



CONSOLATA SHRINE

15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY SUNDAY
12TH JULY 2026



FIRST READING

Isaiah

55:10-11

"The rain makes the earth fruitful."

A reading from the Book of Isaiah

Thus says the LORD:

"As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I intend, and prosper in the thing for which I sent it."

The Word of the Lord.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 65:10abcd, 10e-11, 12-13a, 13b-14 (R. Luke 8:8a)

R. The seed that fell into good soil yielded a hundredfold.

You visit the earth, give it water;
you fill it with riches.
God's ever-flowing river brims over
to prepare the grain. **R.**

And thus you provide for the earth:
you drench its furrows;
you level it, soften it with showers;
you bless its growth. **R.**

You crown the year with your bounty.
Abundance flows in your pathways;
in pastures of the desert it flows. **R.**

The hills are girded with joy,
the meadows clothed with flocks.
The valleys are decked with wheat.
They shout for joy; yes, they sing! **R.**

SECOND READING

Romans 8:18-23

“All creation is waiting for the revelation of the sons of God.”

A reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brethren:

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of him who subjected it in hope; because the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the glorious liberty of the children of God. We know that the whole creation, has been groaning with labor

pains together until now: and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

The word of the Lord

ALLELUIA

Alleluia

The seed is the word of God, and the sower is Christ; all who find him will abide forever.

Alleluia



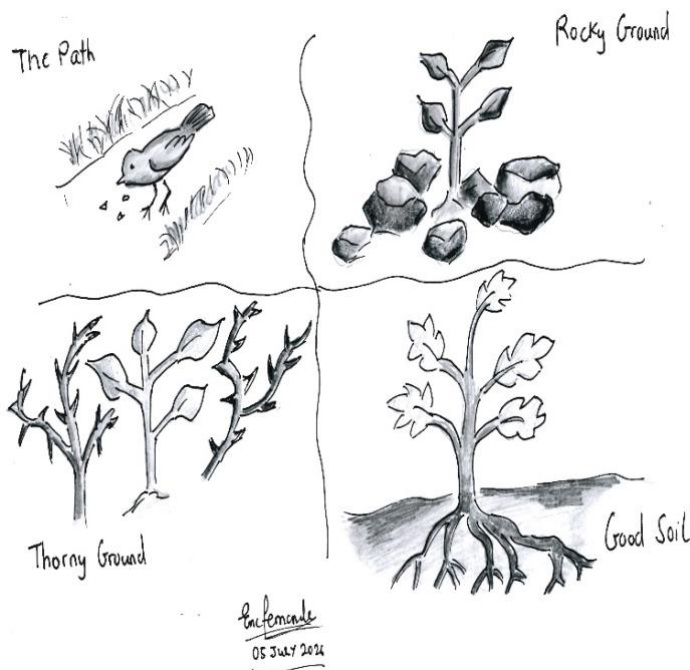
GOSPEL

Matthew 13:1-23

"A sower went out to sow."

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mathew

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat there; and the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed,



some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they had not much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, but when the sun rose they were scorched; and since they had no root they withered away. Other seeds fell upon thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. He who has ears, let him hear." Then the disciples came and said to him, "Why do you speak to them in parables?" And he answered them, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. For to him who has will more be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away. This is why I speak to

them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. With them indeed is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah which says:

‘You shall indeed hear but never understand,
and you shall indeed see but never perceive.
For this people’s heart has grown dull,
and their ears are heavy of hearing,
and their eyes they have closed,
lest they should perceive with their eyes,
and hear with their ears,
and understand with their heart,
and turn for me to heal them.’

But blessed are your eyes, for they see,
and your ears, for they hear.

Truly, I say to you, many prophets and righteous men longed to
see what you see,
and did not see it,
and to hear what you hear,
and did not hear it.

“Hear then the parable of the sower. When any one hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in his heart; this is what was sown along the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulations or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is he who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the delight in riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. As for what was sown on good soil, this is he who hears the word and understands it; he indeed bears fruit, and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Reflection: The Word's Return by Scott Hahn, Ph. D

Today's readings, like last week's, ask us to meditate on Israel's response to God's Word—and our own. Why do some hear the word of the kingdom, yet fail to accept it as a call to conversion and faith in Jesus? That question underlies today's Gospel especially. Again, we see, as we did last week, that the kingdom's mysteries are unfolded to those who open their hearts, making of them a rich soil in which the Word can grow and bear fruit. As we sing in today's Psalm, in Jesus, God's Word has visited our land to water the stony earth of our hearts with the living waters of the Spirit (see John 7:38; Revelation 22:1). The first fruit of the Word is the Spirit of love and adoption poured into our hearts in Baptism, making us children of God, as Paul reminds us in today's Epistle (see Romans 5:5; 8:15-16). In this, we are made a "new creation" (see 2 Corinthians 5:17), the first fruits of a new heaven and a new earth (see 2 Peter 3:13). Since the first humans rejected God's Word, creation has been enslaved to futility (see Genesis 3:17–19; 5:29). But God's Word does not go forth only to return to Him void, as we hear in today's First Reading. His Word awaits our response. We must show ourselves to be children of that Word. We must allow that Word to accomplish God's will in our lives. As Jesus warns today, we must take care lest the devil steals it away or lest it be choked by worldly concerns. In the Eucharist, the Word gives Himself to us as bread to eat. He does so that we might be made fertile, yielding fruits of holiness. And we await the crowning of the year, the great harvest of the Lord's Day (see Mark 4:29; 2 Peter 3:10; Revelation 1:10)—when His Word will have achieved the end for which it was sent.

Announcements

1. Novena to the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary began on Saturday 11th July 2026 and will continue for nine consecutive Saturdays. There will be a candle lit procession and Rosary after the 5.00pm Mass. All are welcome
2. Thursday, 16th July is the Feast of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. Our Lady of Mt. Carmel SCC will animate the Rosary after the 5.30pm Mass. All are welcome

3. St. Mary Magdalene SCC will animate The Rosary on Saturday 18th July after the 5.00pm Mass. All are welcome
4. In preparation for the Mass for persons living with disabilities, we invite qualified sign language interpreters volunteers who can support this initiative. Kindly register at the Parish office during the week.
5. Parents and guardians of children in boarding schools who have not received the Sacraments of Baptism, First Holy Communion or confirmation are invited to register for Catechesis in the Catechist's office during the week.
6. The Youth of the Consolata Parishes invite you to join them for the first Njambini to Tuthu Pilgrimage – preparation hike to Kilimambogo on 18th July 2026 as part of the St. Joseph Allamano centenary celebrations. To register, please pay Ksh 500 via paybill no. 4140603 (Account: Name/ Hike) by 14th July 2026 or contact the Parish office.
7. Young Catholic Adults (YCA) have organised a Watch party for the World Cup Finals on Sunday 19th July in the Auditorium, Allamano Centre at a cost of Ksh 300 per head. The funds will support youth activities. During the watch party, all parishioners are welcome to cheer their team and players on the big screen. To make a reservation, please visit the desk in the blue tent outside the Church.
8. The Charismatic Prayer Group invites all Christians who have completed the Life in the Spirit Seminars and have been commissioned to attend the '*Growth in the Spirit*' seminar on 19th July 2026 and will run for eight weeks in the Parish Hall from 2.00pm to 4.00pm. For more information, please contact Grace on 0722609518.
9. The Ministry of Proclamation of the Word of God is inviting interested and committed Parishioners to join them. To register, kindly scan the QR code available on the notice

board or contact the Vice Secretary Makalusi Araka, on 0757438598 for more information.

10. Consolata School, Nairobi invites Parents and guardians to the following events:

- Cambridge Curriculum Open Day for the 2026/2027 Academic Year on Saturday, 18th July 2026 from 9.00am.
- Primary, Junior secondary and Senior school interviews on 6th November 2026

All interested parents and prospective learners are welcome to attend. For more information, please contact: ☎ 0114 533 169 / 0739 499 018 or the see posters on the notice board.

11. The Archdiocese of Nairobi Family day will take place on Saturday 1st August at St. Mary's School Msongari grounds from 9.30am. We kindly encourage everyone to attend and participate in this event. For more information and registration, kindly visit the Parish office during the week

Wedding Bans:

There is a promise of marriage between:

1. *Brian Musyoka Alex and Abigael Mariettah Mumbua*
(3rd Announcement)
2. *Augustine Kirika Wanjau and Salome wanjiku mwangi*
(1st Announcement)

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

PARISH WEBSITE: ; **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;1 P.O. Box 14930 - Nairobi; Mass

Intentions (text messages): 0111376737 Bookshop: 0113681608; Parish office: 0722 615105