:35-43
Tuesday: Rv 3:1-6.14-22; Ps 15; Lk 19:1-10
Wednesday: Rv 4:1-11; Ps 150; Lk 19:11-28
Thursday: Rv 5:1-10; Ps 149; Lk 19:41-44
Friday: Rv 10:8-11; Ps 119; Lk 19:45-48
Saturday: Rv 11:4-12; Ps 144; Lk 20:27-40

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 • **Parish E-Mail:** info@consolatashrine.org

Parish Priest's E-Mail: parishpriest@consolatashrine.org

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