



**CONSOLATA SHRINE**  
**4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT**  
**22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020**



**FIRST READING**

**1 Samuel 16:1b.6-7.10-13a**  
*David is anointed king of Israel*

**A reading from the first Book of Samuel**

In those days: The Lord said to Samuel, “Fill your horn with oil, and go; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed is before him.” But the Lord said to Samuel. “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord sees not as man sees; man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen these.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and fetch him; for we will not sit down till he comes here.” And he sent, and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. And the Lord said, “Arise, anoint him; for this is he.” Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**Psalm 23:1-3a. 3b-4.5.6**

**R. 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. **R**

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. **R**

You have prepared a table before me in the sight of my foes.  
My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. **R**

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.  
In the Lord’s own houses shall I dwell for length of days unending. **R**

## SECOND READING

## Ephesians 5:8-14

*“Arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light.”*

### A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians

Brethren: Once you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord; walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is a shame even to speak of the things that they do in secret; but when anything is exposed by the light it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore, it is said, “Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light.”



***Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ***  
*I am the light of the world, says the Lord;*  
*he who follows me will have the light of life.*  
***Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.***



## GOSPEL John 9: 1-41 [Short Version: Jn 9:1.6-9.13-17.34-38]

*“He went and washed and came back seeing”*

### A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

At that time; As Jesus passed by, he saw a man blind from his birth. And he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man's eyes with the clay, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar said “Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?” Some said, “It is he”; others said, “No, but he is like him.” He said, “I am the man.” They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. The Pharisees asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, “He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.” Some of the



Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?” There was a division among them. So they again said to the blind man, “What do you say about him, since he has opened your eye?” He said, “He is a prophet.” They answered him, “You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of man?” He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who speaks to you.” He said, “Lord, I believe”; and he worshipped him.

### **Announcement**

1. Today there will be meeting of professional group after 10.30am mass in the Allamano Hall.
2. There will be the Way of the Cross on all Fridays of Lent after 1.15pm mass and 4pm in the Prayer Garden; and in the church after 5.30pm Mass.
3. The Lenten Campaign for this year is to support Wamba Catholic Parish which was destroyed by fire last year. Kindly pick an envelope from blue boxes and return it with your offering.
4. Next Saturday 28th, there will be On Going Formation for Children who received 1st Holy Communion from 10 am to 1 pm in parish hall.
5. Next Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> the 9.00am Mass will be the Children’s Mass. There will be no Children’s Sunday Service on that day.
6. Next Sunday 29<sup>th</sup>, 7.30am mass will be animated by Legion of Mary.

### **Reflection on Lenten Campaign 2020:**

#### **Natural Resource Management:**

As a country, Kenya is blessed with vast natural resources distributed all over the different regions. However, the community around these regions, rarely benefit from the income generated from the resources. In most cases, multinational companies and rich individual exploit the community and take away all the income leaving very minimal resources for development. In most cases, availability of these natural resources has turned out to be more curse than blessing and has been a source of conflict among the community members. In most cases, greed has created a feeling of “I should get it all” and this has propagated a lot of conflicts especially on sharing and use of these resources. Negligence in operations, production and processing of minerals have led to untold environmental pollution, degradation, poverty, diseases and deaths. This is mostly due to lack of knowledge among

members of the affected communities, and laxity in compliance and enforcement of laws, regulations and international best practices attributed to corrupt individuals. In Kenya, exploration of natural resources is an emerging area of production with massive potential and possible major impact on the country's economy. This potential is, however, hampered by lack of quality and easily accessible geological data, and technical, institutional and financial capacity. To achieve the potential, the government need to address challenges affecting the community to foster equality and sense of belonging; The government must ensure resettlement and adequate compensation of affected individuals; proper community engagement and fostering of transparency and accountability; prudent management of resources including revenues generated from the activity. As a Church, we should be on the forefront in addressing the historical injustices in the exploitation of natural resources. We should always stand in solidarity with communities that are impacted by these issues; be vigilant to ensure these challenges do not affect the them negatively, and engage with parties whose actions/decisions affect the lives of people. We must appreciate all the resources we have been given by God and use them for His glory. This means that we are being called to be stewards of the wealth we have been given and natural resources are a gift and must be treated as such. As a Christian, ask yourself the following questions: what are some of the natural resources in my community? How have I been involved in utilization of these resources? What are the available sustainability measures? What natural resources am I entrusted with in the community? Let's act and continuously engage ourselves in consistent tree planting, rehabilitation and restoration of forests, training the public on their rights on natural resources, and also familiarize ourselves with the Catholic Church Extractive Engagement Framework

**Readings:** Exodus 17:1-7; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-12

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