



CONSOLATA SHRINE 4th SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR A



7th May 2017

FIRST READING

Acts: 2:14a.36-41

"God has made him both Lord and Christ".

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

{On the day of Pentecost,} Peter, standing with the Eleven, lifted up his voice and said to the multitude, "Let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified." Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?" And Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children and to all that are far off, every one whom the Lord our God calls to him." And he testified with many other words and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation." So those who received his words were baptized, and there were added that day about three hundred souls.

The word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 23:1-3-6

Response. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose.

Near restful waters he leads me;

he revives my soul. **(Response)**

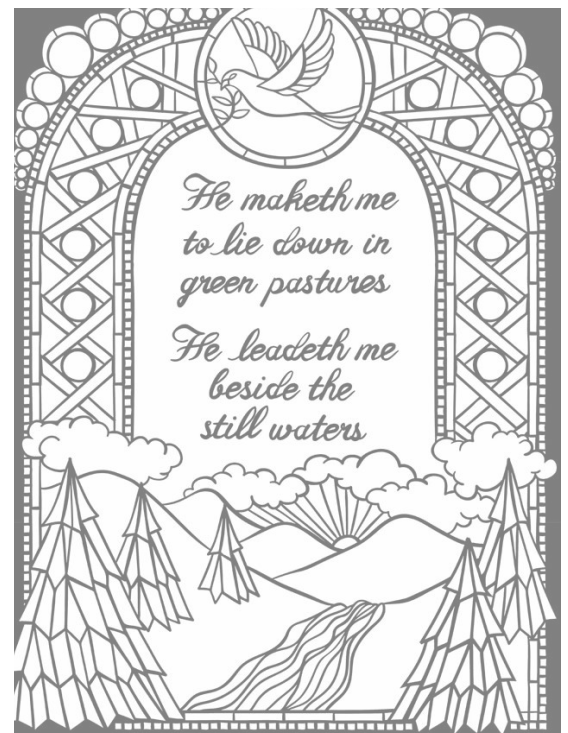
He guides me along the right path,
for the sake of his name.

Though I should walk in the valley
of the shadow of death,
no evil would I fear, for you are with me.
Your crook and your staff will
give me comfort. **(Response)**

You have prepared a table before me
in the sight of my foes.

My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **(Response)**

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for length of days unending. **(Response)**

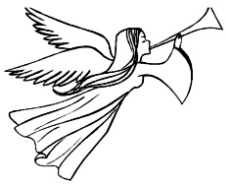


"You have returned to the shepherd of your souls."

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Peter

Beloved: If when you do right and suffer for it you take it patiently; you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example you should follow in his steps. He committed no sin; no guile was found on his lips. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he trusted to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Guardian of your souls.

The word of the Lord



Alleluia

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my own and my own know me.

Alleluia



GOSPEL

John 10: 1-10

"I am the door of the sheep."

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John



At that time: Jesus said, "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber; but he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the gatekeeper opens; the sheep hear his voice and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers." This figure Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before me

are thieves and robbers; but the sheep did not heed them. I am the door, if any one enters by me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

The Gospel of the Lord

REFLECTION

WHAT ARE WE TO DO? By Scott Hahn, Ph.D.

Easter's empty tomb is a call to conversion. By this tomb, we should know for certain that God has made Jesus both Lord and Messiah, as Peter preaches in today's First Reading. He is the "Lord," the divine Son that David foresaw at God's right hand (see Psalms 110:1,3; 132:10-11; Acts 2:34). And He is the Messiah that God had promised to shepherd the scattered flock of the house of Israel (see Ezekiel 34:11-14, 23; 37:24). As we hear in today's Gospel, Jesus is that Good Shepherd, sent to a people who were like sheep without a shepherd (see Mark 6:34; Numbers 27:16-17). He calls not only to the children of Israel, but to all those far off from Him - to whomever the Lord wishes to hear His voice. The call of the Good Shepherd leads to the restful waters of Baptism, to the anointing oil of Confirmation, and to the table and overflowing cup of the Eucharist, as we sing in today's Psalm. Again on this Sunday in Easter, we hear His voice calling us His own. He should awaken in us the response of those who heard Peter's preaching. "What are we to do?" they cried. We have been baptized. But each of us goes astray like sheep, as we hear in today's Epistle. We still need daily to repent, to seek forgiveness of our sins, to separate ourselves further from this corrupt generation. We are called to follow in the footsteps of the Shepherd of our souls. By His suffering He bore our sins in His body to free us from sin. But His suffering is also an example for us. From Him we should learn patience in our afflictions, to hand ourselves over to the will of God. Jesus has gone ahead, driven us through the dark valley of evil and death. His Cross has become the narrow gate through which we must pass to reach His empty tomb - the verdant pastures of life abundant.

This year the Universal Church celebrates 100 years since the Fatima Apparitions on **13th May 2017**. Please save this date. Consolata Shrine in conjunction with Our Lady of Fatima Small Christian Community is organising the Centenary Celebrations here at the Shrine.

Pope Francis granted the Shrine of Fatima the right to offer a plenary indulgence to pilgrims – according to the usual conditions - during the jubilee year of the centenary of the apparitions of the Virgin Mary, starting on November 26, 2016. The indulgence may be granted to Catholics who participate in a celebration or a prayer in honor of Our Lady of Fatima in another church where the image of the Virgin is exposed, on the anniversary date of the apparitions, namely the 13th of each month between May and October 2017. Join us on **13th**

May in honoring Our Mother. We shall have several activities on this day in union with the Universal Church. The highlight of the day is a grand procession with Our Lady and the climax will be the celebration of the Holy Mass in Her honor.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Today, being the Vocation Sunday and as it is requested by the Church, there will be the second collection to assist the Diocesan seminaries in the process of formation. For this reason, the collection of St Vincent De Paul will not take place.
2. Today also the Eucharistic Rosary will be prayed in front of the Blessed Eucharist after

12 o'clock Mass. All are welcome.

3. Every Friday of Easter time, we continue praying the Way of Light at the Prayer Garden at 4pm. The booklet with such prayers is available at the Bookshop.
4. We continue with the pilgrimage with the Icon of Our Lady Consolata to the homes from Mondays to Fridays. It is a special occasion to have our Mother visiting our families, in this Year of the Family. Everyday Mass and blessing of the house will take place in the home where the Icon will be. Please register in the Parish Office during the week.
5. On 13th May the universal church holds the centenary celebrations of Our Lady's apparitions in Fatima. Locally, the feast will be marked here at Consolata Shrine. The ceremonies start at 9.30am.
6. Construction of the Allamano Centre to build a new block of pastoral offices, hall and parking has begun. We kindly request you to stop by the tables at the entrances of the church and get detailed information about the project. We also invite you to give your contribution or make a pledge towards the project.
7. Last week, 2 parishioners got the first 2 prizes. One smartphone each. New prizes are won every week! Continue supporting the project and please pass the message to your friends so to participate into the raffle for a noble cause. Remember the code is *369*2#. The more you donate, the more chances of winning!

PRAYER FOR THE ALLAMANO CENTRE

I lift up my eyes to the mountains: from where shall come my help? My help shall come from the Lord who made heaven and earth. (Ps 121:1)

All-powerful and all-merciful father, you have created all things through your Son and have made him the unshakable foundation of your kingdom. Through the gift of your eternal wisdom, grant that the undertaking we begin today for your glory and the benefit of the Parish may progress day by day to its successful completion. May the Allamano Centre be the expression of our faith and of our missionary zeal to reach more people and in a better way. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Lady Consolata, pray for us! Blessed Joseph Allamano, pray for Us!

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**