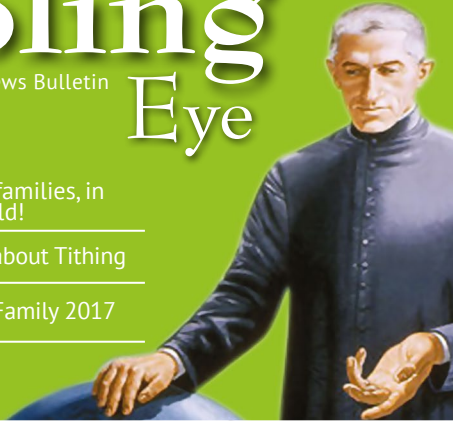
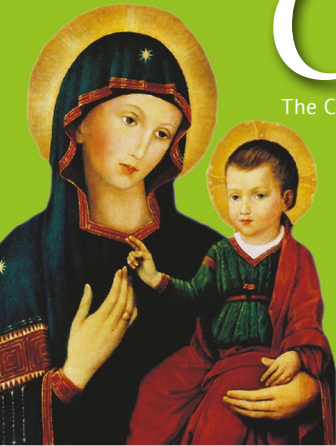


September 2017

The Consoling Eye

The Consolata Shrine Parish Monthly News Bulletin



- 02 Unity and peace in our families, in the Church... in the World!
- 08 What you should know about Tithing
- 16 Celebrating Year of the Family 2017
- 20 Children's Corner



Novena *Nativity of Our Lady*

August 31st – September 8th



Consolata Shrine, Westlands, Nairobi



@ConsoShrine

Unity and peace in our families, in the Church... in the World!

Dear Consolata Shrine family,

Some time back, while I and the rest of the committee were writing for The Consoling Eye, we were looking forward to the elections and encouraging one another to hold peaceful and credible elections.

Elections came, passed and we are still under the expectation of a final decision. However, I am sure that we all want peace, growth and development for this country, for His people. This challenge to let our human and Christian values prevail and therefore God's Kingdom to become more visible is a permanent way. In these times, while many look for a future, some look for a better life or to carry out either a personal or group agenda. We pray that we all search for God's will. God's will which does not only happen when things work as we would wish, but

when we are open for things to happen even in a different way. To all those who before, during and after the elections promoted peace and harmony, my congratulations and best wishes! Not everybody may have that agenda, but we all benefit from such a goodness!

Let us keep learning that the Kingdom of God – His Kingdom, our lives, our families, the country, etc. - is sometimes a small seed... other times is mixed with weeds sown in its midst, which God will patiently wait to remove only at the time of the harvest... other times is a little portion in the middle of a large dough, but making a big difference. It is not a time of resignation either when things don't happen as we wish, or because we cannot remove completely the bad effects in our society, or of our own lives.

Pope's Prayers Intentions for September 2017

Parishes:

That our parishes, animated by a missionary spirit, may be places where faith is communicated and charity is seen.



The celebration of Confirmation that we had in the parish and conducted by His Eminence John Cardinal Njue, I believe was one of the most significant confirmations in the Parish! It was a new Pentecost! When on the days after the elections, including the very day of the confirmations that is on 12th

August, many people were closed for fear of those protesting... the Holy Spirit gave parents and god-parents the courage to get out together with their candidates who were not afraid at all! And the Holy Spirit came upon the candidates to remind them that they are called to be witnesses to their faith by committing themselves to Jesus, to be instruments of peace, soldiers of Jesus. The Holy Spirit made us all to overcome any fear!

With the same strength we had activities for children and for the Junior Youth in the second and third weeks of August, while being prudent but not closing ourselves because of fear.

The Celebration of the Assumption of Our Lady, on 15th August reminded us that we have to keep our eyes looking on high, in other words, we have to do our best and still move with Hope.

My brothers and sisters, I often hear that regarding politics there are a lot of things



happening behind the screens... It might most probably be... and that is why, certain things may be beyond our control, but our own actions, words and thoughts... are under our power. Let us do our part in that corner in which others have little to say... and where you and your conscience – God's

voice- calls you by name and makes you fully responsible... not blaming anybody else but if at all blaming ourselves if we haven't done our part. Our part which we are called to live with humility and great spirit of service, a great missionary spirit.

I am sure that we wish to catch up with life in peace and harmony, it still depends up to a great degree on ourselves.

Let us confirm the unity and peace in our families, in the Church... in the World!

At the beginning of September, on Saturday the 9th, at 3pm, we will be celebrating the birth of Our Lady (the Feast itself is on 8th September). May she intercede for us and for the whole church, so that there is a new birth with peace at its very core. **CE**

May God bless you all!

Fr Daniel Berteau
Father In-Charge

Celebrating Fr. James Lengarin's election to the Vice General Superior of the Consolata Missionaries – Worldwide

When the good news of Fr James Bhola Lengarin, a Consolata Missionary who has been based at Consolata Shrine's and Consolata Regional house for the East African region has been elected to the supreme office based in Rome as the Vice General Superior of the Consolata Missionaries Worldwide, what joy it was for the Consolata Shrine family. Consoling eye got an exclusive insight of the fiery priest's journey from the horse's mouth.

I was born on 15th April 1971 while my mother was visiting Maralal, the current Samburu County Headquarters. My parents were pastoralists and resided in the neighboring El Barta Location (Sererit). My Dad was killed by an elephant at Sererit while shepherding before I was born. I have eight older siblings. As nomadic Pastoralists, our economy depended largely on "the Cattle economy" for everything that we needed as a family and society. I grew up in this kind of environment to my fourth birthday and thereafter my Mom asked my elder brother who was a police officer to take me with him to lighten the burden of mom in caring for our livestock. It is then that I was taken as a son by my elder brother who was working in Nakuru. After some time he was transferred to Eldoret and this is where my schooling started.

After I finished the Nursery school, my brother was to go and attend a promotion course at the police college. He had no one to leave me and therefore got me into Masikita boarding Primary school in 1978 to start my Class one. I was already a town boy attending a village school in Masikita with grown-ups, for they were late in going to school. In 1981 I transferred to Baragoi Primary school for class four, reason being that Masikita was a village school that only got to standard three. Upper classes were at Baragoi. I finished my primary school and joined Baragoi Secondary school in 1986. While at form four in 1989, in answer to the famous question of what I want to be as an adult, I started reading the Seed Magazine. I admired what the missionaries were doing all over the world. As a young boy, I was influenced so much by the whispers of my Mother in the evening as she goes to bed and early in the morning as she wakes up. She used to thank God, "NKAI" for all the gifts; her sons and daughters and for the livestock.

I also learned from her how to welcome people to our home and provide them with food. My mother wanted us to help those who are needy and to care for them as our brothers and sisters. These inspired me to become a medical Doctor so as to assist the people who are dying

due to poor medical care. However, when I wrote to the Consolata missionaries Vocational Director inquiring what they do, the Vocational Director replied telling me they go all over the world to witness the word of God to those people who have not heard of it. They care for the lowly by promoting them in education, health and socially. This made me change my idea of wanting to be a Doctor to being a missionary to the world. I joined the Consolata Missionaries in 1990 as an aspirant. Afterwards, I went ahead in studies at Consolata Institute of Philosophy, then Novitiate at Sagana and after a year I was destined to England for Theological studies. In 1997, I went to Rome for a master programme at Gregorian University. In 1999 I finished my studies and I was ordained a priest on 18th July 1999.

I went on to Italy for Mission animation and pastoral work. In 2004 I was nominated to go to Rome and accompany young missionaries in Formation in our International Theological Seminary at Bravetta. In 2008 I was asked to assist in a second Novitiate in Kenya at Mathari Nyeri as a Novice Master. From these activities I was asked to start up a Language School at Lang'ata for our society in 2009, which I set up and put in function. In 2010, I was later appointed the Parish Priest of Consolata shrine in Nairobi which ended in 2012 as I was appointed the Regional Financial Administration of the Kenya-Uganda Region until my term in office ended on February 2017. Earlier in 2016 August I had been elected by the missionaries to be their representative



Fr. James Lengarin, Vice General Superior of the Consolata Missionaries.

in the General Chapter in Rome with other members. The General Chapter commenced on 22nd May and ended on 20th June in Rome. During this time on 13th June 2017, I was elected by the Chapter members as the Vice General Superior.

Fr James, the Consolata Family wish you well in your new assignment and pray for you. **CE**

**Revised by Dennis Maina
Communications Committee**

(For the full version of the article, kindly visit our website at www.consolatashrine.org)

Upendo Family Day at Consolata Shrine on Saturday, 30th September 2017

“Charity is a strong tradition in all people of faith”

It is in this spirit that we come to you for help.

Consolata Shrine Catholic Church in conjunction with Charity's committee is organizing a charity event, Upendo Day, to be held on Saturday 30th September 2017 at the church premises, Consolata's Upendo Day is an annual event that takes place in September or October. The goal of this event is to raise funds to sustain the various charity projects undertaken by Consolata Shrine.



Nursery school kids during a class session at Deep Sea Nursery school, which is run by the Consolata Shrine. Inset: the kids reciting a poem to a visiting group of well-wishers. Proceeds from the Upendo Family Day fundraising activities helps keep them in schools, among other initiatives to alleviate needy situations at the slum.

The proceeds will go 50% to assist in the Allamano Centre, a new set up at Consolata Shrine which will assist to hold meetings and other proceeds will go to charity, assisting the needy families of the church, extending to the informal settlement, Deep Sea, at Highridge. These funds are managed by the church and are used to assist the community in the following way:

- Weekly distribution of food to senior citizens of the community. These Senior citizens have no relatives to look after them.
- Paying school fees for children from primary to secondary school, as well as to tertiary level (college and university). Some of these children are orphans; others were abandoned by one or both parents; the last categories are those whose parents that are either handicapped or ill and thus unable to fend for their family.
- Providing medical attention to the community. The church has set up a dispensary that serves the community.

The slum has an estimated population of 10,000 people whose inhabitants lack basic facilities,

electricity and proper housing. Research shows that 70% of urban residents in Kenya live in slums, forming a huge part of the vulnerable population. Most families are single-parent household's majority headed by women who are not economically empowered to support their families. Youth and children are the most vulnerable members of the society. Due to poverty, idleness and promiscuity, HIV/AIDS is spreading at alarming rates.

There is a high mortality burden from preventable and treatable conditions. Due to the informal nature of the settlement there are inadequate health facilities, education, water/sanitation and garbage collection services. Through the support of Consolata Shrine, COYREP established a health dispensary to help this community. The dispensary has been popular with many slum dwellers from afar accessing it for their healthcare needs.

Slums are also characterized by high levels of unemployment, overcrowding, insecurity, involvement in risky sexual practices among other desperate living conditions as noted below: Bring the greatly needed services to the slum people and give them educational on prevention of communicable diseases like HIV, malaria, diarrhoea and hygiene related issues. Counseling of those who attend on issues like alcohol and drug abuse the target of the beneficiary population as recorded for the previous medical camps is drawn from Dead Sea, Masai, Gachie, Kangemi and surrounding environs. It is in this spirit that we ask you to support the above mentioned charity event to raise funds for this purpose. We pray for your favorable consideration.

Sponsorship Categories:

1 Platinum Sponsor @Kshs 1,000,000

- Main branding of Event Venue
- 200-seater Tent
- 10 complimentary entry tickets
- Company Logo on:
 - Posters, and Banner(s)
 - Email and Relevant Social Media
 - Media Ads
- Certificate/Gift of Appreciation

2 Gold Sponsors @ Kshs 500,000

- Tent branding
- 100- seater Tent
- 7 complimentary entry tickets
- Company Logo on:
 - Posters, and Banner(s)
 - Email and Relevant Social Media
 - Media Ads
- Certificate/Gift of Appreciation

3 Silver Sponsors @ Kshs 200,000

- 50-seater Tent
- 5 complimentary Entry tickets
- Company Logo on:
 - Posters, Event Ticket and Banner(s)
 - Email and Relevant Social Media
 - Media Ads
- Certificate/Gift of Appreciation

4 Bronze Sponsors @ Kshs 100,000

- 2 per 100-seater tent
- 3 complimentary Entry tickets
- Company Logo on:
 - Posters, Event Ticket and Banner(s)
 - Email and Relevant Social Media
 - Media Ads
- Certificate/Gift of Appreciation

Media Sponsor

- Commensurate complimentary Entry tickets

- Company Logo on:
 - Posters, Event Ticket and Banner(s)
 - Email and Relevant Social Media
 - Media Ads
- Certificate/Gift of Appreciation

Water Sponsor

- Water, preferably dispenser and paper (not plastic) cups
- Commensurate complimentary Entry tickets
- Company Logo on:
 - Posters, Event Ticket and Banner(s)
 - Email and Relevant Social Media
 - Media Ads
- Certificate/Gift of Appreciation

Tent Sponsor

- Free or heavily subsidized tents
- Commensurate complimentary Entry tickets
- Company Logo on:
 - Posters, Event Ticket and Banner(s)
 - Email and Relevant Social Media
 - Media Ads
- Certificate/Gift of Appreciation

Corporate Sponsor A: @Kshs 20,000

- complimentary entry tickets
- 2 sharing 100-seater tent

Corporate Sponsor B: @ Kshs 15,000

- 2 complimentary entry tickets
- sharing 100-seater tent

Corporate Sponsor C: @ Kshs 10,000

- 1 complimentary entry ticket
- sharing 100-seater tent

VENDORS:

- Vendor A; 4 sharing 100-seater tent Kshs 2,000
- Vendor B; 3 sharing 100-seater

tent Kshs 4,000
Vendor C; 4 sharing 100-seater tent Kshs 6,000
Vendor D; 4 sharing 100-seater tent Kshs 8,000

CAR BOOT SELLERS @ Kshs 2,500

- 1 Complimentary Entry Ticket & Certificate of Participation-

Contact: June Claire Wainaina +254 701 843 539

Activities of the Day

UPENDO DAY, Sat 30th Sep 7am - 4pm
Supporting the poor and needy in our Society

MISA TAKATIFU

7am – 9am

HOLY HIKE - FUNDRAISING WALK 10 KM

KING SOLOMON'S TREASURE HUNT

SPORTS, GAMES AND ACTIVITIES

SOCCER

RELAY 4 by 100 Teams:

Mums versus Dads Small Christian Communities

Trampoline

Bouncing castle

Pony rides.

FOOD COURT

What you should know about Tithing

Fifth precept
You shall help to provide for the needs of the Church.

The Church is indeed a divine institution, but it is also human. It exists in this world, and so it has need of the means to live and work in the world. The origins of this Precept lie in the Old Testament: the Jews were obliged to give ten per cent of the fruits of their fields, and produce, to the ministers that is the Levites and the priests as a tithe. Why ten per cent? Ten was seen as the perfect or complete number (think of the 10 commandments).

So if ten stands for my complete income, whatever it may be, then it can be divided into ten parts (each of ten percent), and one whole part of my income I give to God. Here is the key to understanding the Precept: I have received everything I have from God, and so, each year, I return to him (in and through his Church), as a kind of sacrifice, a portion of what he has given me. The spiritual meaning of the Precept unfolds further if we turn to the New Testament. We see the zeal with which, in the Acts of the Apostles, the early Christians sold property and laid it at the feet of the Apostles (e.g. Acts 4:34-35). St Paul's words ring out: He

who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully (2 Cor. 9:6). And reflect further: the giving of gifts binds us closer to others; so our contributions to the Church unite us more fully to our fellow Christians in the community of faith. What are the needs of the Church? Canon Law expands: we give material support to the



Church for those things which are necessary for divine worship, for apostolic and charitable work and for the worthy support of its ministers (Code of Canon Law 222).

The first is not to be forgotten: the worship of God first of all church buildings, and then for the sacred liturgy. Apostolic work includes the whole mission of the church: including the administration of parishes, the support of poorer churches, and the proclamation of the faith. Charitable work (e.g. St Vincent de Paul) is the service of Christ in his poor. Finally, the clergy need to be supported. Well spent, our offerings can be of enormous value in assisting the mission of the Church. Does the practice of tithing still apply? Many Christians, past and present, have kept to this ancient and biblical practice. Ultimately, the Church does not specify any amount but leaves it to our decision. St Paul says: Each

one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. (2 Cor. 9:7) Does that mean no guidance at all? To those who ask, 3-5% of income has been suggested in this diocese. Could we give, additionally, a further 5% to charity? (Many good causes are supported by second collections.) These figures may sound high, but if they get us thinking seriously, including about how we spend our money in general, they serve their purpose. It has been said: A person who has love for the Church will give an appropriate offering. This parish continues to be a generous one. Individually, however much or little we have, the Precept reminds us that it is our Christian responsibility, indeed obligation, to support the Church. **CE**

Lee Komora
Communications Committee

Continuation of the Reflection of Our Lady Consolata from perspective of Mariological study in the prayer of Hail Mary.

2. Kenosis - self donation, self-giving or self-emptying.

“The Lord is with you, blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.”

This sentence is said by Elizabeth during her public testimony (cf Lk 1,42) A sentence, “blessed is she who believed”, followed Elizabeth’s testimony. She also mentions Mary’s faith. Through Elizabeth’s proclamation we can confirm Mary’s faith. Hence, the birth of Jesus, for our salvation became a public event. It was no longer a private event because of the proclamation of others. Specifically, it was proclaimed publicly that the God, who is the Word, was to come as a man. Consequently, Mary who conceived God the Son, is blessed.

This blessed state, this faith of Mary’s, did not only belong to the moment of the Lord’s conception but was continued to the end of His life. It means that Mary is the one person who participated fully in the death and the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Church expresses this participation as a pilgrimage. An essential feature of this

pilgrimage is to reach the Light that never goes out. This can be done through the Cross and personal reformation, respecting the power of the Lord’s Resurrection and guided by the invisible Holy Spirit, the Paraclete. So, the conception of the Lord in Mary’s womb, granted through her faith in obedience and kenosis (self-donation), announces the beginning of this pilgrimage.

Through the prophecy of Simeon, we know that the pilgrimage is not the way of joy and gladness. He said that Jesus would become a sign which is spoken against (Lk 2, 34) and he told Mary, “A sword will pierce through your own soul also.” (Lk 2, 25). The climax of Mary’s sorrowful pilgrimage was the death of Jesus on the Cross.

Although He is God, Jesus was killed on the Cross by humans. This is difficult to understand. In this unbelievable moment, Mary held on to her faith in obedience about God’s plan of salvation. In fact, at this moment, Mary united fully with Christ.

The death of Jesus on the Cross was achieved through the act of self giving (kenosis) to



the Father’s will for the sake of humanity. Specifically, Jesus emptied Himself of His divinity, became human, and fully obeyed the Father’s will. At this moment, Mary also obeyed and donated herself fully to God’s will by accepting the death of her son. At this time, Jesus the Son of God and Mary, His mother, attained the apex of self-donation for the sake of God’s plan of salvation. Hence, Mary participated with a full faith in the death of the Redeemer and was fully united with Jesus Christ, the Saviour.

Mary, who embraced God, became a woman

who was with God through a full faith and self-donation, kenosis.

3. Our Mother

“Holy Mary, Mother of God.”

It is the Word that directly proves that Mary is the Mother of God. It is premised on the fact that Mary is the Mother of God the Son, who is in human form. In the prayer Hail Mary, we call Mary, “Mother of God.” At the same time, she becomes our mother too.

The reason that Mary is our mother appears through a woman’s confession, “Blessed is the womb that carried you and the breasts that nursed you” (Lk. 11, 27). After this declaration, Jesus states that the people who do God’s will are to be called His brother and mother (Lk 8, 21). This verse seems to suggest that Jesus is denying that Mary is His mother. But Jesus is redefining His family to include all God’s children. This in turn means that Mary is endowed with a new motherhood. She becomes the mother of all humanity and the mother of the Church. Mary’s motherhood of the Church is expressed well at the conclusion of the Hail Mary prayer. **CE**

Deacon Bernardo KIM
bellado2000@naver.computer

Pictures courtesy of Eric Fernandes

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We have progressed to stream the masses live, this is to enable those who are not in a position to physically attend mass due to serious illness. Please note that mass is very important and Jesus is truly present in the Blessed Sacrament which we are under obligation to receive. We must always attend mass, watching internet mass must not be a replacement for the Mass.



Celebrating the Feast of Assumption (08th August 2017).



On going construction progress of the Allamano Centre. Let us continue to support this project.



Mr and Mrs Samuel Muriuki of Kirinyaga County holds their comprehensive car insurance that was issued when he won the grand prize of the Allamano Centre project raffle. Looking on are Fr Daniel of Consolata Shrine and representatives from Cellulant and Pacis Insurance.



Fr Joseph Caesar of Consolata Shrine presents a one comprehensive insurance cover to the grand winner of the just concluded raffle, Mrs Josephine Nyambura. Representatives from Cellulant and Pacis Insurance looks on.

Happy Birthday Mama Maria



Mothers are the closest persons to our heart. Simply because they carry us for nine long months in their womb with utmost care, nurse us during our infancy with undivided attention and strive for our wellbeing and happiness always, whatever may be our relationship or disposition towards them. Even when they are disowned, disrespected, hurt or humiliated, their love and concern for their children remains steadfast and undiminished. Precisely because of this, it is always a joy for the children to celebrate their mother's birthdays and feast days.

Mother Mary comes across as an exceptional mother who always stood by her son and his disciples as a pillar of strength, support and hope, more so at a time when everything looked dark and bleak during the passion and death of her son. Simply by being a devoted mother of the saviour of the world, she takes a special place in our faith-life. Celebrating the birthday of such a wonderful woman is surely a matter of great joy. It also fills us with a sense of gratitude to her for the great role she played as the closest partner in the life and mission of Jesus.

Just the other day an expectant mother called me to share the good news. She was excited about having her first child and couldn't wait to bring the bundle of joy into the world. Assuring her of my prayers for a smooth delivery, I asked if she was afraid or anxious about the child birth, this being her first pregnancy. Her answer was a big NO. Instead she was simply excited. The very thought of having her first baby gave her the greatest sense of joy and fulfillment. She further added that she was just thinking of the baby and not about herself. A clear shift from the self to the other. This speaks volumes about motherhood. And Mary's entire life is a statement on true motherhood.

The feast of the nativity of Mother Mary can be viewed from various perspectives and angles in relation to our faith and Christian life. Theologically, the birth of Mary ushers in the dawn of a new era in the history of human life and salvation. Life, because Mother Mary's entire life brims with lessons for life – her total faith and trust in the power of God, her total surrender to God's plans even when things appear not so good, her ability to absorb and endure pain and suffering, her commitment and devotion to her family, and her selfless spirit of sacrifice and altruism. Salvation, because she participated and collaborated with God and Jesus wholeheartedly in the work of

redemption. In her birth, the grand plan of God to bring forth the savior of humankind saw its dawn.

Our modern world is beset with many problems connected to family and married life. Divorces, separation, broken families and marriages have become the order of the day. In such a situation, the celebration of the feast of the birth of Mother Mary gains tremendous significance, if only we take time to learn some lessons from this Great woman. Her commitment to family was supreme. She sacrificed a lot and endured much in order to keep the family intact. She was an embodiment of motherhood, providing utmost care and attention to bring up the child Jesus. Mary's nativity is further an invitation for us to say yes to God's ways and will, come what may and partner with Him as instruments of bringing healing and succor to a world reeling under many ills and setbacks. We may not be able to change the world. But we can certainly change ourselves by following the example of Mother Mary; show little more commitment to our families, exercise marital faithfulness, radiate joy, brighten up some lives and become a sign of hope. In doing so, we set the world rolling on a positive note. And positivity breeds positivity. **CE**

Fr John Mervin Noronha SVD

Celebrating Year of the Family 2017

– Continuation from previous issue

As Parishioners who have frequented Consolata Shrine since 1994, our family feels deeply blessed to be part of this astounding Christian community of God. It is indeed a vibrant community that continuously evolves in its quest for reaching out to all sections of the cosmopolitan and global society.

To Love God:

Mt 22:37-38: "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. ³⁸ This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

What is love? Each and every one of us can define LOVE in a different and unique way. We read books about love, sing songs about love and find ourselves happy being loved by others and vice-versa. We also feel neglected and dejected when there is no love.

So when we talk about loving God and loving our neighbor, we're talking about something that is basic to our existence as human beings. Love is the basic substance of God. This means that love is what both where we and the entire universe come from. Love is not just some feeling. Love is at the core of our existence. Love is our very *life*.

God is LOVE, who created us in his love and It is the family where we learn to love, children observe and learn from Parents to love each other and in extension we love our neighbors and those in need, who have been created in the image of God.

The *Family that PRAYS together stays together*, a well-known and popular saying. PRAYER is nothing but Love, way of expressing our gratitude and our Love to God. Saying a grace before meal, a family Rosary, small prayer before retiring to the bed etc. are form of prayer and in extension expression of our gratitude & love and it is from our parents we have learnt our first ever words of Thanksgiving, prayer and expression of love.

In the words of Mother Teresa. "If You Want to Change the World, Go Home and Love Your Family"

Question: do we express our loving words in acts and deeds with in family?

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. Gal 6:2

We Love God by keeping his commandment. Loving God is also observing his commands and commands of his Bride the Church. One of the most important is the 4th commandment of God, which parents themselves need to practice, so that children observe and put it to practice.

I recall as a child my Grand Parents and parents always taught us to pray impromptu. Pray for all in the family, for relative, for neighbours, for Church, for Priests & religious so on except for yourself. We pray for others and others will pray for us and that is to be loved by others, we love them and we love God by loving his creation, a lesson we learn in our families.

«Whoever loves, knows God; whoever does not love has not known God because God is love, but not soap opera love. No, no. Solid, strong love, eternal love, a love-made manifest,» Pope Francis

To Serve God:

To SERVE God Mk 10:45 - For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

I am the hand maid of the Lord, Our Mother Submitting to **Serve** Lord in his act of Salvation. Jesus helping Mary and Joseph as a Carpenter and in obedience before he started his public ministry. Jesus washing the feet of his disciples and asking them to serve one another!

Serving each other or helping each other is one of the first act we learn in the family and we find joy in doing so and carry this joy out in the society and void of such an atmosphere is for sure going to be a disaster.

It is also important that we receive encouragement to serve each other from our family members, simply by way of acknowledgement. A word of praise for the work of their hands, "What a wonderful & tasty dish!" or a simple "I love you papa" is enough to replenish the hearts of those in our family.

This learning in the family helps us to serve in the family of God that is Church. Here I wish to mention the selfless service of many parishioners in various groups, committees like PPC members, Proclaimers, Choir, Alter Servers etc. who for sure have received immense support from their family, including sacrificing family time to SERVE God and His people. I too humbly and proudly consider myself blessed to

have a wonderful family, who have constantly not only encouraged me, but are learning the joy of service.

Question: do we as a family have any commitment to serve and reach out to the needy, which binds the family?

Serving is often not an act possible only through monetary means, but it must be done from the humanity that lies deep within our hearts. A moment shared with an aged person who has been isolated in an old age home, Or a warm hug extended to an abandoned orphan is truly the way to serve those in need and to discover the true meaning for "Whatsoever you do to the least of..... that you do unto Him."

I recall my childhood days and it could be true to many of us, that house work is generally shared amongst siblings with a larger portion of the work done by the Mother. We all took turns in performing chores like cleaning of the house, washing dishes, making everyone's bed, helping in the kitchen etc. Though children are often reluctant, my mother used to insist on making sure we helped through kind words of encouragement. Family is that place we learn the art of selfless love & service woven into the manual labor of our hands had automatically filled us with a sense of serving, be it in the house or outside.

In conclusion, as we celebrate this very special year, may we all be blessed with wisdom, guidance, strength and joy to model our families like the Holy Family of Nazareth. Joseph, Mary & Jesus, help us to KNOW, LOVE and SERVE our Father in heaven. **CE**

Basil Serrao
Communications Committee

The late Pius Milimu, a man of the people for the people

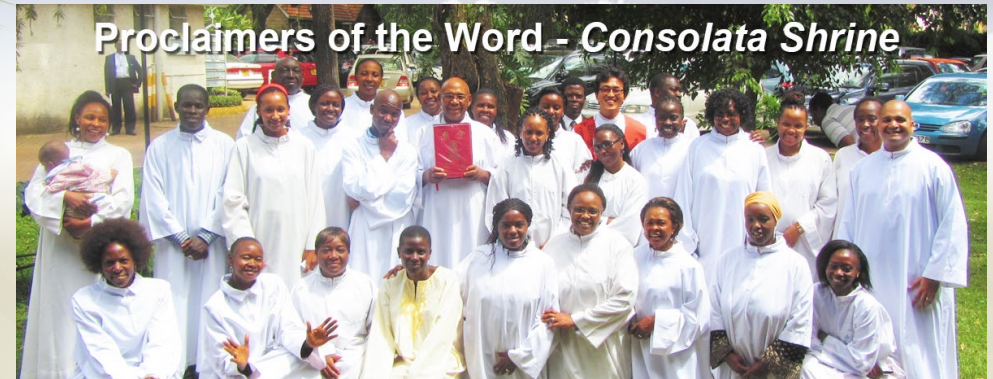
One Common person around the Consolata shrine and the Church compound in any day and any time has been one PIUS MILIMU. He went about serving at school and the church always smiling and greeting people he came across. He cut across with everyone very well, humbly and never cared what his status is in the society. He was many things in Consolata. The church was his family and friend. He spent many hours on a Sunday around the church. He evangelized by his presence. He talked only what was necessary.



When I was requested to write something about Pius, many things came across my mind, sad as I was about his demise. Only two weeks ago I was with him at Nazareth Hospital where he was admitted for one week. His health was failing him and obviously the character he was, he wanted to do more, but it was not possible as he was a prisoner of a three months illness. His health took on a downward path and his body mass depreciated fast. He hoped! He didn't feel pity for himself but knew that one of the days he would be out of the hospital to serve people again. My mind went to the many years I knew him. I came to know him as a friend. We shared a lot together and he always asked for my advise on certain issues. To synchronize my thoughts, I asked the Proclaimers who have been close to him

like I am, to put up some writing on our WhatsApp wall. I marveled at what people said about him. Was it the case of people saying so many good things about someone when he has passed on? NO! Agatha, said on her posting; "this has given me the opportunity to think of what people would say about me when am no longer there. I have thought and thought of myself."

My thoughts here is the summary of what the Proclaimers know of Pius. It's not what they thought of him. I remembered that the first time I got in contact with him. It was at the proclaimers training in 2004. I marveled at how he always realized his shortcoming and kept trying even when he was being shouted-at to pronounce certain words correctly. He was on the receiving end most of the time, but he smiled to counter the challenge. It was not only him but also a lot of us, because we had to get it right. But, he was different. Out of the class many years later on, his presence was always noticeable. Calm as always. He seemed that he didn't have enemies. He was a happy man. He carried tables around the church and prepared for collections for different projects or was at hand to help register new parishioners or help the parish anyhow. Pius was a Proclaimer, a choir member, served in the Pastoral council many years before I joined and a chair Person of St. Jude Small



Christian Community. Today as I write this memoir, the parish is organizing to go to the annual pilgrimage to Subukia. The announcements are always done 3 weeks before the D-day in July through to early August. The most common face in collecting the money and helping in coordination has been non other than Pius Mulimu. This year as the process kicked off you would easily note his absence. He was synonymous with such activities encouraging one and all to go Subukia. He would always be part of those who never missed to go to Subukia.

And even though he did not have the hustles of emails and WhatsApp on his phone, he was well informed and up to-date with what concerned groups that he was part off. During the school days, Pius was common at both the school and Church compound. He would crisscross the two several times in a day. You needed not to look for him far. He was nearer than you thought. Here was obedient to any authority above him. He did what he was requested with such a great Love. As the previous convener of the Proclaimers sometime back, I had to stop proclaimers from over-using him whenever they were not available for their duties at a given Mass. This is because on

a given Sunday Pius would find himself leaving Consolata Shrine at 7.30pm having participated in nearly all masses and covering for proclaimers who were not able to attend their scheduled Holy Mass. He never had the audacity to say No. He always said, "Yes. I will be there for you". This was despite one time Fr. Marino stopping him from proclaiming for sometimes because there were parishioners who complained that they never heard what he was reading during the announcements. That was short lived as due to lack of enough proclaimers he found himself doing what he was being told not to do. We had to work on him to become better which he humbly agreed on. And indeed he drastically became better. Around Lent and Easter including the one of 2017, we would count on him a hundred percent. "Give anything you want me to do", even if it is Judas, he would tell Margaret Njuguna the organizer of festive season schedule, "and I will do". Now, the choirs will miss him, the proclaimers will miss him and the entire parish will Miss him. Rest in Peace our brother Pius. ☩

**Amos Ochieng Amouh
Convener Liturgy, Consolata Shrine.**

FAITH! HOPE! LOVE!

Who we are on the outside is because of who we are on the inside. So, how we behave and treat others is connected to our thoughts and beliefs. What do you like thinking about? What do you believe in?

Good children have good habits. They find joy in doing good things. Another name for a good habit is a **virtue**. If we want to be good children what should guide us? St. Paul had good advice for the new Christians of Corinth. He told them, "**Only these three remain, faith, hope and love, and the greatest of these is love.**" (1Cor 13:13). These are the three great **theological virtues**. By bringing them into our lives, we bring God into our lives.

With **FAITH**, we can believe in the Loving God we cannot see. This virtue allows us to believe in God and to believe in all that He has said and revealed to us.

With **HOPE**, we can trust in the good plans God has for us. This virtue allows us to desire the Kingdom of Heaven and eternal life, placing our trust in Christ promises.

With **LOVE**, we can be generous towards our neighbours because we see God in them. This virtue allows us to love God above all things for His own sake and our neighbours as ourselves, for the love of God.

Let us ask God to help us with these three virtues. We should pray with faith, trusting in the Lord with love in our hearts.

The month of September has many saints. They all practised the three theological virtues all their lives. They drew closer to God each day. We want the same for ourselves.

During this month, let us remember Our Mother Mary. The Church celebrates her birthday on 8th September. God bless you all.

Christian Education Committee



September Saints and Feast Days Word Search



*Directions: Search only for the parts of the saints names or feast days that are in bold print.

- | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| St. Gregory the Great | St. Cornelius | St. Damian |
| St. Peter Claver | St. Cyprian | St. Vincent de Paul |
| Most Holy Name of Mary | St. Andrew Kim Taegon | St. Michael |
| Exaltation of the Holy Cross | St. Paul Chong Hasang | St. Gabriel |
| Our Lady of Sorrows | St. Pio of Pietrelcina | St. Raphael |
| | St. Cosmas | St. Jerome |

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Confirmations in July

1. Alex Kandie
2. Alexander Chidubem Zimuzo
3. Alexia Rose Irene Bakhita Wambui
4. Allan Njuguna
5. Allan Karanja
6. Allen Ndungu Karanja
7. Ande Njinju Kuria
8. Andrew Kigen Kiproop
9. Annrita Nkatha
10. Anselm Rooney Njeru
11. Aurelia Waruguru Mundia
12. Austin Elvis Kimani
13. Benedict Mulatya Mbai
14. Benit Ashuza Lushugurhi
15. Bernard Joseph Charles Odhiambo
16. Billy Njiru Mbaabu
17. Bradley John Jura Ochola
18. Cecilia Wairimu Ngugi
19. Chaantal Ndunge Odunga
20. Christine Nganga
21. Christine Wairimu
22. Christopher Wairaguh Kinyanjui
23. Crystal Adhiambo
24. Crystal Wanjiru Moko
25. Daniella Chepkoech Kibogy
26. Daniella Wanjiku Mbari
27. David Keith Kibebe
28. Dennis Otieno Odhiambo
29. Didier Ntare Nkurayija
30. Diego Ntwari Nkurayija
31. Divin Lushuguri
32. Dominic Owino
33. Edel Cherotich
34. Eden Nungari Njau
35. Elaine Ngima Kabungo
36. Elsie Marie Wanjiru
37. Erika Mutheu Oduor
38. Ernest Costa Kwasiira Likombe
39. Eryka Emily Abochi
40. Everlyn Wanjiru
41. Fabius Nyagaka
42. Felix Kinyanjui Waitthaka
43. Fencil Mmbone
44. Francis Joseph Parasi
45. Gabriella Gakenia
46. Gerry Mwangi Walterfong
47. Gloria Alice Onoka
48. Hope Tsuma
49. Ian Waweru Njoroge
50. Imani Wanjiru Wanyoike
51. Ivy Madara
52. James Mahinda Kinyua
53. Jane Shanon Wanjiru
54. Janeffer Achieng Ooko
55. Jeremy David Mwihia
56. Jeremy Ngure
57. Joan Wanjuki Karimi
58. Joseph Kanyiha Muikia
59. Joseph Mathew Njogu
60. Joseph Nyinge Chiro
61. Joy Tume Dida
62. Jude Githiri Wanyoike
63. Jude Michael Rumanzi Khabure
64. Julie Koki
65. Karen Kakyoo Kaboyo
66. Karol Kivindyo Nzyoki
67. Kieth Stephen Githinji Macharia
68. Joseph Njogu Kariuki
69. Kyle Chermirmir Jabali
70. Lee Riaan
71. Linet Akai Lobura
72. Marc Wareham Anthony
73. Maria Nyamotai
74. Maria Tiffany Masiga
75. Mary Che Nduta Gikubu
76. Mary Melissa Makandi
77. Mathew Mbithi Ngenga
78. Maureen Nyakerario
79. Mitchel Achitsa Alerio
80. Natalie Njeri Kinyua
81. Natasha Sarah Gathoni
82. Nathan Githinji Rugo
83. Nicholas Cairo Wamere
84. Nicholas Wandera
85. Olive Nduta
86. Owen Masigu Ngotho
87. Paschael Eugene Kamau
88. Peter Mwangi Gikaria
89. Pethuel Griffin Mwangi
90. Ruby Wanjiru Kiminda
91. Samia Wangui Mungai Turuthi
92. Samuel Paul Ochieng

Marriage Banns in September 2017

There is a promise of marriage between:

1. Martha Anyango Oromo And Danstan Sesterio Onyango

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

Weddings in July /August 2017

1. Mercy Mwelu Musyoka And David Njoroge Waruingi
2. Loise Wanjiru Njenga And Isaac Mutuma Kaaria
3. Susan Wangui Wanjiru And Raphael Muiruri Githae
4. Engelinah Musunga Maingi And Michael Mutiso

Deceased of the Parish

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| George Muhia | 10/8/2017 |
| Oda Namulanda | 2/8/2017 |
| Christopher Msando | 30/7/2017 |
| Joseph Wathika | 11/8/2017 |
| Pius Milimu | 19/8/2017 |

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 SEPTEMBER 2017

MISSIONARY INTENTION: Evangelization: Parishes.

That our parishes, animated by a missionary spirit, may be places where faith is communicated and charity is seen.

Sat 2	Novena for Festival of Prayer Garden- 9 Candle lit procession and rosary after the 5.30pm Mass 1st Saturday of the Month: Prayers in honour of the Immaculate heart of Mary: Hourly rosary prayers start at 9.30am to 4.30pm at the prayer garden by various groups FHC reopens 3 rd term Youth sale preparation CWA St Monica Day Celebration
Sun 3	22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Prayers for peace at all masses. Charismatic - Life in the Spirit Seminar Adult Catechumens re-opens for 3 rd term St Theresa SCC, fun-day with family members at Consolata Shrine Youth sale
Mon 4	Caritas Day
Wed 6	Anniversary of Servant of God, Cardinal Otunga at the Resurrection Garden
Fri 8	THE BIRTHDAY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY Evening candle lit procession after 5:30pm mass St. Peter Claver Blessed Fredrick Oznam, patron of SVP (Our Lady of Visitation Makadara)
Sat 9	Liturgy Celebration of the Nativity of BVM Pilgrimage to SUBUKIA Zone A Deaneries Seminar for all Ecclesial Groups leaders (Central, Western, Eastern, Outering and Makadara) at Resurrection Garden Choir Class Apex & X Festivals
Sun 10	23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Prayer for the sick, for their families and for health workers at all masses Charismatic - Life in the Spirit Seminar St Theresa SCC, Reflection on Marriage Encounter at Prayer Garden Youth Consofeste Practice
Tue 12	The Most Holy Name of Mary OLOF SCC, planned pilgrimage to Fatima
Wed 13	CMA International Day
Thu 14	THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS <i>Feast</i> Catechists' Archdiocesan AGM at Eastern Deanery Catechists AGM, Eastern Deanery

EVENTS OF THE PARISH FOR SEPTEMBER 2017

Fri 15	Our Lady of Sorrows - Evening candle lit procession after 5:30pm mass
Sat 16	First Confession for Children of 1st holy Communion, Certificates and get together. Legio of Mary, Edel's Day Confirmation class starts 1 st term 2017-2018 Choir class silver festivals Deanery Youth Festivals at Holy Family Basilica
Sun 17	24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Prayer for the family at all masses Charismatic - Life in the Spirit Seminar Executive Committee meet at 10:30am Formation talk for parents and guardians of infants to be baptized 3pm Legio of Mary, Spiritual talk at Prayer Garden Choirs: spiritual talk Youth in house talk
Thu 21	SAINT MATTHEW, APOSTLE, EVANGELIST Feast
Sat 23	UPENDO DAY IN KARURA FOREST Ongoing formation for children who received first Holy communion Mass for 1st holy communion children (9am and 3pm) Baptism of infants 2:30pm St vincent de Paul General Meeting for Deaf Catholic Community at Card. O. P. RICA Parents' seminar, 10-1pm at Card. O.P. for parents who will send children to initiation rite.
Sun 24	25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Children Mass at 9am PPC meeting at 10:30pm Youth talk about Adu with Fr Wilfred, Fr Lee or Theo Formation for parents and sponsors of infant baptism at 3pm
Wed 27	Saint Vincent de Paul, Priest Catechists' ongoing formation at St Catherine of Siena
Fri 29	SAINTS MICHAEL, GABRIEL AND RAPHAEL, ARCHANGELS Feast Schools mass at (gathering at 12.30 and mass at 1.15pm) Youth Friday 29 th -Sunday 1 st October Adu
Sat 30	Saint Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church Infant baptism 2.30pm Choir Classes Gold & Diamond Festivals Zonal Youth Festivals