



CONSOLATA SHRINE

20th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

16th August 2026



FIRST READING

Isaiah 56:1, 6-7

“And the foreigners I will bring to my holy mountain.”

A reading from the Book of Isaiah

Thus says the LORD:

“Keep justice, and do righteousness, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed. “And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD, and to be his servants, everyone who keeps the Sabbath, and does not profane it and holds fast my covenant these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.”



The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8
(R. 4)**

**R. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples
praise you!**

O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your salvation. **R.**

Let the nations be glad and shout for joy,
with uprightness you rule the peoples;
you guide the nations on earth. **R.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
that all the ends of the earth may revere him. . **R.**

SECOND READING

Romans 11:13-15, 29-32

“The gifts and the call of God are irrevocable.”

A reading from the Letter off Saint Paul to the Romans



Brethren:

I am speaking to you Gentiles. In as much then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry in order to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them. For if their rejection means the reconciliation of the world, what will their

acceptance mean but life from the dead? For the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but now have received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that the mercy shown to you they also may receive mercy. For God has consigned all men to disobedience, that he may have mercy upon all.

The word of the Lord

ALLELUIA

See Matthew 4:23



Alleluia

Jesus was preaching the Gospel of the kingdom and healing every infirmity among the people.

Alleluia.



GOSPEL

Matthew 15:21-28

“O woman, great is your faith!”

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

At that time:

Jesus went away and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon.

And behold, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; a

Canaanite woman from that region came out and cried, my daughter is severely possessed by a demon.” But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying,

“Send her away, for she is crying after us.”

He answered,



“I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.”

And he answered,

“It is not fair to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.”

She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” Then Jesus answered her, “O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

The gospel of the Lord.

Reflection: The Foreigner’s Faith by Scott Hahn, Ph. D

Most of us are the foreigners, the non-Israelites, about whom today’s First Reading prophesies. Coming to worship the God of Israel, we stand in the line of faith epitomized by the Canaanite woman in today’s Gospel. Calling to Jesus as Lord and Son of David, this foreigner shows her great faith in God’s covenant with Israel. Jesus tests her faith three times. He refuses to answer her cry. Then, He tells her His mission is only to Israelites. Finally, He uses “dog,” an epithet used to disparage non-Israelites (see Matthew 7:6). Yet she persists, believing that He alone offers salvation. In this family drama, we see fulfilled Isaiah’s prophecy and the promise we sing of in today’s Psalm. In Jesus, God makes known among all the nations His way and His salvation (see John 14:6). At the start of salvation history, God called Abraham (see Genesis 12:2). He chose his offspring, Israel, from all the nations on the face of the earth to build His covenant kingdom (see Deuteronomy 7:6–8; Isaiah 41:8). In God’s plan, Abraham was to be the father of many nations (see Romans 4:16–17). Israel was to be the firstborn of a worldwide family of God, made up of all who believe what the Canaanite professes; that Jesus is Lord (see Exodus 4:22–23; Romans 5:13–24). Jesus came first to restore the

kingdom to Israel (see Acts 1:6; 13:46). But His ultimate mission was the reconciliation of the world, as Paul declares in today's Epistle. In the Mass we join all peoples in doing Him homage. As Isaiah foretold, we come to His holy mountain, the heavenly Jerusalem, to offer sacrifice at His altar (see Hebrews 12:22–24, 28). With the Canaanite, we take our place at the Master's table to be fed as His children.

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 candle lit procession and Rosary after the 5pm mass. All are welcome.
2. The Missionary Youth Movement (MYM) will animate the Rosary on Saturday 22nd August, after the 5.00pm Mass. All are welcome.
3. All children, ages 5-13 years are invited to an age grouped interactive formation on the DIGNITY OF HUMAN LIFE. Students in grade 7 and 8 (PMC role models) are specially invited to participate as they prepare to transition to MYM at the end of the year. The formation will take place from Tuesday 18th and conclude on 22nd August with the PMC zonal mass at Regina Caeli Parish, Karen. Registration details are in the blue tent outside the Church.
4. In the month of September, Consolata Shrine joins Christians around the world in observing the season of creation, running from 1st September which is the world day of prayer for creation to 4th October this season themed: **living waters** drawn from Ezekiel 46:9,12 by taking action towards creation's care for water, land and biodiversity. 2026, 5th feast of St.

Francis of Assisi. We invite all the parishioners to commemorate

5. We welcome all parishioners who registered for the Sacred Heart devotion and all those willing to join, for the 1st introduction session on 23rd August 2026 at 11am Allamano Centre, room 3F.
6. The Divine mercy group will have their cenacle meeting on Sunday 16/8/2026 at 2pm Allamano centre Room Mo2.

Wedding Banns

There is a promise of marriage between:

- 1. Stephen Rufus Ndemi Maina and Tracie Irene Kimani (2nd Announcement)***

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

Diaconate banns

The Consolata Missionaries have the pleasure to announce the Diaconate Ordination of:

- 1. Seminarian Arthur Martin Sie Yao Kra, IMC (3rd Announcement)***

Kindly visit the parish notice board for more information. If anyone has an objection, please notify the Father in -charge. The ordination will be held on 4th September 2026 at 9.00 am at the Resurrection Garden, Archdiocese of Nairobi. All are welcome.

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