



CONSOLATA SHRINE
17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
26TH JULY 2026



FIRST READING

1 Kings 3:5, 7-12

“You have asked for yourself understanding.”

A reading from the first Book of Kings

In those days:

At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night;

and God said, “Ask what I shall give you.” And Solomon said, “O LORD my

God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you

have chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered or counted for multitude. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil; for who is able to govern this great people of yours?” It pleased the LORD that Solomon had asked this. And God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or



riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you.”

The Word of the Lord.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 119:57 and 72, 76-77,
127-128, 129-130 (R. 97a)**

R. O Lord, how I love your law.

I have said, “O LORD, my portion
is to obey your words.”

The law from your mouth means more to me
than large quantities of silver and gold. **R.**

Let your merciful love console me
by your promise to your servant.
Show me compassion, that I may live,
for your law is my delight. **R.**

That is why I love your commands
more than finest gold,
why I rule my life by your precepts,
and hate false ways. **R.**

Your decrees are wonderful indeed:
therefore my soul obeys them.
The unfolding of your word gives light,
and understanding to the simple. **R.**

SECOND READING

Romans 8:28-30

“He predestined us to be conformed to the image of his Son.”

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans



Those He predestined,
He also called.

Brethren:

We know that in everything God works for good with those who love him, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be

the first-born among many brethren. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

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 13:44-52

"He sells all that he has, and buys the field."

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to the

crowds,

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net

which was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind; when it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into vessels but threw away the bad. So it will be at the close of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous, and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. "Have you understood all this?" They said to him, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old"



The gospel of the Lord.

Reflection: Treasures of the Kingdom *by Scott Hahn, Ph. D*

What is your new life in Christ worth to you? Do you love His words more than gold and silver, as we sing in today's Psalm? Would you, like the characters in the Gospel today, sell all that you have in order to possess the kingdom He promises to us? If God were to grant any wish, would you follow Solomon's example in today's First Reading—asking not for a long life or riches but for wisdom to know God's ways and to desire His will? The background for today's Gospel, as it has been for the past several weeks, is the rejection of Jesus' preaching by Israel. The kingdom of heaven has come into their midst; yet, many cannot see that Jesus is the fulfillment of God's promises, a gift of divine compassion given so that they—and we—might live. We, too, must ever discover the kingdom anew. We are called to find it as a treasure, a pearl of great price. By comparison with the kingdom, we must count all else as rubbish (see Philippians 3:8). And we must be willing to give up all that we have—all our priorities and plans—in order to gain it. Jesus' Gospel discloses what Paul in today's Epistle calls the purpose of God's plan (see Ephesians 1:4): for Jesus be the firstborn of many brothers. His words give understanding to the simple, the childlike. As Solomon does today, we must humble ourselves before God, giving ourselves to His service. Let our prayer be for an understanding heart, one that desires only to do His will. We are called to love God, to delight in His law, and to forsake every false way. And we are to conform ourselves daily ever more closely to the image of His Son. If we do this, we can approach His altar as a pleasing sacrifice, confident that all things work for the good—that we whom He has justified will also be glorified.

Announcements

1. Next Sunday 2nd August, 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 1.00 p.m Mass
2. 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
3. The Charismatic Prayer Group will animate The Rosary on Saturday 1st August 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. Couples preparing for marriage between November 2026 and February 2027 are invited to register for pre-marital sessions at the Catechist's office during the week.
7. The Christian Education Committee invites you to an interactive session on the Church doctrines (*topic: Christian understanding of human development*), on Sunday 2nd August 2026 at 9.30 am in the Auditorium, Allamano Centre. All are welcome
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 today, in the Parish Hall from 2.00pm to 4.00pm.

The seminar will continue every Sunday for the next seven weeks. For more information, please contact Grace on 0722609518.

9. The Sacred Heart devotion is registering new members. Parishioners who wish to join the devotion are invited to register at the desk in the blue tent outside the Church.
10. The Ministry of Proclamation of the Word of God is inviting interested and committed Parishioners to join them. Kindly note that registration will close on Tuesday 28th July 2026. Formation classes will commence thereafter. To register, kindly scan the QR code available on the notice board or contact The Vice Secretary Makalusi Araka, on 0757438598 for more information.
11. The Consolata Shrine Self Help Group invites you to the annual **Squirrel kids club day** on Saturday 8th August 2026 from 8.00am to 1.00pm at the old Parish hall. All are welcome
12. 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.
13. 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.

Wedding Bans:

There is a promise of marriage between:

1. *Augustine Kirika Wanjau and Salome wanjiku mwangi*
(3rd Announcement)
2. *Rocco Klaus Reichelt and Nancy Njoki Ndungu*
(2nd 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