



CONSOLATA SHRINE
ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
13th JUNE 2021



FIRST READING

Ezekiel 17: 22-24

"I have made the low tree high."

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel

Thus says the Lord God: "I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of the cedar, and will set it out; I will break off from the topmost of its young twigs a tender one, and I myself will plant it upon a high and lofty mountain; on the mountain height of Israel will I plant it, that it may bring forth boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar; and under it will dwell all kinds of beasts; in the shade of its branches birds of every sort will nest. And all the trees of the field shall know that I the Lord bring low the high tree, and make high the low tree, dry up the green tree, and make the dry tree flourish. I the Lord have spoken, and I will do it."

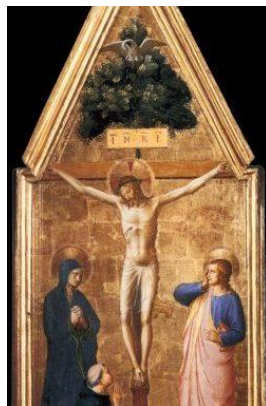
RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 91:2-3, 13-16

R. It is good to give thanks to you, O Lord.

It is good to give thanks to the Lord,
to make music to your name, o Most High,
to proclaim your loving mercy in the morning,
and your truth in the watches of the night. **R**

The just will flourish like the palm tree,
and grow like a Lebanon cedar
Planted in the house of the Lord,
they will flourish in the courts of our God. **R**

They will still bear fruit when they are old,
still full of sap, still green,
to proclaim that the Lord is upright.
In him, my rock, there is no wrong. **R**



SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 5:6-10

"Whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please the Lord."

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brethren: We are always of good courage; we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight. We are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For we must all appear before the judgement seat of Christ, so that each one may receive good or evil, according to what he has done in the body.



Alleluia *The seed is the word of God, the sower is Christ; all who come to him will live for ever. Alleluia.*



GOSPEL

Mark 4: 26-34

"The mustard seed is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet it becomes the greatest of all shrubs."

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

At that time: Jesus said to the crowds, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed upon the ground, and should sleep and rise night and day, and the seed should sprout and grow, he knows not how. The earth produces of itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear.



But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come." And he said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it? It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it

grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade." With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them without a parable, but privately to his own disciples he explained everything.



Reflection: Tree of Righteousness: by PhD Scott Hahn

In the cryptic message of the prophet Ezekiel, long centuries before the Lord's coming, God gave His people reason to hope. Ezekiel glimpsed a day when the Lord God would place a tree on a mountain in Israel, a tree that would "put forth branches and bear fruit." Who could have predicted that the tree would be a cross on the hill of Calvary, and that the fruit would be salvation? Ezekiel foresees salvation coming to "birds of every kind"—thus, not just to the people of Israel, but also to the Gentiles, who will "take wing" through their new life in Christ. God indeed will "lift high the lowly tree," as He solemnly promises. Such salvation surpasses humanity's most ambitious dreams. And so we express our gratitude in the Psalm: "Lord, it is good to give thanks to you." It is indeed good, and better still to give thanks with praise. The Psalmist speaks of those who are just upon the earth, but looks to God as the source and measure of justice, of righteousness. Like Ezekiel, he evokes the image of a flourishing tree to describe the lives of the just. The image, again, suggests the Cross as the measure of righteousness. The Cross is a sign of contradiction to those who would rather "flourish" in worldly terms. As St. Paul emphasizes to the Corinthians, we need courage. Our faith makes us strong, and it is proved in our deeds. He reminds us that we will be judged by the ways our faith manifests itself in works: "so that each may receive recompense, according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil." God Himself will empower the works He expects from us, though we freely choose to correspond to His grace. In the prophetic oracles, He scattered the seed that sprang up and became the mustard tree, large enough to accommodate all the birds of the sky, just as Ezekiel had seen. He gave this doctrine to His disciples in terms they were able to understand, and He provided a full explanation. In the sacraments He provides still more: the grace of faith and the courage we need to live in the world as children of God.



Announcement

1. Next Sunday we shall celebrate our Parish Golden Jubilee together with Family Day and Consolata Feast. In addition to prayers and celebrations we shall also bring our family Harvests (such as dry food e.g. unga, cooking oil, grains, envelopes etc.). The thanksgiving family harvests will be presented after Offertory and the main Celebrant Apostolic Nuncio will bless the families of our Parish. Kindly pick the envelope for the family thanksgiving from the blue boxes to prepare. Covid-19 protocols will be strictly adhered to. You are all welcome.
2. We are inviting those who were baptized in our parish in 1971 and those who are celebrating 50 years of their marriage, who wedded at our Parish. If any visit the Catechist's office for more information. These people will be recognized during Celebration of Jubilee.
3. We are all reminded to put on mask properly, wash hands before entering the Church, keep social distance in and outside the Church. The Communion is strictly by hand.
4. Next Sunday Masses will be as follows:
 - Saturday 5.00 pm followed by solemn candle lit Rosary procession.
 - Sunday 7.00am, 10.00am and 5.00pm (Please note 9am, 11am and 1pm will be combined at 10am Mass of Jubilee Celebration)

PARISH WEBSITE: www.consolatashrine.org; **PARISH E-MAIL:** info@consolatashrine.org; communications@consolatashrine.org; **PARISH PRIEST'S E-MAIL:** 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; 0722105615