



**CONSOLATA SHRINE
THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

25th October 2020



FIRST READING

Exodus 22:21-27

“If you afflict any widow or orphan, my wrath will burn against you.”

A reading from the Book of Exodus

Thus says the Lord: “You shall not wrong a stranger or oppress him, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt. You shall not afflict any widow or orphan. If you do afflict them, and they cry out to me, I will surely hear their cry; and my wrath will burn, and I will kill you with the sword, and your wives shall become widows and your children fatherless. “If you lend money to any of my people with you who is poor, you shall not be to him as a creditor, and you shall not exact interest from him. If ever you take your neighbour’s garment in pledge, you shall restore it to him before the sun goes down; for that is his only covering, it is his mantle for his body; in what else shall he sleep? And if he cries to me, I will hear, for I am compassionate.”

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 18:2-4, 47, 51 (R. 2)

R. I love you, Lord, my strength.

I love you, Lord, my strength;
O Lord, my rock, my fortress, my saviour. **R**

My God, my rock where I take refuge;
my shield, my saving strength, my stronghold.
I cry out, “Praised be the Lord!”
and see, I am saved from my foes. **R**

The Lord lives, and blest be my Rock!
May the God of my salvation be exalted.
The Lord gives great victories to his king,
and shows merciful love for his anointed. **R**

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 1:5-10

“You turned from idols to serve God and to wait for his Son.”

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians

Brethren: You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit; so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. For they themselves report concerning us what a welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.



ALLELUIA

*If a man loves me, he will keep my words, says the Lord;
and my Father will love him, and we will come to him.*



ALLELUIA

GOSPEL

Matthew 22:34-40

“You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbor as yourself.”

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

At that time: When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they came together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question, to test him. “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?” And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it, you shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets.”

Reflection: Love Commanded by Scott Hahn, Ph. D

Jesus came not to abolish the Old Testament law but to fulfil it. And in today’s Gospel, He reveals that love—of God and of neighbour—is the fulfilment of the whole of the law. Devout Israelites were to keep all 613 commands found in the Bible’s first five books. Jesus says today that all these, and all the teachings of the prophets, can be



summarized by two verses of this law. He seems to summarize the two stone tablets on which God was said to have engraved the Ten Commandments. The first tablet set out three laws concerning the love of God, such as the command not to take His name in vain; the second contained seven commands

regarding love of neighbour, such as those against stealing and adultery. Love is the hinge that binds the two tablets of the law. For we can't love God, whom we can't see, if we don't love our neighbour, whom we can. But this love we are called to is far more than simple affection or warm sentiment. We must give ourselves totally to God—loving with our whole beings, with all our heart, soul, and mind. Our love for our neighbour must express itself in concrete actions, such as those set out in today's First Reading. We love because He first loved us. As we sing in today's Psalm, He has been our deliverer, our strength when we could not possibly defend ourselves against the enemies of sin and death. We love in thanksgiving for our salvation. And in this become imitators of Jesus, as Paul tells us in today's Epistle—laying down our lives daily in ways large and small, seen and unseen; our lives offered as a continual sacrifice of praise

Announcements

1. Today, there will be a second collection to assist the Universal Church.
2. Next Sunday 1st November, there will be the blessing of our Tithe, our families and our work at the end of all Masses. Please come prepared.
-For those who would like to give Tithe, Offertory or support the ongoing Allamano Centre Project through paybill, please visit notice board outside the Church.
3. Saturday 31st October, there will be ongoing formation for children who have received the first Holy Communion at 10am to 1pm.
4. In November, we remember all departed souls in all masses during the month. Envelopes are available at the entrance of the Church for you to fill and deposit in the blue boxes with an offering.
5. Catechism classes in preparation for First Holy Communion will resume on Saturday 7th November 2020 at 9:00am and 3.00pm. Confirmation classes for children will also resume on Saturday 7th November at 3:00pm, and for adults on Sunday 8th November at 11am. For adults preparing for baptism will resume on Sunday 8th November at 9am. Kindly visit the catechist's office for more information.
6. Couples planning to get married are invited for marriage preparation sessions which will start on 29th October 2020. Kindly visit the Catechist's office for registration.
7. Adoration chapel is now open. Only 12 people can adore at a time due to space limit.

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