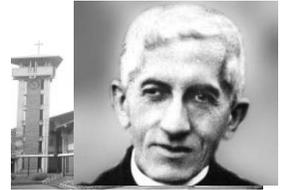


**CONSOLATA SHRINE
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

18TH MAY

2025



FIRST READING

Acts 14:21b-27

“They gathered the Church together and declared all that God had done with them ”

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

In those days: Paul and Barnabas returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God. And when they had appointed elders for them in every church, with prayer and fasting, they committed them to the Lord in whom they believed. Then they passed through Pisidia, and came to Pamphylia. And when they had spoken the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia; and from there they sailed to Antioch, where they had been commended to the grace of God for the work which they had fulfilled. And when they arrived, they gathered the Church together and declared all that God had done with them, and how he had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 145:8-9,10-11,12-13ab (R. see 1)

R. I will bless your name for ever, my king and my God.

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in mercy.

How good is the LORD to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. **R.**

All your works shall thank you, O LORD,

and all your faithful ones bless you.
They shall speak of the glory of your reign,
and declare your mighty deeds. **R.**

They shall make known your might to the children of men,
and the glorious splendor of your reign.
Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom;
your rule endures for all generations. **R.**

SECOND READING

Revelation 21:1-5a

“He will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

A reading from the Book of Revelation

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband; and I hear a great voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling of God is with men. He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain any more, for the former things have passed away.” And he who sat upon the throne said, “Behold, I make all things new.”

The word of the Lord.

ALLELUIA

John 13:34



Alleluia

A new commandment I give you, says
the Lord,
that you love one another even as I have
loved you.



Alleluia.

GOSPEL

John 13:31-33a,34-35

“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another .”

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

When Judas had gone out [from the upper room,] Jesus said, “Now is the Son of man glorified; if God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once. Little children, yet a little while I am with you. “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

The gospel of the Lord

Reflection: New for all ages by Scott Hahn, Ph. D

By God's goodness and compassion, the doors of His kingdom have been opened to all who have faith, Jew or Gentile. That's the good news Paul and Barnabas proclaim in today's First Reading. With the coming of the Church - the new Jerusalem John sees in today's Second Reading - God is "making all things new." In His Church, the "old order" of death is passing away and God for all time is making His dwelling with the human race, so that all peoples "will be His people and God Himself will always be with them." In this the promises made through His prophets are accomplished (see Ezekiel 37:27; Isaiah 25:8; 35:10). The Church is "the kingdom for all ages" that we sing of in today's Psalm. That's why we see the Apostles, under the guidance of the Spirit, ordaining "presbyters" or priests (see 1 Timothy 4:14; Titus 1:5). Anointed priests and bishops will be the Apostles' successors, ensuring that the Church's "dominion endures through all generations" (see Philippians 1:1, note that the New American Bible translates *episcopos*, the Greek word for bishops, as "overseers"). Until the end of time, the Church will declare to the world God's mighty deeds, blessing His holy name and giving Him thanks, singing of the glories of His kingdom. In His Church, we know ourselves as His "faithful ones," as those Jesus calls "My little children" in today's Gospel. We live by the new law, the "new commandment" that He gave in His final hours. The love He commands of us is no human love but a supernatural love. We love each other as Jesus loved us in suffering and dying for us. We love in imitation of His love. This kind of love is only made possible by the Spirit poured into our hearts at Baptism (see Romans 5:5), renewed in the sacrifice His priests offer in every Mass. By

our love we glorify the Father. And by our love all peoples will know that we are His people, that He is our God.

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. St. Martin De Porres SCC will animate the Rosary on Saturday 24th May after 5.00pm Mass. All parishioners are invited to attend.
3. Today, there will be an ongoing formation class for the Divine Mercy group from 2.00pm to 3.00pm. All are welcome.
4. The Catholic men Association (CMA) are inviting parents with boys between the age of 9 to 17 years, who are not in the beacon boys mentorship programmes to register their boys at the tent outside the Church.
5. From 25th to 31st may 2025, there will be global celebration of the 10th anniversary of the late Pope Francis encyclical Laudato Si. CJPd has organized a series of activities to mark the celebrations. For more information, kindly visit the Parish notice board.

Wedding Bans:

There is a promise of marriage between:

1. *Joel Onyango and Regina Kemunto (3rd Announcement)*
2. *Boniface Kibunja Njeri and Josephine Koki Mbithe (2nd Announcement)*
3. *Mark Carlton Kaharo and Magdalene Marura Chara (2nd 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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communications@consolatashrine.org; PARISH PRIEST'S E-MAIL: parishpriest@consolatashrine.org; Tithes 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;