

CONSOLATA SHRINE 30™ SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 26™ OCTOBER 2025



FIRST READING Sirach 35: 12c-14, 16-18b "The prayer of the humble pierces the clouds."

A reading from the Book of Sirach

The Lord is the judge, and with him is no partiality. He will not show partiality in the case of a poor man; and he will listen to the prayer of one who is wronged. He will not ignore the supplication of the fatherless, nor the window when she pours out her story. He whose service is pleasing to the Lord will be accepted, and his prayer will reach to the clouds. The prayer of the humble pierces the clouds, and he will not be consoled until it reaches the Lord: he will not desist until the Most High visits him, and the just judge executes favour. And the Lord will not delay, neither will he be patient with them,



The Word of the Lord.

(R. see 7a)

R. The lowly one called, and the Lord heard him.

I will bless the Lord at all times, praise of him is always in my mouth. In the Lord my soul shall make its boast; the humble shall hear and be glad. **R.**

The Lord turns his face against the wicked to destroy their remembrance from the earth. When the just cry out, the Lord hears, and rescues them in all their distress. **R.**

The Lord is close to the broken – hearted; those whose spirit is crushed he will save. The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants. All who trust in him shall not be condemned. **R.**

SECOND READING

2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 16-18

"From now on there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness."

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

Beloved:

I am already on the point of being sacrificed; the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge,



will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing. At my first defence no one took my part; all deserted me. May it not be charged against them! But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength to proclaim the word fully, that all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord

ALLELUIA

2 Corinthians 5:19



Alleluia

God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.





GOSPEL Luke 18: 9-14

"The publican went down to his house justified rather than the Pharisee".

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

At that time:

Jesus told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and despised others: "Two men went up into the

temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like the tax collector. I fast twice a week, I give tithes of all that I get.' "But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' "I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather



than the other; for every one that exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.

The gospel of the Lord.

Reflection: No Favorites by Scott Hahn, Ph. D

Jesus draws a blunt picture in today's Gospel. The Pharisee's prayer is almost a parody of the thanksgiving psalms (see for example Psalms 30, 118). Instead of praising God for His mighty works, the Pharisee congratulates himself for his own deeds, which he presents to God in some detail. The tax collector stands at a distance, too ashamed even to raise his eyes to God (see Ezra 9:6). He prays with a humble and contrite heart (see Psalm 51:19). He knows that before God no one is righteous, no one has cause to boast (see Roman 3:10; 4:2). We see in the Liturgy today one of Scripture's abiding themes: that God "knows no favorites," as today's First Reading tells us (see 2 Chronicles 19:7; Acts 10:34–35; Romans 2:11). God cannot be bribed (see Deuteronomy 10:17). We cannot curry favor with Him or impress Him—even with our good deeds or our faithful observance of religious duties such as tithing and fasting. If we try to exalt ourselves before the Lord, as the Pharisee does, we will be brought

low (see Luke 1:52). This should be a warning to us—not to take pride in our piety, not to slip into the self-righteousness of thinking that we're better than others, that we're "not like the rest of sinful humanity." If we clothe ourselves with humility (see 1 Peter 5:5–6), if we recognize that all of us are sinners in need of His mercy, we will be exalted (see Proverbs 29:33). The prayer of the lowly, the humble, pierces the clouds. Paul testifies to this in today's Epistle as He thanks the Lord for giving him strength during his imprisonment. Paul tells us what the Psalmist sings today—that the Lord redeems the lives of His humble servants. We too must serve Him willingly. And He will hear us in our distress, deliver us from evil, and bring us safely to His heavenly kingdom.

Announcements

- 1. St. John Paul II SCC will animate the Rosary on Saturday 01st November after the 5.00pm Mass. All are welcome.
- 2. Saturday 1st November is the Solemnity of All Saints. It is a day of obligation. Masses will be at 7.00am, 9.00am and 1.15pm. You are encouraged to attend.
- 3. Next Sunday 2nd November we will have the blessing of your tithe and family. Kindly pick an envelope at the entrance of the Church.
 - Children's Mass will be at 9:00 a.m. There will be no Sunday school.
 - The Rosary will be prayed in front of the Blessed Sacrament after 1 p.m. Mass
- 4. Today, the YSC group will pray the Rosary at the Prayer Garden after the 9.00am Mass. The youth are welcome to attend.
- 5. In November, we remember all the departed souls. November envelopes are available at the Church entrance, please fill the forms with your offering and drop them in the blue boxes. Mass and blessing of graves will be held on 2nd November at 3.00pm at Langata cemetery. All are welcome
- 6. The Consolata Shrine Pastoral team has introduced a 'Couples for Christ' group. The first meeting will be held today at 11.00am in room Mo2 at the Allamano Centre. Registration is ongoing at the Catechist's office.

- 7. The Sacred Heart Devotion ongoing formation class will take place today after the 9.00 am Mass in room 3F at the Allamano Centre.
- 8. The Christian Education Committee invites you to an interactive session on the Church Doctrines (*Topic: Dignity of the human person*) on Sunday 2nd November at 9.30am at the Auditorium in the Allamano Center. All are welcome
- 9. Saturday 1st November, the YSC group will have a team building activity for youth below 26 years at Karura forest from 9.00am to 4.00pm. For more information and registration, kindly visit the desk at the tent outside the Church.

Wedding Bans:

There is a promise of marriage between:

1. Ian Michael Ngondi Njeru and Caroline Wanjiru Kangethe (1st Announcement)

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

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; Mass Intentions (text messages):

0111376737 Bookshop: 0113681608; Parish office: 0722 615105