

CONSOLATA SHRINE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 11[™] MAY 2025



FIRST READING

Acts 13:14, 43-52

"Behold, we turn to the Gentiles." **A reading from the Acts of the Apostles**

In those days: Paul and Barnabas passed on from Perga and came to Antioch of Pisidia. And on the Sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down. And many Jews and devout converts to Judaism followed Paul and Barnabas, who spoke to them and urged them to continue in the grace of God. The next sabbath almost the whole city gathered together to hear the word of God. But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with jealousy, and contradicted what was spoken by Paul, and reviled him. And Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, "It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken first to you. Since you thrust it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we turn to the Gentiles. For so the Lord has commanded us, saying, 'I have set you to be a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the uttermost parts of the earth." And when the Gentiles haerd this, they were glad and glorified the word of God; and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed. And the word of the Lord spread throughout all the region. But the Jews incited the devout women of high standing and the leading men of the city, and stirred up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and drove them out of their district. But they shook off the dust from their feet against them, and went to Iconium. And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R. We are his people, the sheep of his flock. Cry out with joy to the LORD, all the earth. Serve the Lord with gladness. Come before him, singing for joy. R. Know the he, the LORD, is God.

He made us; we belong to him. We are his people, the sheep of his flock. **R.**

Indeed, how good is the LORD, eternal his merciful love. He is faithful from age to age. **R.**

SECOND READING

Revelation 7:9,14b-17

"The Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water."

A reading from the Book of Revelation

I, John, looked, and behold, a great multitude which no man could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands. Then one of the elders said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night within the temple; and he who sits upon the throne will shelter them with his presence. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes." **The word of the Lord.**

ALLELUIA

John 10:14



Alleluia

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my own, and my own know me. **Alleluia.**



GOSPEL

John 10:27-30

"I give my sheep eternal life ."

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

At that time: Jesus said, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me; and I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish, and no one shall snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. I and the Father are one."

The gospel of the Lord

Reflection: by Scott Hahn, Ph. D

Israel's mission - to be God's instrument of salvation to the ends of the earth (see Isaiah 49:6) - is fulfilled in the Church. By the "Word of God" that Paul and Barnabas preach in today's First Reading, a new covenant people is being born, a people who glorify the God of Israel as the Father of them all. The Church for all generations remains faithful to the grace of God given to the Apostles, continues their saving work. Through the Church, the peoples of every land hear the Shepherd's voice, and follow Him (see Luke 10:16). The Good Shepherd of today's Gospel is the enthroned Lamb of today's Second Reading. [1] In laying down His life for His flock, the Lamb brought to pass a new Passover (see 1 Corinthians 5:7), by His blood freeing "every nation, race, people and tongue" from bondage to sin and death. The Church is the "great multitude" John sees in his vision today. God swore to Abraham his descendants would be too numerous to count. And in the Church, as John sees, this promise is fulfilled (compare Revelation 7:9; Genesis 15:5). The Lamb rules from the throne of God, sheltering His flock, feeding their hunger with His own Body and Blood, leading them to "springs of life-giving waters" that well up to eternal life (see John 4:14). The Lamb is the eternal Shepherd-King, the son of David foretold by the prophets. His Church is the Kingdom of all Israel that the prophets said would be restored in an everlasting covenant (see Ezekiel 34:23-31; 37:23-28). It is not a kingdom any tribe or nation can jealously claim as theirs alone. The Shepherd's Word to Israel is addressed now to all lands, calling all to worship and bless His name in the heavenly Temple. This is the delight of the Gentiles - that we can sing the song that once only Israel could sing, today's joyful Psalm: "He made us, His we are - His people, the flock He tends."

Announcements

- 1. The month of May is the month of the Rosary. Those who wish to have the Icon of Mary and Mass celebration in their homes are kindly requested to register at the Parish office during the week.
- 2. On Tuesday 13th May we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima. Our Lady of Fatima Small Christian community will animate the Rosary after the 5.30pm Mass.
- 3. St. Theresa of the Child Jesus SCC will animate The Rosary on Saturday 17th May after 5.00pm Mass. All parishioners are invited to attend.
- 4. There will be an ongoing formation class for the Divine Mercy group on Sunday 18th May from 2.00pm to 3.00pm. All are welcome
- 5. The Catholic Women Association (CWA) are recruiting new members. Ladies who are baptized and are 18 years old and above are encouraged to register at the tent outside the Church.

Wedding Bans:

There is a promise of marriage between:

- 1. Michael Robert Keenan and Agnes Wamuthanga Kibuchi (3rd Announcement)
- 2. Joel Onyango and Regina Kemunto (2nd Announcement)
- 3. Boniface Kibunja and Josephine Koki (1st Announcement)
- 4. Mark Carlton Kaharo and Magdalene Marura Chara (1st Announcement)

Kindly visit the parish notice board for more information. If anyone has an objection, please notify the Father in Charge.

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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.