



**CONSOLATA SHRINE
TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
30th August 2020**



FIRST READING

Jeremiah 20:7-9

A reading from the Book of Jeremiah

O Lord, you have deceived me, and I was deceived; you are stronger than I, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all the day; every one mocks me. For whenever I speak, I cry out, I shout, "Violence and destruction!" For the word of the Lord has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. If I say, "I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name," there is in my heart as it were a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 63:2-6, 8-9

R. For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord, my God.

O God, you are my God; at dawn I seek you;
for you my soul is thirsting.

For you my flesh is pining,
like a dry, weary land without water. **R**

I have come before you in the sanctuary,
to behold your strength and your glory.
Your loving mercy is better than life;
my lips will speak your praise. **R**

I will bless you all my life;
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet;
with joyful lips, my mouth shall praise you. **R**

For you have been my strength;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.
My soul clings fast to you;
your right hand upholds me. **R**



SECOND READING

Romans 12:1-2

“Present your bodies as a living sacrifice.”

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

I appeal to you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may prove what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

ALLEUIA

*May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten
the eyes of our hearts that we might know
what is the hope to which he has called us?*

ALLEUIA



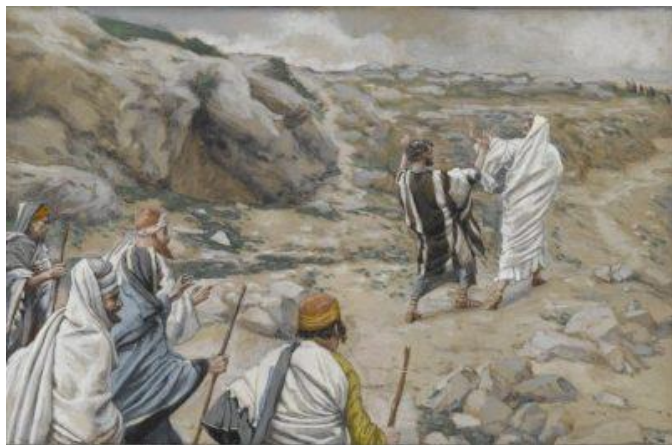
GOSPEL

Matthew 16: 21-27

“If any man would come after me, let him deny himself.”

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

At that time: Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to



Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid, Lord! This shall never happen to you.” But he

turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me Satan! You are a hindrance to me; for you are not on the side of God, but of men.” Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit a man, if he gains the whole world and forfeits his life? Or what shall a man give in return for his life? For the Son of man is to come with his angles in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay every man for what he has done.”

Reflection: ‘For Your Life!’ By Scott Hahn, Ph.D.

Today’s First Reading catches the prophet Jeremiah in a moment of weakness. His intimate lamentation contains some of the strongest language of doubt found in the Bible. Following God’s call, he feels abandoned. Preaching His Word has brought him only derision and reproach. But God does not deceive - and Jeremiah knows this. He tests the just, and disciplines His children through their sufferings and trials. What Jeremiah learns, Jesus states explicitly in today’s Gospel. To follow Him is to take up a cross, to deny yourself - your priorities, preferences, and comforts. It is to be willing to give it all up, even life itself, for the sake of His gospel. As Paul says in today’s Epistle, we have to join ourselves to the passion of Christ, to offer our bodies - our whole beings - as living sacrifices to God. By His cross, Jesus has shown us what Israel’s sacrifices of animals were meant to teach - that we owe to God all that we have. God’s kindness is a greater good than life itself, as we sing in today’s Psalm. The only thanks we can offer is our spiritual worship - to give our lives to the service of His will. Peter doesn’t yet get this in today’s Gospel. As it was for Jeremiah, the cross is a stumbling block for Peter. This too is our natural temptation - to refuse to believe that our sufferings play a necessary part in God’s plan. That’s how people think, Jesus tells us today. But we are called to the renewal of our minds - to think as God thinks, to will what He wills. In the Mass, we once again offer ourselves as perfect and pleasing sacrifices of praise. We bless Him as we live, confident that we will find our lives in losing them, that with the riches of His banquet, our souls will be satisfied.

Announcement

1. Next Sunday 6th August, there will be the blessing of our Tithes, our families and our work at the end of all Masses. Please come prepared.
2. There is Eucharistic Adoration on Monday and Thursday from 2pm to 5pm. On Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday adoration is after 7am mass to 1:15pm mass, then from 2, pm to 5pm. Come and spend some time with Jesus.
3. CWA are recruiting New members at the Gazebo. Classes begins on the 20th September of this month.
4. The feeding program is on going, we still appeal for imperishable food. Thanks for your generosity.

Saint of the Week

Thursday: *St. Gregory the Great, Pope & doctor*

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