



CONSOLATA SHRINE
Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary
Time C
2nd October 2016



A Faith That Works Miracles

Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4

FIRST READING

“The righteous shall live by his faith”.

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Habakkuk

O Lord, how long shall I cry for help and you will not hear? Or cry to you “Violence!” and you will not save? Why do you make me see wrongs and look upon trouble? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise.

And the Lord answered me; “Write the vision; make it plain upon tablets, so he may run who reads it. For still the vision awaits its time; it hastens to the end - it will not lie. If it seem slow, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not delay. Behold, he whose soul is not upright in him shall fail, but the righteous shall live by his faith.”

The word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 95:1-2.6-7 abc.7d-9

Response. O that today you would listen to his voice!

Harden not your hearts

Come, let us ring out our joy to the Lord;
 hail the rock who saves us.

Let us come into his presence, giving thanks;
 let us hail him with a song of praise. **(Response)**

O come; let us bow and bend low.

Let us kneel before the God who made us,
 for he is our God and we
 the people who belong to his pasture,
 the flock that is led by his hand. **(Response)**

O that today you would listen to his voice!

“Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
 as on that day at Massah in the desert
 when your forebears put me to the test;
 when they tried me, though they saw my work” **(Response)**



SECOND READING

2 Timothy 1:6-8. 13-14

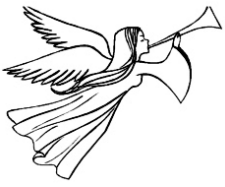
“Do not be ashamed of testifying to our Lord.”

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

Beloved: I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; for God did not give us a spirit of timidity but a spirit of power and love and self-control. Do not be ashamed then of testifying to our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but take your share of suffering for the Gospel in the power of God.

Follow the pattern of the sound words which you have heard from me, in the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus; guard the truth that has been entrusted to you by the Holy Spirit who dwells within us.

The word of the Lord



Alleluia

The word of the Lord abides for ever; that word is the good news which was preached to you.

Alleluia



GOSPEL

Luke: 17:5-10

“If you had faith!”

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke



At that time: The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” And the Lord said, “If you had faith as a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this sycamine tree, ‘Be rooted up, and be planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.

“Will any one of you, who has a servant ploughing or keeping sheep, say to him when he has come in from the field, ‘Come at once and sit down at table’? Will he not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me, and put on your apron and serve me, till I eat and drink; and afterwards you shall eat and drink’? Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that is commanded you, say, ‘We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.’”

The Gospel of the Lord

REFLECTION

“LIVE AND GROW WITH FAITH AND TRUST”

We all believe that God has created us for a purpose and the purpose is: to love him, to serve him and finally enjoy Eternal Bliss with him in heaven. To love him we need to know him and if we know him well we would love him more and it would be easier for us to trust in him. For we come to know that his love endures forever. Faith is the foundation of Christian life. It is through the Baptism the seed of faith is sown within us. If that faith has to grow we ought to live a life in constant union with him. A few years back, at Kandamal in Orissa (INDIA) the Christians bore witness to Christ prompted by their faith in him. They were ready to lay down their lives and shed their blood for the sake of their faith in Christ.

In the first reading from the book of prophet Habakkuk, we see the Israelites were tortured by the Babilonians. On their behalf prophet Habakkuk pleads to God to save them from the Babilonian custody. But initially God doesn't heed them. The Israelites keep suffering more and more of the ill treatment and harassment by the Babilonians. The Prophet feels panicky: then he places his total trust in the Lord and gradually he feels that God hears his supplication and appears and comforts him, and strengthens his faith. A Hindu brother (non-Christian) who got an attack of paralysis, came to pray and get healed at Divine Call Center, Mulki..... He brought his little son along who was hardly eight. When I told them the prayers & the retreat is in Konkani language and it may be difficult for them to understand as they speak Kannada; the man immediately said with eyes filled with hope that to be healed, language is not a problem or a barrier. Great was his faith and the little son said “Your God will surely heal my dad”.

In the second reading St. Paul writing to Timothy explains that we are all given a most precious pearl or treasure, that is faith. It is given and nurtured by the Spirit. It is not so much important just to keep the faith and have faith but above all learn to live by that and grow and be maturing in faith is more important still.

Some days back, a few youngsters came to the Divine Call and I happened to meet them. When I asked about their life and what were they busy with; one of them intended to answer, they were searching for job and a good job of a big salary. Another said he was looking for a good partner for marriage and so on. Hardly a few search for God in life or seek first his kingdom, (Mt 6:33) or seek things that are of higher value. The disciples came to Jesus and asked him to increase their faith (Lk 17:5). They sought for a spiritual growth and wellbeing. Generally we want to grow in economical richness, want increment in salary, grow in our body-strong and be more beautiful, grow in talents, grow in height and weight and those who are fatter want to slim down. But really a few look for spiritual growth and virtues.

Jesus teaches his disciples, if they have strong faith nothing is impossible, even they could move mountains (Lk 17:6). If we perform all our duties faithfully he will do wonders in life. The servants obeyed Jesus and filled water in the jars till the brim and Jesus converted that water into wine (Jn 2:7-9). When we pray we must believe that it will happen and we will receive the favour and we seek for (Mk 11:24). He will do it for us.

Prayer: Lord, increase our faith in you. May we trust in you at all times not only when you do favours to us, but even when you do not answer our Prayer. Increase our love for you, that we may trust in you. Amen!



Rev.Fr. Francis Fernandes SVD

HYMN OF THE JUBILEE OF MERCY

MISERICORDES SICUT PATER!

[cf. Lk 6,36] [motto of the Jubilee]

1. Give thanks to the Father, for He is good
in aeternum misericordia eius /
His mercy is for ever
[cf. Ps 135/6]
He created the world with wisdom
in aeternum misericordia eius /
His mercy is for ever
He leads His people throughout history
in aeternum misericordia eius /
His mercy is for ever
He pardons and welcomes His children
[cf. Lk 15]
in aeternum misericordia eius /
His mercy is for ever
2. Give thanks to the Son, Light of the Nations
in aeternum misericordia eius /
His mercy is for ever
He loved us with a heart of flesh
[cf. Jn 15,12]
in aeternum misericordia eius /
His mercy is for ever

As we receive from Him, let us also give
to Him

in aeternum misericordia eius /
His mercy is for ever
Hearts open to those who hunger and
thirst [cf. Mt 25,31 ff.]
in aeternum misericordia eius /
His mercy is for ever

Misericordes sicut Pater!/Merciful like the Father Misericordes sicut Pater!/Merciful like the Father

3. Let us ask the Spirit for the seven
holy gifts
in aeternum misericordia eius /
His mercy is for ever
Fount of all goodness and the sweetest
relief
in aeternum misericordia eius /
His mercy is for ever
Comforted by Him, let us offer comfort
[cf. Jn 15,26-27]
in aeternum misericordia eius /
His mercy is for ever
Love hopes and bears all things

[cf. 1Cor 13,7]
in aeternum misericordia eius /
His mercy is for ever

4. Let us ask for peace from the God of
all peace
in aeternum misericordia eius /
His mercy is for ever
The earth waits for the Good News of
the Kingdom [cf. Mt 24,14]
in aeternum misericordia eius /
His mercy is for ever

Joy and pardon in the hearts of the
little ones
in aeternum misericordia eius /
His mercy is for ever
The heavens and the earth will be
renewed [cf. Ap 21,1]
in aeternum misericordia eius /
His mercy is for ever

Misericordes sicut Pater!/Merciful like the Father
Misericordes sicut Pater!/Merciful like the Father

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Today is the first Sunday of the month. Like every first Sunday we have the collection of St. Vincent de Paul; but in this occasion, it will be destined to assist some of the victims at Deep Sea after the fire that took place last Saturday.
2. Today the Eucharistic Rosary will be prayed in the Church with the blessed Sacrament after the 12 o'clock mass.
3. Consolata Self-help group has set a desk outside for the members to pay their monthly contribution. New members are also welcome to register.
4. Today at 3pm we will be showing the second part of the film of St. Padre Pio, the Saint of Pietralcina who had the gift of bilocation and the stigmata. The film will be in the Parish Hall.
5. Charity Committee has organised charitable event, Upendo Day on 22nd October 2016 at Karura forest to enable the committee to carry out its charity activities. In the last Consoling Eye there an explanation of how the funds are being used. Mark it in your diaries, have fun and do charity at once! Kindly register at the desk outside the church.
6. Next Friday 7th, is the first Friday of the month. We will have a night vigil in honour of the Sacred heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary from 9am and ends with the Holy mass at 5am.
7. Couples planning to get married early next year are invited for premarital counselling sessions. The sessions are held on Thursdays at 6.15pm. Kindly register at the Catechists Office.
8. Following the invitation of Pope Francis to take care of our environment, next Saturday, from 9am to 1pm, let's all go to clean our surrounding in Westlands! Get more information at the desks outside the Church

WEEKLY MEETINGS

- Apostolate Committee Monday 3rd October 6:15pm

DAILY READING

Monday: Gal 1:6-12; Ps 111, Lk 10:25-37
Tuesday: Gal 1:13-24; Ps 139; Lk 10:38-42
Wednesday: Gal 2:1-2.7-14; Ps 117; Lk 11:1-4
Thursday: Gal 3:1-5; Lk 1:69-75; Lk 11:5-13
Friday: Gal 3:7-14; Ps 111; Lk 11:15-26
Saturday: Gal 3:22-29; Ps 105; Lk 11:27-28

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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