



**CONSOLATA SHRINE  
SOLEMNITY OF MARY MOTHER  
OF GOD  
& WORLD DAY OF PEACE  
1st JANUARY 2017**



*Mary, through whom the world would be blessed.  
We too bless God for Mary, who bore for us the Child  
she named Jesus, the Saviour*

**FIRST READING**

**Numbers 6:22-27**

*“They shall put my name upon the people of Israel, and I will bless them”*

**A reading from the book of Numbers**

The Lord said to Moses, ‘Say to Aaron and his sons, thus you shall bless the sons of Israel: you shall say to them, The Lord bless you and keep you: The Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you: The Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace. “So shall they put my name upon the sons of Israel, and I will bless them.”

*The word of the Lord*

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8 (R.2a)**

**Response. O God, be gracious and bless us.**

O God, be gracious and bless us  
and let your face shed its light upon us.  
So will your ways be known upon earth  
and all nations learn your saving help.

*(Response)*

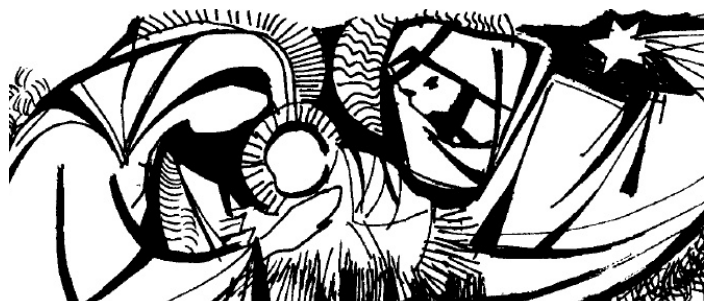
Let the nations be glad and shout for joy,  
with uprightness you rule the peoples;  
you guide the nations on earth.

*(Response)*

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.  
May God still give us his blessing  
that all the ends of the earth may revere him.

*(Response)*

The Lord BLESS  
you & keep you,  
the LORD make  
his face to shine  
upon you & be gracious  
to you;  
THE LORD LIFT UP HIS  
countenance UPON YOU  
& GIVE YOU PEACE



**SECOND READING**

**Galatians 4:4-7**

*“God sent forth his Son, born of a woman.”*

**A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the  
Galatians**

Brethren: When the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son, born of a woman, born under

the Law, to redeem those who were under the Law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So through God you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son then an heir.

***The word of the Lord***

**Alleluia**



In many and various ways God spoke of old to our fathers by the prophets;  
but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son.



**Alleluia**

**GOSPEL**

**Luke 2:16-21**

***"They found Mary and Joseph, and the baby...  
And at the end of eight days, he was called Jesus."  
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke***



At that time: The shepherds went with haste to Bethlehem, and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. And when they saw it they made known the saying which had been told them concerning this child; and all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary kept all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

***The Gospel of the Lord***

**REFLECTION: CHILDREN OF GOD**

**by Scott Hahn, PH.D.**

Today we give thanks to Mary, the Mother of God. Her response to the angel, born of a humble heart, brought us life and salvation in the Child conceived in her womb. From before all ages, God had destined her for this decisive role in salvation history. She was to be the woman who in the fullness of time would bear God's only Son, as Paul tells us in today's Epistle. In times past, God spoke to His chosen people, the Israelites, through



prophets, and imparted His blessings upon them through His priests, as we hear in today's First Reading. But now, He has sent His Son—to reveal His glory and His kingdom, to make His way of salvation known to all nations, as we sing in today's Psalm. In the Infant lying in the manger, God has shone His face upon us. Jesus is made a child of Israel, an heir of God's covenant with Abraham, by His circumcision in today's Gospel. And we have been made adopted sons and daughters by Baptism, which is the circumcision of Christ, the true circumcision. As children of God, Paul says today, we are heirs of the Father's blessings, which He promised to bestow on all peoples through the descendants of Abraham. This is the blessing which Aaron imparted to Israel, the people descended from Abraham. And this blessing comes to us through Mary and the Child. This is the good news of great joy that the shepherds make known in Bethlehem today. Like the shepherds, we too should make haste today to find Jesus with Mary and Joseph, and to glorify God for His blessings. And like Mary, we should keep his word and reflect upon it, letting it dwell richly in our hearts.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. Today, being the first Sunday of the month, there is second collection for St Vincent de Paul to assist the needy of our parish.
2. Today also we shall pray the Rosary in front of the Blessed Eucharist for peace in the world after the twelve o'clock Mass next Sunday.
3. Friday 6nd, January is the first Friday of the Month. Night Vigil will start at 9.00pm and end with a holy Mass at 5.00am.
4. Saturday 7th, The Marathon Rosary will be prayed in the prayer garden from 10.am to 5pm. All are welcome.
5. Sunday 8th is The Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. There will be a second collection for the Holy Childhood. Proceeds will be sent to Pope Francis to assist Children of the world.
6. Celebrating the Epiphany of the Lord, there will also be a special Mass at 3.00pm at the Shrine with the blessing of Children, traditionally dressed. All are welcome.
7. The Parish is organizing the Pilgrimage to Holy Land during lent in preparation for Easter. For more information, please look at the posters outside the Church or pick a brochure from the tables outside the church.
8. Due to the festive season there will be no PMC or Children Sunday Services until 5th February 2017.
9. The Bible Dairies 2017 which include daily reflection are available at the desk outside the Church and in the bookshop. Get a copy for yourself and make it a Christmas gift for your loved ones.
10. Couples planning to get married are asked to register for premarital counselling sessions for 2017. Sessions will begin with their parents meeting on Sunday 14th January 2017. Kindly register at the Catechists office.
11. Registration for Baptism and first Holy Communion for children and adults is in progress at the Catechists Office, children have to be 8 years and in class three. Kindly bring the original baptism card and a registration fee of Kshs 200/-. Adults who were baptized in other Christian churches and wish to become fully Catholics are also asked to register.





**Hail Mary,  
Full of Grace, the Lord is with you.  
Blessed are you amongst women,  
and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God, Pray for us sinners,  
Now, and at the hour of our death, Amen!**

Never be afraid of loving the Blessed Virgin Mary too much. You can never love her more than Jesus did and if anyone does not wish to have Mary Immaculate for his mother, he will not have Christ for his brother.

*~Quote by St. Maximilian Kolbe~*

**Happy New Year 2017!!  
May Mary,  
Mother of God  
be our Guiding Star!!!!**

**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:** 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28

**Tuesday:** 1 Jn 2:29- 3:6; Ps 98:1.3-6; Jn 1:29-34 or  
Phil 2:1-11; Ps 8:4-9; Lk 2:21-24

**Wednesday:** 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1.7-9; Jn 1:35-42

**Thursday:** 1 Jn 3:1-21; Ps 100:2-5; Jn 1:43-51

**Friday:** 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15.19-20; Mk 1:7-11

**Saturday:** 1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-6.9; Jn 2:1-11

**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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