

Reflection: First Saints and then Missionaries.

You are here to become Consolata Missionary. You cannot accomplish this unless you live and work to achieve the goal of the Congregation: the sanctification of our members and the conversion of people. And something I tell you over and over: souls are saved through holiness. It is impossible to make others good when we are not good ourselves. No one gives what he does not have. We can administer a sacrament without being holy but convert a person – no. If an individual is not closely united to God in Charity, God will not ordinary allow him to touch the hearts of others – this would be asking for a miracle. Believe me, unless you yourself are aflame you cannot kindle a fire. If you do not possess the fire of charity you cannot spread, it to others. You must never neglect your own union with God or sacrifice your own holiness for the sake of others. Anyone who says, “I am here to become a missionary and that is all” is making a mistake. No, that is not all! We cannot transpose the two phrases; first we become saints and then we convert others. Missionaries, yes – but saints as well. Let each one reflect on the obligation he assumed when he entered the Congregation; think of the voice of God calling him to become a saint. Every day at Communion or when you visit the Blessed Sacrament renew your determination and say to yourself; I want to become a saint, I want to become a great saint, I want to become a saint immediately. I can do it, I ought to do it, I will to do it. Therefore, first saints and then missionaries.

Prayer

God our Father, we thank you for having numbered Joseph Allamano among the Blessed of the Church. He has made your fatherly tenderness shine among us; he has honoured Mary Consolata as a Mother full of love and an inspiration of the Mission among the Peoples. We now request you to give to the Church the joy of venerating Him among the saints as an exemplary witness of announcing Jesus and his Gospel. We humbly implore you through his intercession to grant us what our heart requests you with confidence. *Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

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CONSOLATA SHRINE FEAST OF BLESSED JOSEPH ALLAMANO 16th February 2020



FIRST READING

Isaiah 42:1-7

“He does not cry or make his voice heard in the streets”.

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord: here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom my soul delights. I have endowed him with my spirit that he may bring true justice to the nations. He does not cry out or shout aloud, or make his voice heard in the streets. He does not break the crushed reed, nor quench the wavering flame. Faithfully he brings true justice; he will neither waver, nor be crushed until true justice is established on earth, for the islands are awaiting his law. Thus says God, Yahweh, he who created the heavens and spread them out, who gave shape to the earth and what comes from it, who gave breath to its people and life to the creatures that move in it: I, Yahweh, have called you to serve the cause of right; I have taken you by the hand and formed you; I have appointed you as a covenant of the people and Light of the nations, to open the eyes of the blind, to free captives from prison, and those who live in the darkness from the dungeon.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Zab. 95:1-3; 7-8; 10

R: Proclaim the wonders of the Lord among all the peoples.

O sing a new song to the Lord,
sing to the Lord all the earth.
O sing to the Lord, bless his name. (R)

Proclaim his help day by day,
tell among the nations his glory
and his wonders among all the peoples. (R)

Give the Lord, you families of peoples,
give the Lord glory and power,
give the Lord the glory of his name. (R)

Proclaim to the nations: ‘God is king.’
The world he made firm in its place;
he will judge the peoples in fairness. (R)



SECOND READING

Corinthians 9:16-19; 22b-27

"I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could"

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me. So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessing. All the runners at the stadium are trying to win, but only one of them gets the prize. You must run in the same way, meaning to win. All the fighters at the games go into strict training; they do this to win a wreath that will wither away, but we do it for a wreath that will never wither. That is how I run, intent on winning; that is how I fight, not beating the air. I treat my body hard and make it obey me, for, having been an announcer myself, I should not want to be disqualified.



Alleluia

Go and make disciples of all the nations, Says the Lord; And know that I am with you always; Yes, to the end of time.



Alleluia

GOSPEL

Luke 4:16-21

"He sent me to bring the Good News to the poor"

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke



Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up to read, and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll, he found the place where it is written: "The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for he has anointed me. He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to the captives and to the blind new

sight, to set the downtrodden free, to proclaim the Lord's year of favour.' He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to speak to them, 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.'

Announcements

1. Next Sunday 23rd the 9.00am Mass will be the Children's Mass. There will be no Children's Sunday Service on that day.
2. This year the parish has organized a pilgrimage to Italy from 18th – 27th May for the purpose of deepening the spirituality of Bl. Joseph Allamano, since we are about to complete the Allamano Centre. The pilgrimage will include Milan, Turin place of Allamano (our main focus), Padua, Assisi, San Giovanni Rotondo (Padre Pio Home area), and Rome. Kindly visit the desk at Gazebo for more information.
3. Those who registered as parishioners for the last four years and have not yet collected their cards, they are available on the desk at gazebo.
4. There is magazine on Catechesis from Missionary Servants of the Word at Gazebo, please visit the desk at Gazebo.
5. There is help available for children with special need. If you have one or know one even outside Nairobi, please visit the desk at Gazebo.
6. Catholic Men Association (CMA) is registering new members, who will start the formation classes in March, 2020. All men are invited to visit the desk at the Gazebo for more information and registration.



There are few offices remaining to let in Allamano Centre. Those who are interested, please submit the application in the Parish office or visit our website

www.consolatashrine.org for more information.