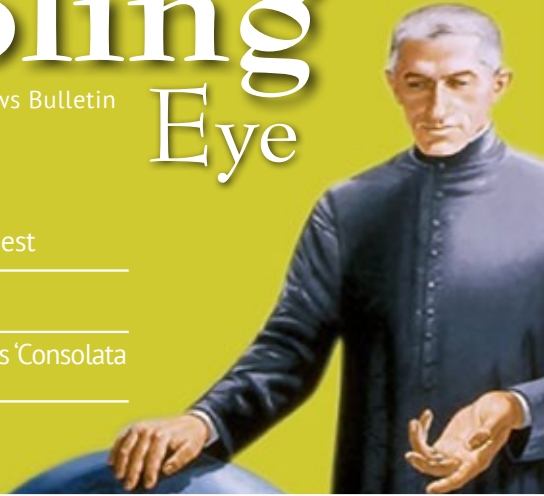
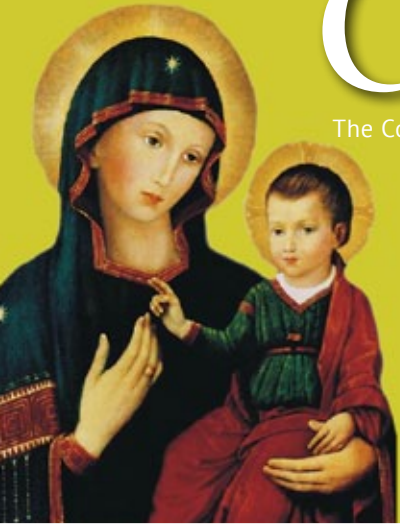


February 2017

# The Consoling Eye

The Consolata Shrine Parish Monthly News Bulletin



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## Artistic impression of the proposed Allamano Centre

Project launch today during Blessed Joseph Allamano feast day  
Sunday, 19th February 2017



Consolata Shrine, Westlands, Nairobi



@ConsoShrine

# Family, Joy and Splendour of True Love

Dear Parishioners of Consolata Shrine,

*It is with joy that after some time I get back to you. I wrote to you during Christmas and then, we became all busy as the New Year started.*

This time, I introduce to you our theme for the year, which we started during Advent 2016, which is "Family, Joy and Splendour of True Love".

We believe that the family is the foundation of society and of the Church. We are aware that it continues being under threat. The word threat may be too strong... but we know that sometimes we are subject to our human nature, to temptations, or even to external factors that affect the unity of the family. The church held two synods on the family in 2014 and in 2015. After these synods, Pope Francis offered to the Church and to the world a beautiful exhortation, **The Joy of Love**, which reminds us not only of the basis of the family and family life, but also it invites us to look with mercy and compassion the reality of irregular situations in some families, especially in their marriage.

This year, we are focusing on different dimensions of the family.

1. The Nuclear family, assisting where necessary. Talks and activities have already been organized by different groups and you will see them coming up throughout the year. We welcome you to participate! In case you have not yet regularized the situation of your marriage, please come forward and we will do the best we can, and walk with you and find a solution. A family with the blessing through the sacrament of marriage, and therefore being able to take the Eucharist plus the regular commitment in front of the Lord, will open gates of blessings! Not just doors! For this reason, every third Sunday of the month, we will pray for all the families. And... buy your copy of the Joy of Love from the bookshop!
2. The family of the Church. Here, we have two very important families. On one side the Family of Consolata Shrine, and we want it continues growing and strengthening the value of the family and families getting together! We want everyone to feel at home, sharing our differences, and enriching one another with our own talents. Great events like the Upendo Day, Family Day, gatherings organized by different committees, movements, Small Christian Communities, projects that we have done and we will do together will help us.

On the other side, the family of a Christian Family throughout the world is particularly valid during this year, when we remember what happened 500 years ago when Martin Luther nailed on the door of All Saints' Church and other churches in Wittenberg 95 propositions to reform the Church. We must work to bring this family of God together! Let us pray for this particular intention when in each mass we pray for peace and unity just before the sign of peace. You are welcome to join the Ecumenical group which meets every last Monday of the month to grow in understanding and being part of this journey to achieve Jesus' wish: "Let them all be one" (Jn 17:21)

3. Last but not least, the family of our beloved country Kenya. In view of the elections that are scheduled for this year, we really need to focus in the intentions of our forefathers and of God. Once more in this dimension, let us make sure that differences of thoughts and of ethnic groups do not become obstacles, but on the contrary, they be the sign of richness of diversity, which put together, helps us to appreciate how we can learn from one another and support one another. We pray for peace... but we have to be the first ones to be committed to really be Christians, in whom "there is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus" (Gal 3:28) neither mkikuyu or mjaluo, mturkana or msamburu... mkamba or mhindi... etc... but all Kenyans! That is why every first weekend of the month, we will dedicate it to pray for Peace, starting from the Vigil of Adoration, going through the Marathon Rosary and in all Sunday masses.



Fr Daniel, the Parish Priest working in his office before the building is brought down to pave way for Allamano Centre.

focused on his relationship with his family, relatives, friends... which inspired in him the dream and realization of forming a Religious Family called Consolata Missionaries and Consolata Missionary Sisters.

We are focusing on the family through the different aspects of life. It is a time to be greatly thankful to God for what he has done and for what he has given us; and therefore to focus on our potential and on our richness, letting jealousy, feelings of revenge, pride, the desire to be recognized or any other negative feelings not to prevail.

If we grow in this attitude, our love, our charity... our missionary spirit will grow and will be able to reach out to those with particular needs!

May God bless you all and through Mary Consolata and Blessed Joseph Allamano, may we grow letting our capacity to be family in God open to all people express our inmost vocation. **CE**

**Fr Daniel Berteza**  
Parish Priest

You might have realized that the Christmas novena was about the different characters that participated in the Christmas event, right from the Annunciation up to the time when the child Jesus was born. In this month of February, we had the novena of Blessed Allamano which

## Pope's Prayers Intentions for February 2017

**General intention: Comfort for the Afflicted**

That all those who are afflicted, especially the poor, refugees, and marginalized, may find welcome and comfort in our communities.



## The Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for the 25th World Day of the Sick 2017

The Holy Father begins his special message by giving a brief history of the World Day of the Sick. 'Instituted by my predecessor, St John Paul II in 1992, and first celebrated in Lourdes on 11th February 1993, this day is an opportunity **to reflect on the needs of the sick, and, more generally, of all those who suffer.** It is also **an occasion for those who generously assist the sick,** beginning with family member's health workers and volunteers, **to give thanks for their God given vocation of accompanying our infirm brothers and sisters.** This celebration likewise gives the **Church** renewed spiritual energy for carrying out, ever more fully, that fundamental part of her mission which includes **servicing the poor, the infirm, the suffering, the outcast and the marginalised.**

In his message this year, the Holy Father places Mary at the centre. The theme for Twenty-fifth World Day of the Sick is taken from the beautiful words of the *Magnificat*. We are all being invited to ponder on the following words, **'Amazement at what God has accomplished: The Almighty has done great things for me.' (Luke 1:49).** The Holy Father reminds us that it is through Mary that *'the Almighty has done great things'* for the redemption of mankind....I encourage all of

you, the suffering, the physicians, nurses, family members and volunteers to see in Mary, Health of the Infirm (Sick), the sure sign of God's love for every human being and a model of surrender in His will.'

Saint Bernadette's encounter with Our Lady of Lourdes is used to demonstrate how we should value and respect one another. 'Bernadette, poor, illiterate and ill, felt that Mary was looking at her as a person. The Lovely Lady spoke to her with great respect and, without condescension. This reminds us that every person is, and always remains, a human being and is to be treated as such.' This is important for us today. Our attitude towards the dignity of human life is changing. Unfortunately, we think some lives are more valuable than others.

The Holy Father reminds us that 'the sick and those who are disabled, even severely, have their own inalienable dignity and mission in life. They never become simply objects. If, at times they appear merely passive, in reality that is never the case.' He continues, 'May this Day also inspire renewed efforts to defend the integrity and dignity of persons, not least through a correct approach to bioethical



Pope Francis showing love of God to the children of Kangemi during his historic visit to Kenya.

issues, the protection of the vulnerable and the protection of the environment.'

Bernadette's encounter with the Lovely Lady at the grotto in Lourdes changed her life. She 'turned her frailty into support for others...she was able to enrich her neighbours and, above all, to offer her life for the salvation of humanity... Mary gave her the vocation of serving the sick and called her to become a Sister of Charity.'

As Mary looked with love upon Bernadette so does she look upon us and we are also transformed. 'The gaze of Mary, *Comfort of the Afflicted*, brightens the face of the Church in her daily commitment to the suffering and those in need. Pope Francis says that this commitment produces 'precious fruits'. For these, we must

be grateful to 'the Lord Jesus, who out of obedience to the will of the Father became one of us, even enduring death on the Cross for the redemption of humanity.'

As well as his 'prayerful support and encouragement to those who look after the sick, Pope Francis also embraced the ecclesiastical, civic institutions and families who are involved with the loving care of their sick and those in need. He prayed that 'all may be very joyous signs of God's Love and imitate the luminous testimonies of so many friends of Gods including St John of God and St Camillus de Lellis, the patrons of hospitals and healthcare workers, and St. Teresa of Calcutta, the missionary of God's Love.'

The Holy Father asks us all to turn to Mary Our Mother: Mary, Our Mother, in Christ you welcome each of us as son or daughter. Sustain the trusting expectation of our hearts, succour us in our infirmities and sufferings and guide us to Christ, your Son, our brother. Help us to entrust ourselves to the Father, Who accomplishes great things.

The message closed with his paternal blessing: 'With the assurance of a constant remembrance in my prayers, I cordially impart to all of you my Apostolic Blessing. Francis.' ☩

**MINISTERS OF THE SICK**

## Allamano Centre, an Iconic tower for Marian Devotion Centre



The proposed Allamano Centre, whose groundbreaking ceremony is scheduled for March 18<sup>th</sup> 2017.

Steering Committee, the corner stone for a multi storey building for a modern office block will be laid to mark the long tedious construction works, to take about two years to completion.

Sadly, the too obvious current office block that has been home to Consolata Shrine pastoral team offices, catechist offices, parish secretary, administrator, parish hall and catechists/

Today, Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> as we mark the Feast of our founder, Blessed Joseph Allamano, Consolata Shrine marks an indelibly significant milestone in its life and times. A coincidence it is and double blessings for the Consolata community.

As Isaiah 54:2 says “Enlarge the place of your tent; Stretch out the curtains of your dwellings, spare not; Lengthen your cords and strengthen your pegs”, under the exemplary guidance of Consolata Shrine Allamano Centre Strategic

Sunday school classes, *Coyrep* shop and office, as well as pharmaceutical store for Deep Sea Dispensary and guestrooms for visitors will come tumbling down to give way for the new building. Relocations for the said offices and personnel have been completed to clear off the space, in readiness for the revving earthmovers. Rich historical and iconic artefacts have been preserved in an attempt to preserve the historical journey that the Consolata Shrine has traversed to-date. So is the building,

in images as well as specific construction materials, either for re-use in the new building or for remembrance and continuity with the picturesque and aesthetic feel.

### An idea was conceived

It all started with the Development and Maintenance Committee that upon realizing the need of maintenance of the actual office block, followed by the need of more meeting rooms and halls, and aware of the acute strain on parking slots within the compound especially on Sundays during intervals between masses, an idea was conceived to enlarge the space. But how could it be enlarged since every inch on the ground was utilized? Buying off of a plot that initially served as petrol station just adjacent to the main gate was an option, but it had many interested bidders. Back to **Conso**, they could build a multi storey parking, which would ultimately occupy a large chunk of space and that’s how the idea of multi storey parking was coined with modern offices for internal use and for letting, large church halls for major functions, enhanced catechists and Sunday school classes, among others.

### Allamano Centre Steering Committee

Under the ably leadership of James Wangunyu, members were drawn from amongst the elders at the Shrine, past leaders and amongst serving conveners of various committees. The committee has sifted through nights of meetings to lay the strategy that will develop the iconic building, in papers and on the land.

It later subdivided into two subcommittees, that of Strategy and Finance. Both worked hand in hand to ensure a seamless development of the project, to its completion. They were tasked to draw the best practices to achieve the desired results at the least costs possible and how to raise finances for the project. As the strategies on papers and artistic picturesque impressions became clearer, so did the respective professionals to be assigned various aspects of the project. Strikingly, all the professionals, largely drawn from the Consolata Community, offered their services either pro bono or at a very reduced rate, hence reducing the cost of building significantly. These were the Architects, Quantity Surveyors, Structural Engineers, Electrical Engineers, plumbers, among others. We wish to say a big thank you to them. And to the Committee, we can’t comfort them nor congratulate them further than the word of the Lord through; Philippians 1:6 “And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ” and Ephesians 2:10 “For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them”.

### Modern and spacious

In the envisaged project, parking slots will double from the current one hundred and forty to almost three hundred spaces on the ground and first floor of the new building. Room for expansion, if need be has been factored in. This is in addition to the existing spaces at the front



The current office block, which has been in existence since 1950s. It will be demolished to pave way for the new office block. Photo/Anne Gakere

of the church and along the driveways, as has been the case.

A large modern hall that can accommodate about five hundred participants will be strategic placed on the first mezzanine floor of the building, complete with modern communications gadgets, lighting, raised dais and gradual slanting floor for and all round easy view. It will be a multipurpose hall for Shrine use or for letting to large groups or corporates functions.

Smaller offices for ad-hoc meetings like funerals, weddings, thanksgivings etc. have also been factored in, with collapsible walls to meet groups' requirements. This is quite useful since there no such facilities within the vicinity of westlands, besides serving our parishioners.

A cafeteria is available for refreshments and

meals for the groups and visitors to the Shrine. Guestrooms for visitors, especially visiting priests and other church leaders and organized groups like youths or others who may wish to have seminars, meetings, retreats.

**Consolata Community**

In you, the Consolata Shrine Community lay the strength and comfort that the Shrine has grown to what it is today, Centre of Marian devotion. Through your prayers, spiritual and physical growth has

been witnessed, as we ask our mother for her intercessions into your intentions. We continue to thank you for your unwavering continued support and cooperation whenever called upon to contribute and make donations, financially, materially and in prayers as we endeavor to manifestly grow the Marian devotion Centre found within our midst. Ephesians 2:20-22 summarizes that "Built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit".

**Samuel Mutahi**  
**Allamano Centre - Finance - Steering - Communication Subcommittee**

**The Pilgrimage to Marsabit via Wamba Parish**

By St. Joseph Deepsea

The journey began on Thursday 17th November 2016 at 5am from st.Joseph Deep Sea, this was followed by a few stopovers at karatina for breakfast and Nyanyuki for a health break. During the journey members were involved in prayers and reflections.

Our first destination was at Wamba where we arrived at 3pm, we were welcomed by the assistant Parish Priest Fr.Muriuki and a few parishioners where a delicious late lunch was served. Immediately after having our lunch we proceeded to the nearest outstation (20km away) for mass. The community in the outstation welcomed us well and immediately mass began which was celebrated by our very own Fr.Caesar and co-celebrated by Fr.Muriuki, In the course of

mass beautiful Samburu folk songs were sang by the Samburu girls and women. After the mass we shared our different experiences and culture and since it was getting late and we were tired because of travelling we left for the parish.

Immediately we arrived in the parish we found the members of the parish council and the parish priest who had just arrived, the two communities had a brief meeting whose aim was to familiarize with one another and the activities taking place within the parish compound, at around 7:30pm supper was served, I can't forget to mention the delicious mbuzi choma a that was served the typical Samburu meal. After supper we had an exchange program to discuss the different programs and activities that take place in Wamba community and St. Joseph Deep Sea, then we were given the following days programme and led to our rooms for sleep.

On Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November, the program began with mass at 6:30AM again celebrated by Fr.Caesar, after mass the st.Joseph Deep sea community held special prayers at the site where the ashes of the remains of Fr.Franco Cellana are kept, then immediate breakfast was served and we prepared for departure for Marsabit.

We left Wamba at 9AM ,passed through the different small towns on our 280km journey to Marsabit (the road is well constructed from wamba-Isiolo junction to Marsabit).We arrived



Plaque where the remains of Fr Franco are kept.



The group with Fr Marino Gemma.

were completing their retreat at the pastoral centre and they were due for ordination in the coming week, that night we also met different priests who work in the cathedral and Bishops Kihara's office. That marked the end of day one in Marsabit.

Day two began with morning prayers then breakfast, after breakfast we proceeded to the nearest outstation Babisa which

in Marsabit at 2pm, we found fr. Marino waiting for us at Marsabit town, he led us to his place of work which is up the hill, we had our lunch and proceeded to observe and visit the beautiful terrains of Marsabit, when you are the pastoral centre you can see Marsabit forest and Marsabit hills, we also went to visit the crater, Marsabit cathedral and a children's home next to the cathedrals run by the sisters of the missionary of charity, by the time we were through with all this activities it was around 6pm and we proceeded back to the pastoral centre where we had our dinner and exchange of the past memories and light moments with Fr. Marino. In our midst there was the presence of the retired Bishop of Marsabit The Emeritus Bishop Ravasi, he gave us his pastoral experience of the northern region which he had worked for many years, in addition we had a chance to meet two deacons who

is 70km away from Marsabit town, the church in the outstation is well built and maintained, we also visited the Rendile community who live near the outstation, we entered their manyattas and we listened to their social, cultural and economic backgrounds, we thank God because most of them are Catholics although they practice polygamy, the weather is not desirable at all, it's twice hot than what we are now experiencing here, though the church and county government has constructed for them boreholes where their sheep, camels and cows drink water, the children are more welcoming here than the adults and due to their good gesture we gave them our rosaries.

We even met a 12-year-old girl in this manyattas who is an orphan and wants to be a Sister



At the Rendilles Manyatta.

Fr. Caesar was to make a follow up on her, we left the outstation at 12 noon and arrived at the pastoral centre at 1pm for lunch. After lunch we were taken to visit Marsabit town, it's a cosmopolitan town, all banks present, a few supermarkets and miraa business thrives here. We were back at the pastoral centre at 5;

30pm for mass and for the preparations of the following day departure.

Day 3 early morning at 6am was departure back to Nairobi only with one stopover at ISIOLO for breakfast.

We are grateful to GOD for making our pilgrimage to the Northern part successful, special appreciation to Fr. Daniel our parish priest for all your assistance, Fr. Caesar for accompanying us and celebrating mass for us every day, Wamba parish community for your good reception and hospitality, and Fr. Marino for the special invitation to the community of St. Joseph Deep sea and all who made it possible for this pilgrimage to be successful.



The group with Fr Marino Gemma at the Marsabit Childrens home.

Compiled by Miriam Ndirangu  
St. Joseph - Deep Sea



St Cecilia members of Consolata Shrine at Nanyuki for two days retreat in November last year. St Cecilia choir that serves at the 7.30am Mass. They are appealing for more members to join the choir.



Above: Celebrating New Years Mass January 01 2017



Right (top & bottom): Celebrating the Feast of Epiphany, there was a procession for mass which had real camels, what a wonderful way to reflect on the happenings of Christ birth for the children.



At the Wamba Parish



Consolata Shrine parishioners joined other worshippers from other denominations At Lutheran Cathedral during the common service of Christian Unity on Saturday, 21st January.



Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) and Friends of Consolata Shrine (FOCOS) during a retreat Bethany house, Sagana.



Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) and Friends of Consolata Shrine (FOCOS) and their families at a luncheon organized courtesy of the Consolata Shrine to mark the beginning of the year of the Family.



## CONSOLATA SHRINE PILGRIMAGE

### TO THE HOLY LAND (ISRAEL) THROUGH THE EXODUS ROUTE (EGYPT) 24th March - 4th April 2017.

**Day One (Friday 24th):** Departure from Nairobi

**Day Two (Saturday 25th):** Arrive Cairo. Upon arrival you will be met rest and freshen up. After breakfast start your site seeing with a visit of the famous Pyramids of Giza, Sphinx, the Pharaonic Village then visit the Papyrus Shop. Celebrate Mass. Dinner and overnight.

**Day Three (Sunday 26th):** After breakfast proceed to the old section of Cairo. You will also visit Memphis the ancient capital of Egypt. Lunch enroute. Drive to Suez Canal and to Sinai for overnight at the foot of Mt. Sinai. Celebrate Mass.

**Day Four (Monday 27th):** Climb Mt. Sinai early morning. It would be a good experience to climb the Mountain where Moses received the Ten Commandments and descend watching the sunrise. Visit the Greek-Orthodox Monastery of St. Catherine at the base of the mountain, visit the burning bush. Celebrate Mass. Check out after breakfast. Depart by bus to Israel. Drive to Jerusalem for Dinner and overnight.

**Day Five (Tuesday 28th):** After breakfast, visit Ein Kerem where John the Baptist was born, visit the Church of the Visitation, Visit Yad Vashem, the Jewish Holocaust memorial. Afternoon visit Bethlehem where Jesus was born (Mass at the Church of The Nativity), Visit Milk Grotto and the Shepherds Field. Dinner and overnight in Jerusalem

**Day Six (Wednesday 29th):** After breakfast, visit the Old City including Pool of Bethesda, St. Anne's Church, and Via Dolorosa (Way of the Cross). Celebrate Mass in the Church of The Holy Sepulchre. Dinner and Overnight in Jerusalem.

**Day Seven (Thursday 30th):** After breakfast, visit the Garden of Gethsemane (Celebrate Mass in the Church of All Nations), Mt. of Olives, the Church of Ascension and to Pater Noster Church, Palm Sunday Road, Dominus Flevit Church. Drive to Mt. Zion, see the Tomb of King David and the Room of the Last Supper. Visit St. Peter's House in Gallicantu built over the house of the High Priest Caiaphas, Dormition Church. Today we also visit the Western Wall also called the WAILING WALL the Holiest Site of the Jewish Nation. Adoration in Gethsemane. Dinner and Overnight in Jerusalem.

#### COST IN KENYA SHILLINGS

Per person sharing a twin room	180,000/=
Single Room Supplement (Own Room)	40,000/=

\* Additional of Ksh.15,000/= for those who would like to return from Tel Aviv (Israel)

#### BOOKING CONDITIONS

A deposit of Ksh.60,000/= and passport details is required for bookings. Balance of payment and submission of original passports (for Egyptian visa) due one month before departure.

#### BANK DETAILS

Consolata Shrine  
Kenya Commercial Bank  
Sarit Centre Branch  
Account No. 1106656636

**Day Eight (Friday 31st):** After breakfast, depart to Bethany (Celebrate Mass). Visit Lazarus Tomb. Continue to Jericho via the Judean Desert. Stop at the Dead Sea with an opportunity to swim. Visit the Qumran where the Old Testament Scrolls were discovered, Mount of Temptation. Proceed via Jordan Valley to Nazareth. Dinner and overnight in Nazareth.

**Day Nine (Saturday 1st April):** Full day visit of Nazareth.

After lunch visit Cana, the site of Jesus' first Miracle (Celebrate Mass, Renewal of marriage vows for couples and blessing of families). Also visit Mount Tabor the site of the Transfiguration. Dinner and overnight at your hotel in Nazareth.

**Day Ten (Sunday 2nd):** Full day of visits around the lake of Tiberias. Boat ride on the Sea of Galilee (celebrate Mass on the boat), visits to Capernaum, Mount of Beatitudes, Tabgha the site of the Miracle of Multiplication, Church of Peter's Primacy. Visit Yardenit along the Jordan River (Renew our Baptismal vows). Continue to visit a Kibbutz and get a glimpse of the farming methods used in Israel. Depart by bus to Tabat Border for dinner and overnight.

**Day Eleven (Monday 3rd):** Celebrate Mass. After breakfast, depart by bus to Cairo. Lunch enroute. Transfer to the Airport for our flight back home.

**Day Twelve (Tuesday 4th):** Arrival - Arrival JKIA around 3.35a.m.

#### Included:

- + Return air ticket; Nairobi-Cairo-Tel Aviv-Nairobi
- + Hotel accommodation on full board basis (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner)
- + Transport throughout Egypt and Israel
- + Entrance fees throughout as per the programme
- + Border Fee
- + Visa for Israel and Egypt
- + English speaking guide
- + Tips for tour guides, drivers, hotels
- + Travel and Medical Insurance

#### Not Included:

- + Laundry
- + Anything of a personal nature and anything not specifically mentioned on the "included" list
- + Yellow Fever (mandatory)



## Who are the Ministers of the Sick?

The Ministers of the Sick are concerned with the Spiritual Welfare of those in physical and/or mental discomfort. To this end, we make **Pastoral visits** to the patients at M.P. Shah and the National Spinal Injuries Hospitals as well as to Chiromo Lane Rehabilitation Centre. The Ministers of the Sick will also make home visits upon request. **What is the difference between a Pastoral and a Social visit?**

SOCIAL VISIT Tends to concentrate on -	PASTORAL VISIT Tends to concentrate -
• External topics, weather, sport, crops	• The Person
• Maintaining a happy atmosphere	• Accepting tension
• Comfort by pretending, avoiding	• Comfort through facing
• Sharing stories, experiences	• Helping a person share himself/herself
• Being pleasant and positive	• Being understood
• What should be done	• What is being done
• Being helpful by entertaining	• Being helpful by intimate sharing
• Religion: differences, services etc.	• God: my/your relationship with Him

Caring for the Sick is a Work of Mercy. **Why not join the Ministers of the Sick?** If you want to learn more, please leave your name and contact at the Parish Office. All are welcome.

**Consolata Shrine will celebrate the World Day of the Sick at 3pm on Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> February.**

Mary, Our Lady Lourdes, Pray for us.

#### Ministers of the Sick

*World Day of  
the Sick 2017*

AMAZEMENT AT WHAT GOD HAS

ACCOMPLISHED:

"THE ALMIGHTY HAS DONE GREAT THINGS FOR

ME..." (LK 1:49)



# Consolata Lay Missionaries 'Consolata Shrine Group'

(By Jacinta Ndinda)



During the October celebrations of the Missionary Month, something spectacular and new did occur. As various missionary congregations visited our parish and gave inputs of the missionary activity of the church. We were reminded time and again that all Christians are missionaries by mandate of their

baptism. In particular way Fr. Makau, of the Consolata missionaries explained the ways lay people can participate in the missionary agenda and fulfill their call as men and women, married or not married, adults, parents or youth. He introduced the presence of the Consolata lay missionaries as a tool of evangelization of

those not priests or religious. Thus he appealed for those who want to venture into discovering their call as lay missionaries to register for a formation and catechesis program on the same. He invited Christians and friends of the Shrine to join this group so that it may enlarge and enrich the missionary presence and activity of their priests who are missionaries.

The Consolata Lay Missionaries are committed Christians of different backgrounds, ages and professions journeying towards the sharing in the CHARISM, MISSION and SPIRITUALITY of the FOUNDER of the Consolata Missionaries, Blessed Joseph Allamano.

The laity by virtue of baptism are called to be missionaries. Responding to this call, those who have known Consolata Missionaries, in one way or another, associate themselves with their work, mission method, live their life, "among the people", and "with the people" and thus proclaim the good news.

As we read from the book of prophet Isaiah 66:19 "They will announce my glory to all nations" and also from the Holy Gospel of St Matthew 28:19 "go, then to all peoples everywhere and make them my disciples: baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit"... Therefore animated by a missionary spirit, attentive to the "least" among us, certain that the example of the "good done well quietly"-in the words of the Blessed Joseph Allamano- has the power to draw us and others to Christ.

Surely as we read these verses and lines in this article, we are going to understand that, we

are all missionaries and that we are all on a mission. Our response to this Call then springs from that of Jesus which was to do the will of the father.

My dear brethren, let us remember every Christian is called to "holiness and mission". Through our baptism, we bear fruits and preach the Gospel to all nations. We do so through our small gestures and deeds at all times from where we are.

Consolata lay missionaries are found all over the world. They work side by side with the communities of Consolata Religious priests, sisters and brothers. Here in the Consolata Shrine, we have begun the first step, "we are new born" yet not late...let us join now, let us deepen our faith, every journey starts with one step.

- ❖ There will be a series of formation and information programs about the Consolata lay missionaries every third Sunday of the month after the 10.30 AM Mass in the new hall. All are welcome.

**Contacts:** [mvaofficekenya@gmail.com](mailto:mvaofficekenya@gmail.com)

# Catholic Book Review

**Book Title:** Through the Eyes of Jesus – The Trilogy

**Author:** Alan Ames

**Price:** Ksh.600/=

**Available at:** Consolata Shrine Bookshop

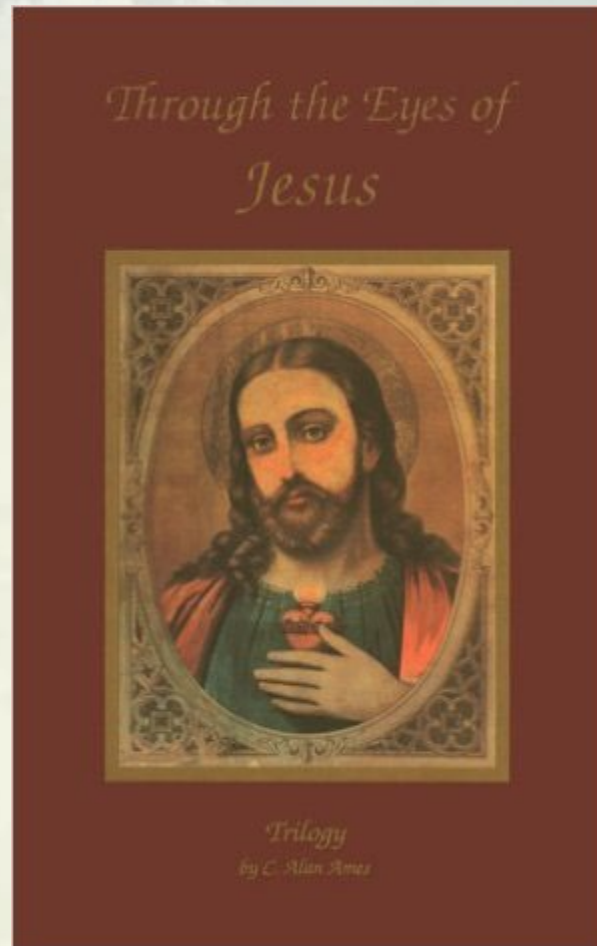
Alan Ames is a modern day Catholic mystic from Perth Australia. He experienced his conversion in 1993 and has since written many books on his experiences. Alan has the written support of his Archbishop in Perth, Australia and many others around the world.

On February 6, 1996, Jesus began showing Alan Ames episodes of Jesus' life on earth. He relates these events in this series of beautiful writings, which have been combined into one beautiful softcover book. Its simple language and style hold your interest and the incidents and scenes related provide you with a great deal of material for meditation and reflection. Through the Eyes of Jesus is one of the greatest reads of all time. To quote one Theologian:

“Are the events and details of Jesus' life told here true? I got my 'yes' answer as I compared them with the life of Jesus as I had learned it from the gospel, church teaching and tradition. To imagine the events told here without an interior vision would be as easy as writing the gospels without Divine assistance.” - Richard T McSorley S.J. – Theologian

This soft cover book contains Volumes 1, 2 and 3 of Through the Eyes of Jesus and would make an ideal gift for anyone who wishes to learn more about the down to earth interaction of Jesus with His Disciples during His three year ministry. It is available at the Consolata Shrine Bookshop, Westlands for a discounted price of Ksh.600/=.

**By Anne Gakere, Consolata Shrine**



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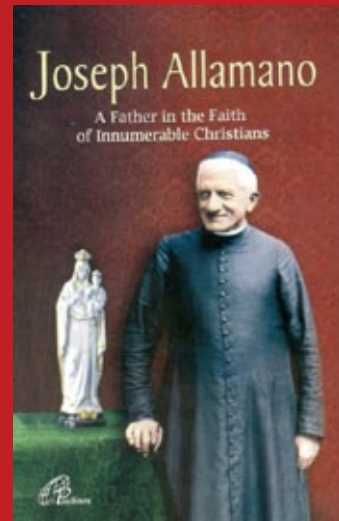
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# BLESSED JOSEPH ALLAMANO

Joseph Allamano was born the fourth of five children on **January 21<sup>st</sup> 1851**. The day after his birth, he was baptised. He was brought up in a holy home. His father died when little Joseph was only three years old. This meant that he grew up under the strong influence of his mother, who was a very holy woman. Her brother, the uncle of Joseph Allamano was actually a saint, St Joseph Cafasso.



At the end of his primary school education in 1862, he entered a school run by the Salesians. He studied there for four years and had St. John Bosco, himself, as his confessor. In **1866**, feeling a call to the priesthood, he entered the diocesan seminary where he prepared himself with great dedication and intensity to be good and holy priest.

He was ordained as priest on 20<sup>th</sup> September 1873. The archbishop chose him to train future priests (seminarians). He was assistant to the Rector from **1873-1876** and then Spiritual Director in the major seminary from **1876-1880**.

In **October 1880** Fr. Allamano was appointed the Rector of Consolata Shrine in Turin. Nine years later, in **1889**, he decided to found a **Missionary Institute**. This was his dream.

Fr. Allamano nearly died from an illness he caught while looking after a poor sick woman in an icy attic in **1900**. He was healed by a miracle due to the intercession of **Our Lady Consolata**. To him, this was a sign that he had to start building the **Missionary Institute**. The following year **1901**, on **29<sup>th</sup> January**, the **Consolata Missionary Society** was born.

The first four missionaries, two priests and two lay-brothers, left Italy for Ethiopia, via **Kenya** on **May 8<sup>th</sup> 1902**. They never reached Ethiopia and Kenya became the first of many Consolata Missions in the world. There were no Consolata religious sisters until Fr. Allamano founded the Consolata Missionary Sisters on **January 29<sup>th</sup> 1910**.

Fr. Joseph Allamano died on **February 16<sup>th</sup> 1926**. His beatification was on **October 7<sup>th</sup> 1990**. From that day he was known as **Blessed Joseph Allamano**.

We owe a lot to **Blessed Joseph Allamano** and his devotion to **Our Lady Consolata**. Without him we would not be here today, receiving the joy of the Gospel from our wonderful Consolata Missionaries. Let us continue to pray for them each day.

Blessed Joseph Allamano, pray for us.

## Behavior in Mass

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Draw a smile face 😊 next to the good things to do during Holy Mass.

Draw a sad face ☹️ next to the things not to do during Holy Mass.



Sing the hymns.		Talk with your friends and family.	
Wear picnic or beach type clothing.		Sit still and listen to everything.	
Bless yourself with Holy Water making the Sign of the Cross.		Stay until the final hymn is over.	
Get to Mass early.		Make faces at others.	
Run down the aisle.		Leave Mass early.	
Say all the prayers and responses.		Stand, kneel, pray, etc. when you are supposed to.	
Play around with friends or toys.		Squeeze hands hard during Sign of Peace.	
Genuflect in front of the tabernacle.		Cross your arms over your chest when you go up for a blessing.	
Wear nice clean clothes.		Eat food or candy.	
Chew gum.		Talk or text on cell phone.	

## Baptisms in December 2016

1. Florence Joan Isanda of Asenah Lubanga and Elija Odera
2. Faith Ndinda of Regina Musyoka and Musyoka Mwanthi
3. Emmanuel Muliki of Catherine Mwendu and James Musyoka
4. Leah Gathoni of Keziah Wanjiru
5. Evaline Kavuu of Irene Katuku and Evans Mutua
6. Daniel Wadera of Brenda Selina and Wilson Sakwa
7. Judith Naibei Sakana of Zipporah Cherotich and David Naibei
8. Azariah Ngunjiri of Irene Njoki and Solomon Mwaura Kibue
9. Taraji Bosibori of Anne Wangui and Samuel Ndemo Okeros
10. Jaj Janet Asamba of Esther Ruguru and Caleb Mkwana
11. Sam Mwangi of Imelda Mueni and Kevin Muriithi Mwangi
12. Eli Mungora of Jane Muthoni and Wycliff Nyachoti
13. Jeremy Bonnie Limo of Patricia Mbaabu and Peter Rotich
14. Jenine Bessing Limo of Patricia Mbaabu and Peter Rotich
15. Rhona Wanjiru of Ann Wairimu and Francis Njuguna
16. Damien Morani Seremani of Stella Murugi and Stella Murugi
17. Aleena Wanjiru of Rhoda Kathomi and Peter Wambugu
18. Ethan Allan Waihumbu of Catherine Wahu and Albert Kinyenje
19. Mary Wanjiru of Catherine Wahu and Albert Kinyenje
20. Nicolas A. Chisala of Valentine Maruti and Thomas Barthel
21. Hiro Amy Asamba of Michelle Masinde and Simon Mabisi
22. Sean Yohana Shilavula of Esther Ruguru and Caleb Mkwawa
23. Carlos Shirevere of Esther Ruguru and Caleb Mkwawa Shilavula
24. Mia Mutuku of Edwin Mutuku and Bintha Mutuku
25. Michael Mutuku of Edwin Mutuku and Bintha Mutuku
26. Yvanna Imeza of Giselle Tunga and Yves Ngaruko

27. Zuri Maria D 'Cruz of Jyotsna D'cruz and Navin Joseph D'cruz

## Baptisms in January 2017

28. Jonathan Mdungu of Nyawira Wanjuki and Walter Karanja
29. Mary Theresa of Linda Musinjili and Bernard Mmboyi
30. Yuvenalis Leslie of Faith Kemunto and Yuvenalis Nyamwange
31. Norlan Alban of Patricia Kingori and Joseph Wainaina
32. Ornica Alela of Teresia Thuo and Dosantos Oluoch
33. Patience Sara Shekinah of Caroline Mwaniki and Robert Nganga
34. Nigel John Lilech of Franciscan Cherotich and Kelvin Lilech
35. Polista Maria Muli of Mary Ndinda and Fredrick Sila
36. Rina Giovann A of Valencia Wanjiru
37. Talia Mwendwa of Jecinta Muthoni and Charles Mwenda
38. Chidubem Ethan of Uchenna Sandra and Jude Chukwudi
39. Ziva Wendo of Christine Atieno and Stephen Warui
40. Maria Nyaboke of Irene Mokeira and Gideon Onchwati
41. Michellewanjiru of Mary Wambua and Andrew Kimani
42. Gianna Wanjiru of Bilha Wambua and Joseph Mburu
43. Alivia Wangui of Elizabeth Ndungu and Joseph Gichuki
44. Valeria Muthoni Of Lucia Mulandi And Emmanuel Kiarie
45. Serena Makena of Zipporah Muthui and Norbert Miriti
46. Trevor Lance of Evangeline Wandiri and Peter Muigai
47. Chineza Savio of Consolata Wangari and Collins Mbugua
48. Jerome Mutira of Vivian Achieng and Moses Denga
49. Ethan Ngugi of Ruth Thuku and Charles Kiarie
50. Angelinca Ngatha of Betty Jerotich and Michael Muriithi
51. Lianna Wachelle of Caroline Wawira and Arnold Munene
52. Noelle Wambui of Alice Wanjiku and Peter Nyingi

53. Jaafan Mutua of Violet and Felix Ombati
54. Nicole Wacuka of Hellen Muthoni and Vincent Musyoka
55. Ethan Ngugi of Margaret Wanjiku and George Kanyingi
56. Ethan Gachina of Njeri Gachina and Kevin Gitonga
57. Carla Wangui of Judy Waireri and Martin Waireri
58. Christopher Murunga of Millicent Tendwa and Anthony Murunga
59. Jason Githinji of Pauline Akula and Newton Irungu
60. Tomothy Gachuhi of Pauline Akula and Newton Irungu
61. Blessing Wangari of Alice Wanjiru and Patrick Kabue
62. Faith Wairimu of Alice Wanjiru and Patrick Kabue
63. Kyle Matu of Ruth Matu and Tobian Malenya
64. Clara Wanjiku of Regina Wanjiru and Peter Ngigi
65. Bella Wanjiku of Mercy Ruguru Aand Philip Kigotho
66. Maria Talia Akinyi of Liliy Cheboror and Bernard Omondi
67. Eli Jonathan Ngumba of Jennifer Waruini and James Kamotho
68. Adrian Kyle Muindi of Serah Mutuku and Lawrence Nzau
69. Kelsy Mukami of Gladys Kiura and Julius Arori

## Marriage Banns in December 2016

**There is a promise of marriage between:**

1. Anne Wanjiru Mwangi and Major Samson Muringo
2. Viola Wairimu Mwangi and John Ngurari Gachora

**Note: If anyone knows of any particular reason why the above ceremony cannot take place, please report immediately to the Parish Priest.**

## Weddings in December 2016

1. Evelyn Nyawira Wanjira And Joseph Kiruri Gichamba
2. Lydia Wanjiru Mwai And Justus Muchiri Ndegwa
3. Judith Naibei Sakana And Martin Mutuku Muvua
4. Nelly Nyambura Gitau And John Michael Mucike Mwangi
5. Mary Mueni Muua Ans Charles Ngalaka Mulinge
6. Laurencia Akochi Barasa And Jean Edhar

- Ojiambo
7. Veronica Mbaika Martin And Godfrey Oneko Ikun
8. Moreen Kemunto Onsongo And Christopher Michael Mwenda
9. Patricia Wangui Gitonga And Dries Jan. B. Roobroeck

## Marriage Banns in February 2017

**There is a promise of marriage between:**

1. Lucy Wairimu Githogori And Simon Mwangi
2. Viola Wairimu Mwangi And John Ngurari Gachora

**Note: If anyone knows of any particular reason why the above ceremony cannot take place, please report immediately to the Parish Priest.**

## Weddings in January 2017

1. Theresia Achieng Ogutu And Maurice Odhiambo Odongo
2. Ann Njeri Mukono And Ezbon Michael Mwangi Kimone

## Deceased of the parish

1. John Kimani Hinga 8/11/2016
2. Marcella Maiko 20/11/2016
3. Joseph Kitundu Maithya 17/2016
4. Manuel Cervelho Manu 9/11/2016
5. Giuseppe P 7/11/2016
6. John Maina 27/7/2016 - funeral Service on 8/11/2016
7. Solomon Kauai Karani date of death 10/12/16
8. Alexander Anyika date of death 2/12/16
9. Emily Murewa date of death 10/12/16
10. Mary Agatha Apondi Rao date of death 16/12/16
11. Euphemia Nekesa Simiyu date of death 5/1/17
12. Nenella Errani Tozzi date of death 26/1/17
13. Br. Raymond IMC date of funeral 3/1/17

**Eternal rest grant unto them. And let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls rest in peace. Amen.**

**By Sammy Kakai,  
Catechist,  
Consolata Shrine**

# EVENTS OF THE PARISH FOR FEBRUARY 2017

## **MISSIONARY INTENTION: Universal: Comfort for the Afflicted.**

That all those who are afflicted, especially the poor, refugees, and marginalized, may find welcome and comfort in our communities.

Sat 11	<b>Our Lady of Lourdes</b> Children PMC mass at St. Mary's, Msongari 9am
Sun 12	<b>6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b> Pastoral Council, 10.30am Mass for the Sick at 3pm at the Shrine St Theresa SCC Act of Mercy, visit to New Life Children's Home, Hurlingham Choirs spiritual formation
Mon 13	World Marriage Day
Tue 14	Blessed Joseph Allamano
Thu 16	Chaplains and ecclesial groups' leaders meeting at Card. Otunga Plaza (Card. O.P.)
Sat 18	Ground Breaking Allamano Center 9.30am Mass for classes of FHC, 9am and 3pm Secondary Schools Prefects conference at Mang'u
Sun 19	<b>7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b> Formation for Parents and sponsors of infant baptisms at 3pm Immaculate Choir: retreat at the Grotto St Cecilia choir: visit Kenyatta National Hospital, Children's cancer Ward St Jude SCC, Spiritual Talk on the family 12noon
Wed 22	SAINT PETER'S CHAIR <i>Feast</i>
Thu 23	<b>All religious superiors meeting with cardinal at Card.O.P.</b>
Sat 25	Proclaimers 1st retreat of the Year Justice & Peace launch Lenten campaign at Nairobi University Ongoing formation for children who have received first holy communion Infant Baptism at 2.30pm Deaf Community launch of catechetical materials
Sun 26	<b>8TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b> Children Mass at 9am Retreat Presidia Legio of Mary (Resurrection Garden) Charismatics: visit to elderly priests St John Paul II SCC Family Day