



CONSOLATA SHRINE 3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR A



30th April 2017

FIRST READING

Acts 2:14.22-33

"It was not possible for him to be held by death."

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

On the day of Pentecost, Peter, standing with the Eleven, lifted up his voice and said, "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you and give ear to my words.

"Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs which God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know – this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. But God raised him up, having loosed the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. For David says concerning him, 'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will dwell in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, nor let your Holy One see corruption. You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make full of gladness with your presence.'"

"Brethren, I may say to you confidently of the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants upon his throne, he foresaw and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. This Jesus God raised up, and of that we are all witnesses. Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he poured out this which you see and hear."

The word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 16:1-2a and 5.7-11 (R.11a)

Response. Lord, you will show me the path of life.

Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord."

O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;
you yourself who secure my lot. **(Response)**

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel,
who even at night directs my heart.

I keep the Lord before me always;

with him at my right hand, I shall not be moved. **(Response)**

And so, my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;
even my flesh shall rest in hope.

For you will not abandon my soul to hell,
nor let your holy one see corruption. **(Response)**

You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence,
at your right hand, bliss forever. **(Response)**



SECOND READING

1 Peter 1:17-21

"You were ransomed with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a Lamb without blemish."

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Peter

Beloved: If you invoke as Father him who judges each one impartially according to his deed, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your fathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. He was destined before the foundation of the world but was made manifest at the end of the times for your sake. Through him you have confidence in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

The word of the Lord



Alleluia

Lord Jesus, open the Scriptures to us;
make our hearts burn with love when you speak to us.

Alleluia



GOSPEL

Luke 24:13-35

"They recognized him in the breaking of the bread."

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke



That very day the first day of the week, two of the disciples of Jesus were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What is this conversation which you are holding with each other as you walk?"

And they stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" And he said to them, "What things?" And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel.

Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day

since this happened. Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning and did not find his body; and they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb, and found it just as the women had said; but him they did not see."

And he said to them, "O foolish men, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He appeared to be going further, but they constrained him, saying, "Stay with us, for it is towards evening and the day is far spent." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognized him; and he vanished out of their sight. They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?" And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the Eleven gathered together and those who were with them, who said, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord

REFLECTION

EMMAUS AND US by Scott Hahn, Ph.D.

We should put ourselves in the shoes of the disciples in today's Gospel. Downcast and confused they're making their way down the road, unable to understand all the things that have occurred. They know what they've seen—a prophet mighty in word and deed. They know what they were hoping for—that He would be the redeemer of Israel. But they don't know what to make of His violent death at the hands of their rulers. They can't even recognize Jesus as He draws near to walk with them. He seems like just another foreigner visiting Jerusalem for the Passover. Note that Jesus doesn't disclose His identity until they describe how they found His tomb empty but "Him they did not see." That's how it is with us, too. Unless He revealed himself we would see only an empty tomb and a meaningless death. How does Jesus make himself known at Emmaus? First, He interprets "all the Scriptures" as referring to Him. In today's First Reading and Epistle, Peter also opens the Scriptures to proclaim the meaning of Christ's death according to the Father's "set plan"—foreknown before the foundation of the world. Jesus is described as a new Moses and a new Passover lamb. He is the One of whom David sang in today's Psalm—whose soul was not abandoned to corruption but was shown the path of life. After opening the Scriptures, Jesus at table took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to the disciples—exactly what He did at the Last Supper. In every Eucharist, we reenact that Easter Sunday at Emmaus. Jesus reveals himself to us in our journey. He speaks to our hearts in the Scriptures. Then at the table of the altar, in the person of the priest, He breaks the bread. The disciples begged him, "Stay with us." So He does. Though He has vanished from our sight, in the Eucharist—as at Emmaus—we know Him in the breaking of the bread.

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 the Homeless of Nairobi are having a shoe shining activity outside the church to support them with their needs. Kindly support them.
2. Ecumenism Committee has invited St. George Greek Orthodox Church & St Mark ACK today, for 12 noon Mass and there after a discussion on the message of Easter. All parishioners are invited to attend the meeting which will start at 1.30pm.
3. Tomorrow 1st May is PUBLIC HOLIDAY. We offer all Masses and Prayers for all workers & for those looking for jobs. Tomorrow masses will be as follows (7am, 9am and 5.30pm).
4. The envelopes for Easter contributions are available at all the entrances of the Church. Kindly pick one and put back into the blue boxes with your dues.
5. 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.
6. Every Friday of Easter time, instead of praying the Way of the Cross, we invite you to pray the Way of Light. You can join us at the Prayer Garden every Friday at 4pm.
7. On Friday 5th, is the first Friday of the Month. Night Vigil will start at 9.00pm and end up with a Holy Mass at 5.00am. All are welcome.
8. Next Sunday there will be the second collection of St. Vincent de Paul for the needy of our Parish.
9. Next Sunday the Eucharistic Rosary will be prayed in front of the Blessed Eucharist after 12 o'clock Mass. All are welcome.
10. From 1st May upto 15th June, we will have the pilgrim of 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. If you would wish the Icon to visit your home, please register in the Parish Office during the week.
11. Saturday 6th, The Marathon Rosary will be prayed in the prayer garden from 10.am to 5pm. All are welcome..

WEEKLY MEETINGS

- Liturgy Committee on Wednesday 3rd at 12.30pm

DAILY READING

Monday: Acts 6:8-15; Ps 119:23-24.26-27.29-30;

Jn 6:22-29

Tuesday: Acts 7:51 -8:1; Ps 31:3-4.6-8.17.21; Jn 6:30-35

Wednesday: 1 Cor 15:1-8; Ps 19:2-5; Jn 14:6-14

Thursday: Acts 8:26-40; Ps 66:8-9.16-17.20; Jn 6:44-51

Friday: Acts 9:1-20; Ps 117:1-2; Jn 6:52-59

Saturday: Acts 9:31-42; Ps 116:12-17; Jn 6:60-69

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**