



CONSOLATA SHRINE
16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY SUNDAY
19TH JULY 2026



FIRST READING

Wisdom 12:13,

16-19

“You give repentance for sins.”

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

There is no god besides you, whose care is for all men, to whom you should prove that you have not judged unjustly; for your strength is the source of righteousness, and your sovereignty over all causes you to spare all. For you show your strength when men doubt the completeness of your power, and rebuke any insolence among those who know it. You who are sovereign in strength judge with mildness, and with great forbearance you govern us; for you have power to act whenever you choose. Through such works you have taught your people that the righteous man must be kind, and you have filled your sons with good hope, because you give repentance for sins.

The Word of the Lord.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16a

(R. 5a)

R. O Lord, you are good and forgiving.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of mercy to all who call to you.
Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer,
and attend to my voice in supplication. **R.**

All the nations you have made shall come;
they will bow down before you, O Lord,
and glorify your name,
for you are great and do marvellous deeds,
you who alone are God. **R.**

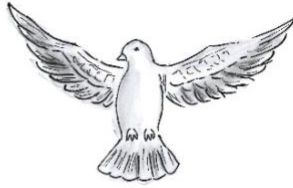
But you, O God, are compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger, O Lord,
abundant in mercy and fidelity;
turn and take pity on me. **R.**

SECOND READING

Romans 8:26-27

"The Spirit himself intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words."

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



Brethren:

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words. And he who searches the hearts of men knows what is the mind of the

Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

The word of the Lord

ALLELUIA

See Matthew 11:25

Alleluia

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia.



GOSPEL

Matthew 13:24-43

"Let both grow together until the harvest."

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mathew



At that time:

Jesus put another parable before the crowds, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field; but while men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also.

"And the servants of the householder came and said to him, 'Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then has it weeds?' "He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' "The servants said to him, "Then do you want us to go and gather them?" "But he said, 'No; lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. Let both grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'" Another parable he put before them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of

shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches" He told them another parable. "The kingdom of heaven is like leaven which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal, till it was all leavened." All this Jesus said to the crowds in parables; indeed he said nothing to them without a parable. This was to fulfil what was spoken by the prophet: "I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter what has been hidden since the foundation of the world." Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "He who sows the good seed is the Son of man; the field is the world, and the good seed means the sons of the kingdom; the weeds are the sons of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the close of the age. The Son of man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear."

The gospel of the Lord.

Reflection: Of Wheat and Weeds by Scott Hahn, Ph. D

God is always teaching His people, as we hear in today's First Reading. And what does He want us to know? That He has care for all of us; that though He is a God of justice, even those who defy and disbelieve Him may hope for His mercy if they turn to Him in repentance. This divine teaching continues in the three parables that Jesus tells in the Gospel today. Each describes the emergence of the kingdom of God from the seeds sown by His works and preaching. The kingdom's growth is hidden like the working of yeast in bread; it's improbable, unexpected, as in the way the tall mustard tree grows from the smallest of seeds. Again, this week's

readings sound a note of questioning: Why does God permit the evil to grow alongside the good? Why does He permit some to reject the Word of His kingdom? Because, as we sing in today's Psalm, God is slow to anger and abounding in kindness. He is just, Jesus assures us—evildoers and those who cause others to sin will be thrown into the fiery furnace at the end of the age. But by His patience God is teaching us that above all He desires repentance and the gathering of all nations to worship Him and to glorify His name. Even though we don't know how to pray as we ought, the Spirit will intercede for us, Paul promises in today's Epistle. But first, we must turn and call upon Him. We must commit ourselves to letting the good seed of His Word bear fruit in our lives. So, we should not be deceived or lose heart when we see weeds among the wheat—truth and holiness mixed with error, injustice, and sin. For now, He makes His sun rise on the good and the bad (see Matthew 5:45). But the harvest draws near. Let's work so that we might be numbered among the righteous children—who will shine like the sun in the kingdom of the Father.

Announcements

1. The Novena to the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary is ongoing every Saturday and will continue until Saturday 5th September 2026. There will be a candlelit procession and Rosary after the 5:00 p.m Mass. All are welcome
2. Blessed Sr. Irene Nyaatha Stefani SCC will animate The Rosary on Saturday 25th July after the 5.00pm Mass. All are welcome
3. 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.
4. 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.

5. Today, The Young Catholic Adults (YCA) have organised a Watch party for the World Cup Finals, 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.
6. 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 starting today, this programme will run for the next eight weeks in the Parish Hall from 2.00pm to 4.00pm. For more information, please contact Grace on 0722609518.
7. 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.
8. Consolata School, Nairobi invites Parents and guardians to the primary, junior secondary and senior school interviews on 6th November 2026. For more information, please contact: ☎ 0114 533 169 / 0739 499 018 or the see posters on the notice board.
9. The Archdiocese of Nairobi Family day will take place on Saturday 1st August 2026 at St. Mary's School Msongari grounds from 9.30am. We kindly encourage everyone to attend and participate in this event.
10. The book '*Praying the Rosary: The Most Effective Way*', authored by Denis Aloys Okwany, is now available for sale at the Church bookshop at a cost of Ksh 1,000. We encourage you to get a copy after Mass.

Wedding Bans:

There is a promise of marriage between:

1. *Augustine Kirika Wanjau and Salome wanjiku mwangi* **(2nd Announcement)**
2. *Rocco Klaus Reichelt and Nancy Njoki Ndungu* **(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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