



**CONSOLATA SHRINE
NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**



13TH AUGUST 2017 - YEAR A

FIRST READING

1Kings: 19:9a.11-13a

“Stand upon the mount before the Lord”.

A reading from the first Book of Kings

In those days: When Elijah came to {Horeb the mount of God} he lodged in a cave, and behold, the word of the Lord came to him. And he said, “Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the Lord.” And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind tore the mountains, and broke in pieces the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice. And when Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

The word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 85:9-14

Response. Let us see, O Lord, your mercy, and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what the Lord God speaks;
he speaks of peace for his people and his faithful.
His salvation is near for those who fear him,
and his glory will dwell in our land. **(Response)**

Merciful love and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have kissed.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth,
and justice look down from heaven. **(Response)**

Also the Lord will bestow his bounty,
and our earth shall yield its increase.
Justice will march before him,
and guide his steps on the way. **(Response)**

SECOND READING

Romans: 9:1-5

“I would willingly be condemned if it would help my brother.”

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brethren: I am speaking the truth in Christ, I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit, that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh. They are Israelites, and to them belong the sonship, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises;

to them belong the patriarchs, and of their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ, who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen.

The word of the Lord



Alleluia

I wait for the Lord, in his word I hope

Alleluia

GOSPEL

Matthew: 14:22-33

“Bid me to come to you on the water.”

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew



{After the crowd was satisfied} Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go before him on the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was many furlongs distant from the land, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out for fear. But immediately he spoke to them, saying, “Take heart, it is I; have no fear.” And Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, bid me come to you on the water.” He said, “Come”. So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus;

but when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, “Lord, save me.” Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?” And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

The Gospel of the Lord

REFLECTION

SINKING FEAR by Dr. Scott Hahn, PhD

How do we find God in the storms and struggles of our lives, in the trials we encounter in trying to do His will? God commands Elijah in today’s First Reading to stand on the mountain and await His passing by. And in the Gospel, Jesus makes the disciples set out across the waters to meet Him. In each case, the Lord makes himself present amid frightening tumult - heavy winds and high waves, fire and earthquakes. Elijah hides his face. Perhaps he remembers Moses, who met God on the same mountain, also

amid fire, thunder, and smoke (see Deuteronomy 4:10-15; Exodus 19:17-19). God told Moses no one could see His face and live, and He sheltered Moses in the hollow of a rock, as He shelters Elijah in a cave (see Exodus 33:18-23). The disciples, likewise, are too terrified to look on the face of God. Today's Gospel is a revelation of Jesus' divine identity. Only God treads across the crest of the sea (see Job 9:8) and rules the raging waters (see Psalm 89:9-10). And the words of assurance that Jesus speaks - "It is I" - are those God used to identify himself to Moses (see Exodus 3:14; Isaiah 43:10). Even Peter is too overcome by fear to imitate his Lord. His fears, Jesus tells him, are a sign of his lack of faith. And so it often is with us. Our fears make us doubt, make it hard to see His glory dwelling in our midst. Yet, we should know, as we sing in today's Psalm, that His salvation is near to those who hope in Him. By faith we should know, as Paul asserts in today's Epistle, that we are heirs to the promises made to His children, Israel. We must trust that He whispers to us in the trials of our lives - that He who has called us to walk along the way of His steps, will save us whenever we begin to sink.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. On Tuesday, the 15th is the Solemnity of The Assumption of the B.V. Mary. There will be a candle lit procession after 5.30pm Mass.
2. Coming Sunday we will also celebrate it as a Solemnity.
3. The Apostolate Committee is organizing the annual pilgrimage to Our Lady of Subukia at a cost of 1,100/=. The pilgrimage will take place on Saturday 26th. Please register after Mass at the desk at the entrance of the Church. We also encourage parishioners of good will to sponsor those who wish to go but cannot afford.
4. Registration for the Sacraments of Confirmation has started at the catechist's office. Children who have received their First Holy Communion and are aged 11 years this year are asked to register. Adults who have never been confirmed are also asked to register. Kindly bring along the original baptism card and a contribution of 200/=.
5. Christian Education Committee (CEC) has prepared a program of activities for children 5-12 years from Tuesday 15th to Friday 18th of August. Please collect further information and registration form outside the Church.
6. The rosary with candles is being prayed every Saturday after the evening Mass followed by a flowering to Our Lady and a Marian reflection in honour of our Lady to prepare for the celebration of her Nativity
7. A Life in the Spirit Seminar organized by Charismatic group is ongoing. The seminar is being conducted every Sunday from 2pm to 5pm in the tent behind the nursery School. The Seminar is open to everyone. All are welcome.
8. The Construction of the Allamano Centre to build a new block of pastoral offices, hall and parking is on-going. 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.

SEVENTH PRECEPT:

Pope Francis: 'All Christians Are Missionaries'

In his meeting in Philadelphia in 2016, in preparation to the Family Synod, the Pope

recounted the story of local Philadelphian Saint Katharine Drexel, who went to Rome in 1887 to tell Pope Leo XIII of the great needs of the missions in America. Instead of promising to send missionaries, the Pope asked her pointedly: "What about you? What are you going to do?"

These words remind us, Francis said, that "every Christian man and woman, by virtue of baptism, has received a mission. Each one of us has to respond, as best we can, to the Lord's call to build up his Body, the Church."

The Pope applied his words to the thousands gathered in the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul, asking them as well: "What about you?"

He also urged the priests and pastors present to hold out the same challenge to the young people of today. "How many young people in our parishes and schools have the same high ideals, generosity of spirit, and love for Christ and the Church! Do we challenge them? Do we make space for them and help them to do their part?" he asked. "One of the great challenges facing the Church in this generation," Francis said, "is to foster in all the faithful a sense of personal responsibility for the Church's mission, and to enable them to fulfill that responsibility as missionary disciples, as a leaven of the Gospel in our world."

This requires creativity in adapting to new situations, Francis said, as well as openness to the possibilities which the Spirit opens up to us.

"What about you? It is significant that those words of the elderly Pope were also addressed to a lay woman," Francis noted. "We know that the future of the Church in a rapidly changing society will call, and even now calls, for a much more active engagement on the part of the laity."

This means valuing the immense contribution which women, lay and religious, have made and continue to make, to the life of our communities, he said.

CONSECRATION OF THE FAMILY TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

Most holy Hearts of Jesus and Mary, united in perfect love, as you look upon us with mercy and caring, we consecrate our hearts, our lives, our family to you. We know the beautiful example of your home in Nazareth was meant to be a model for each of our families. We hope to have, with your help, the unity and strong, enduring love you gave to one another. May our home be filled with joy. May sincere affection, patience, tolerance and mutual respect be freely given to all. May our prayers be filled with the needs of others, not just ourselves and may we always be close to your sacraments. Bless those who are present, as well as those who are absent, both the living and the dead; may peace be among us and when we are tested, grant us the Christian acceptance of God's will. Keep our family close to your Hearts; may your special protection be with us always. Most Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, hear our prayer

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