



# CONSOLATA SHRINE THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



10 January 2021

## FIRST READING

**Isaiah 55:1-11**

*“Come to the waters: hear, that your soul may live*

## A reading from the Book of Isaiah

Thus says the Lord: “Ho, every one who thirsts, come to the waters; and



he who has no money come, buy and eat! Come; buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; hear that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, merciful love for David. Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. Behold, you shall call nations that you know not, and nations that knew you not shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, and of the

Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. “Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on him, and to our God for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. “For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I intend, and prosper in the thing for which I sent it.”

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Isaiah 12:2-3.4bcd.5-6

**R. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation**

“Behold, God is my salvation;  
I will trust, and will not be afraid;  
for the Lord God is my strength and my song,  
and he has become my salvation.”  
With joy you will draw water from the wells of  
salvation. **R.**



“Give thanks to the Lord  
call upon his name;  
make known his deeds among the nations,  
proclaim that his name is exalted”. **R**

“Sing praises to the Lord,  
for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth.  
Shout, and sing for joy, O in habitants of Zion,  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.” **R**

## SECOND READING

**1 John 5: 1-9**

*“The Spirit, the water, and the blood”*

### **A reading from the first Letter of Saint John**

Beloved: Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the one begotten by him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that overcomes the world, our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is he who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the witness, because the Spirit is the truth. There are three witnesses, the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree. If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that he has borne witness to his Son.

**Alleluia**

*John saw Jesus coming towards him and said:  
Behold the Lamb of God who takes  
away the sin of the world.*

**Alleluia**



## GOSPEL

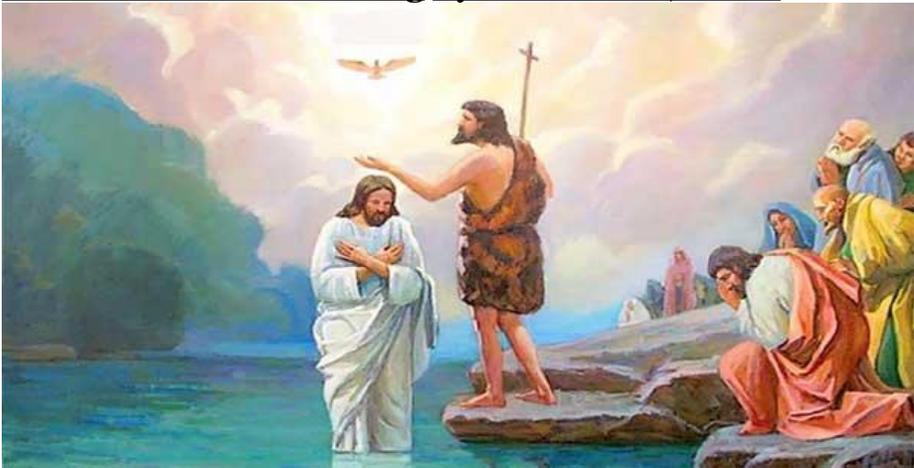
**Mark 1: 7-11**

*You are my Son, the beloved; my favour rests on you.*

### **A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark**

At that time: John preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opened and the Spirit descending upon him like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

### **Reflection: The Anointing By Scott Hahn, Ph.D.**



The Liturgy last week revealed the mystery of God's plan - that in Jesus all peoples, symbolized by the Magi, have been made "co-heirs" to the blessings promised Israel. This week, we're shown how we claim our inheritance. Jesus doesn't submit to John's baptism as a sinner in need of purification. He humbles Himself to pass through Jordan's waters in order to lead a new "exodus" - opening up the promised land of heaven so that all peoples can hear the words pronounced over Jesus today, words once reserved only for Israel and its king: that each of us is a beloved son or daughter of God. Jesus is the chosen servant Isaiah prophesies in today's First Reading, anointed with the Spirit to make things right and just on earth. God puts His Spirit upon Jesus to make Him "a covenant of the people," the liberator of the captives, the light to the nations. Jesus, today's Second Reading tells us, is the One long expected in Israel, "anointed...with the Holy Spirit and power." The word Messiah means "one anointed" with God's Spirit. King David was "the anointed of the God

of Jacob”. The prophets taught Israel to await a royal offshoot of David, upon whom the Spirit would rest. That’s why people of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to John. But it isn’t John they’re looking for. God confirms with His own voice what the Angel earlier told Mary - Jesus is the Son of the Most High, come to claim the throne of David forever. In the Baptism that He brings, the voice of God will hover over the waters as fiery flame, as we sing in today’s Psalm. He has sanctified the waters, made them a passage-way to healing and freedom - a fountain of new birth and everlasting life.

### **Announcement**

1. Next Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> January, there will be a second collection for the Holy Childhood. Proceeds will be sent to Rome to assist the needy Children of the world. Kindly come prepared.
2. Registration for the Sacraments of Baptism, First Holy Communion and Confirmation for both School children and adults is in progress at the catechist’s Office. Kindly visit the office for more information.
3. Couples planning to get married are invited to register for marriage preparation Sessions that will begin on Thursday 14th January 2021. Kindly visit the Catechist’s Office for more information.
4. In the Parish we sponsor 81 students with school fees. Majority comes from Deep Sea and others from surrounding slums. The total amount to be paid is Kshs. 821,266.00. Following the emergence of covid–19, the parish is not able to pay fully for these students. We appeal for the assistance with school fees for these students. One can sponsor a student by paying either for one term, two terms, a year or full education. Check the notice parish notice boards or parish office for more information.
5. **Special Announcement:** Rooms are ready for booking in Allamano Centre, individuals, families, groups or any one in need of accommodation are welcome. Halls are also available for hiring (for Wedding receptions, meetings etc.) and few offices are available to let. For more information, please contact Allamano Centre Manager - 0796305301 or visit our notice board outside the church.

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**PARISH WEBSITE:** [www.consolatashrine.org](http://www.consolatashrine.org); **PARISH E-MAIL:** [info@consolatashrine.org](mailto:info@consolatashrine.org); [communications@consolatashrine.org](mailto:communications@consolatashrine.org); **PARISH PRIEST’S E-MAIL:** [parishpriest@consolatashrine.org](mailto:parishpriest@consolatashrine.org); **Tithe Account No:** 002215001004856 – ABC Bank: A/C Name: Consolata Fathers –Shrine; Allamano Project Account No. 002215001004394.: ABC Bank: Consolata Father-Shrine Project; **PARISH MPESA NUMBER:** 508702, Account Reason for payment; **ALLAMANO PROJECT MPESA NUMBER:** 804877; P.O. Box 14930 - Nairobi; **TEL.: 0722-615105**