



CONSOLATA SHRINE

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

9TH JANUARY 2022



FIRST READING

Isaiah 40:1-5.9-11

“The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.”

A reading from the Book of Isaiah

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD’S hand double for all her sins. A voice cries: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.” Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, “Behold, your God!” Behold, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd, he will gather the lambs in his arms, he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 104:1b-4.24-25.27-30

R: Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, how great you are!

O Lord my God, how great you are,
clothed in majesty and honour,
wrapped in light as with a robe!
You stretch out the heavens like a tent. **R**

On the waters you establish your dwelling.
You make the clouds your chariot;
you ride on the wings of the wind.
You make the winds your messengers,
flame and fire your servants. **R**



How many are your works, O Lord! In wisdom you have made them all.
The earth is full of your creatures. Vast and wide is the span of the sea,

With its creeping things past counting, living things great and small. **R**

R: Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, how great you are!

All of these look to you, to give them their food in due season.

You give it, they gather it up; you open wide your hand, they are well filled. **R**

You hide your face, they are dismayed; you take away their breath, they die, returning to the dust from which they came. You send forth your spirit, and they are created, and you renew the face of the earth. **R**

SECOND READING

Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7

“He saved us by the washing of regeneration and renewal in the Holy Spirit.”

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to Titus

Beloved: For the grace of God has appeared for the salvation of all men, training us to renounce irreligion and worldly passions, and to live sober, upright, and godly lives in this world, awaiting our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all iniquity and to purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds. But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Saviour appeared, he saved us, not because of deeds done by us in righteousness, but in virtue of his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal in the Holy Spirit, which he poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that we might be justified by his grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life.

The Word of the Lord.

Alleluia

John said: He who is coming is mightier than I:
he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

Alleluia



GOSPEL

Luke: 3:15-16.21-22

“When Jesus had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened.”

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

At that time: As the people were in expectation, and all men questioned in their hearts concerning John, whether perhaps he were the Christ, John answered them all, “I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.” Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and

was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form, as a dove, and a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Reflection: The Anointing: by Scott Hahn PhD



The liturgy last week revealed the mystery of God’s plan—that in Jesus all peoples, symbolized by the Magi, have been made “coheirs” to the blessings promised to 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 the crowds are so anxious at the start of today’s Gospel. 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 a fiery flame, as we sing in today’s Psalm. He has sanctified the waters, made them a passageway to healing and freedom—a fountain of new birth and everlasting life.

Announcement

1. Registration for Catechism classes in preparation for Baptism, First Holy Communion and Confirmation for both children and adults is ongoing at the catechist's office. Kindly visit the catechist's office for more information.
2. Couples planning to get married are invited to register for marriage preparation sessions. Visit the catechist's office for registration and more information.
3. Charismatic group has organized Life in the Holy Spirit Seminar starting today at 2pm up to 6th of March in the Parish Hall. The seminar is open for all Christians in the church. All are welcome.
4. Fr. Kevin D'Souza son of the late Gabriel and Belinda D'Souza will celebrate thanks giving Mass for his ordination here at Consolata Shrine next Saturday 15th January 2022 at 10.30am. All are welcome.
5. Christian Education Committee invites you for third interactive session on the "**THE CREED**" next Sunday 16th January 2022 at 10:45am in the Auditorium of the Allamano Centre. All are welcome.
6. Legionaries of Mary will animate the Candlelit Rosary on Saturday 15th January after the 5pm Mass. All are welcome.
7. Due to the festive season there will be no PMC and Children Sunday Services until 6th February 2022.
8. Bible Diary for 2022 with daily reflections are available at the Bookshop. Take a copy for yourself or as a gift to your friends.

PARISH WEBSITE: www.consolatashrine.org; **PARISH E-MAIL:** info@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;