



CONSOLATA SHRINE
6th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
YEAR A
12th FEBRUARY 2017



FIRST READING

Sirach 15:15-20

“He has not commanded any one to be ungodly.”

A reading from the Book of Sirach

If you will, you can keep the commandments, they will save you; if you trust in God, you too shall live. He has placed before you fire and water: stretch out your hand for whichever you wish. Before a man are life and death, good and evil, and whichever he chooses will be given to him. For great is the wisdom of the Lord; he is mighty in power and sees everything. The eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, and he knows every deed of man. He has not commanded any one to be ungodly, and he has not given any one permission to sin.

The word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 119:1-2.4-5.17-18.33-34

Response. Blessed are those who walk in the law of the Lord!

Blessed are those whose way is blameless,
who walk in the law of the Lord!

Blessed are those who keep his decrees!

With all their hearts they seek him. *(Response)*

You have laid down your precepts
to be carefully kept.

May my ways be firm
in keeping your statutes. *(Response)*

Deal bountifully with your servant,
that I may live and keep your word.
Open my eyes, that I may see
the wonders of your law. *(Response)*

Lord, teach me the way of your statutes,
and I will keep them to the end.
Grant me insight that I may keep your law,
and observe it wholeheartedly. *(Response)*



SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 2:6-10

“The wisdom of God which he decreed before the ages for our glorification.”

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brethren: Among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glorification. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him," God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.

The word of the Lord



Alleluia

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.



Alleluia

GOSPEL

Matthew 5:17-37

"You have heard that it was said to the men of old; but I say to you."

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew



At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. "You have heard that it was said to men of old, 'You shall not kill, and whoever

kills shall be liable to judgment.' But I say to you everyone who is angry with his brother shall be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother shall be liable to the council, and whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be liable to the hell of fire. So if you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. Make friends quickly with your accuser, while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison; truly, I say to you, you will never get out till you have paid the last penny. "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to

sin, pluck it out and throw it away; it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell. It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.' But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, makes her an adulteress; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery. Again you have heard that it was said to the men of old, 'You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.' But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his foot stool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let what you say be simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything more than this comes from the Evil One."

The Gospel of the Lord

REFLECTION: AFFAIR OF THE HEART - by *Dr. Scott Hahn*

Jesus tells us in the Gospel this week that he has come not to abolish but to "fulfill" the Law of Moses and the teachings of the prophets. His Gospel reveals the deeper meaning and purpose of the Ten Commandments and the moral Law of the Old Testament. But his Gospel also transcends the Law. He demands a morality far greater than that accomplished by the most pious of Jews, the scribes and Pharisees. Outward observance of the Law is not enough. It is not enough that we do not murder, commit adultery, divorce, or lie. The law of the new covenant is a law that God writes on the heart. The heart is the seat of our motivations, the place from which our words and actions proceed. Jesus this week calls us to train our hearts, to master our passions and emotions. And Jesus demands the full obedience of our hearts. He calls us to love God with all our hearts, and to do his will from the heart God never asks more of us than we are capable. That is the message of this week's First Reading. It is up to us to choose life over death, to choose the waters of eternal life over the fires of ungodliness and sin. By his life, death, and resurrection, Jesus has shown us that it is possible to keep his commandments. In baptism, he has given us his Spirit that his Law might be fulfilled in us. The wisdom of the Gospel surpasses all the wisdom of this age that is passing away, St. Paul tells us in the Epistle. The revelation of this wisdom fulfills God's plan from before all ages. Let us trust in this wisdom, and live by his Kingdom law. As we do in this week's Psalm, let us pray that we grow in being better able to live his Gospel, and to seek the Father with all our heart.

QUOTE FOR THE FAMILY

"Honor your father and mother so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you."

Exodus 20:12

PRAYER FOR THE SICK

Father of goodness and love, hear our prayers for the sick members of our community and for all who are in need. Amid mental and physical suffering may they find consolation in your

healing presence. Show your mercy as you close wounds, cure illness, make broken bodies whole and free downcast spirits. May these special people find lasting health and deliverance, and so join us in thanking you for all your gifts. Bless also their families and all health workers with the graces they need. We ask this through the Lord Jesus who healed those who believed and through the intercession of Our Lady Consolata and Blessed Joseph Allamano. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Today charity committee are having a Jumble sale to support the charity activities in our parish.
2. The annual celebration to mark the world Day of the sick, will take place today afternoon at 3pm. Bring the sick whom you know so to be prayed for.
3. Next Saturday we will have the ordination of Consolata seminarians to the order of Diaconate. The celebration will start at 10am at Consolata Seminary in Langata presided over by Bishop Peter Kihara Kariuki. Let us pray for them during this week.
4. Next Sunday we will celebrate the Feast of Blessed Joseph Allamano. Meanwhile we are celebrating the novena with special reflection and prayers in all masses during the week.
5. Because of that celebration, and as we do every year, next Sunday we will have a second collection to assist the seminaries where the Consolata Missionaries are formed.
6. Catholic Women Association will have a Valentine Day Dinner on the 14th of February to raise funds for paying School fees for 2 needy children and also raise money to buy a Bus. Please stop by the desks outside and support CWA.
7. Consolata Lay Missionaries formation program will continue on Sunday 19, February at 10.30am.
8. To launch the Parish Year of the Family, all are invited to the first of a series of family movie nights. On Friday 17th, we shall screen "FACING THE GIANTS" at 6.30pm in the Parish Hall. To assist with the preparation, please register yourself and your family, on the table outside the church.
9. His Eminence John Cardinal Njue, is inviting all children to the annual PMC Mass at St. Marys School grounds. The Mass will take place on Saturday 18th February. All Children wishing to attend are invited to register outside the church.

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: Gen 4:1-15.25; Ps 50:1.816-17.20-21; Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday: Gen 6:5-8; 7:1-5.10; Ps 29:1-4.9-10; Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday: Gen 8:6-13. 20-22; Ps 115:12-15. 18-19;
Mk 8:22-26

Thursday: Gen 9:1-13; Ps 102:16-21.29. 22-23; Mk 8:27-33

Friday: Gen 11:1-9; Ps 33:10-15; Mk 8:34 -9:1

Saturday: Heb 11:1-7; Ps 145/12-5. 10-11; Mk 9:2-13

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**