

CONSOLATA SHRINE

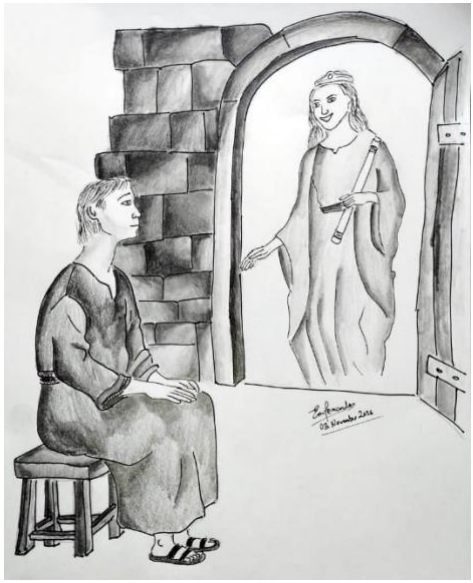
32ND SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME
8TH NOVEMBER 2026



FIRST READING — Wisdom 6:12-16

"Wisdom is found by those who seek her."

A reading from the Book of Wisdom



Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her. He who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for he will find her sitting at his gates. To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and he who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care, because she goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths, and meets them in every thought.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM **Psalm 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8**
(R. see 2b)

R. **For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord, my God.**

O God, you are my God; at dawn I seek you;
for you my soul is thirsting.
For you my flesh is pining,
like a dry, weary land without water. ***R.***

I have come before you in the sanctuary,
to behold your strength and your glory.
Your loving mercy is better than life;
my lips will speak your praise. ***R.***

I will bless you all my life;
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet;
with joyful lips, my mouth shall praise you. ***R.***

When I remember you upon my bed,
I muse on you through the watches of the night.
For you have been my strength;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. ***R.***

SECOND READING **1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

"God will bring with him through Jesus those who have fallen asleep."

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians



We would not have you ignorant, brethren, concerning those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, shall not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the archangel's call, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first; then we who are alive, who are left, shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air; and so we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words.

The word of the Lord

ALLELUIA — Matthew 24:42a, 44

Alleluia
Watch, therefore, and be ready;
the Son of man is coming at an hour you do not expect.
Alleluia.

GOSPEL — Matthew 25:1-13

"Behold, the bridegroom. Come out to meet him."
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew



At that time:
Jesus told his disciples this parable: "The kingdom of heaven shall be compared to ten maidens who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept. "But at midnight there was a cry, 'Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' "Then all those maidens rose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' "But the wise replied, 'Perhaps

there will not be enough for us and for you; go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.' "And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast; and the door was shut. Afterward the other maidens came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' "But he replied, "Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.' "Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

The gospel of the Lord.

<u>Reflection: Members of the wedding *by Scott Hahn, Ph. D*</u>

According to marriage customs of Jesus' day, a bride was first "betrothed" to her husband but continued for a time to live with her family. Then, at the appointed hour some months later, the groom would come to claim her, leading her family and bridal party to the wedding feast that would celebrate and inaugurate their new life together. This is the background to the parable of the last judgment we hear in today's Gospel. In the parable's symbolism, Jesus is the Bridegroom (see Mark 2:19). In this, He fulfills God's ancient promise to join Himself forever to His chosen people as a husband cleaves to his bride (see Hosea 2:16–20). The virgins of the bridal party represent us, the members of the Church. We were "betrothed" to Jesus in Baptism (see 2 Corinthians 11:2; Ephesians 5:25–27) and are called to lives of holiness and devotion until He comes again to lead us to the heavenly wedding feast at the end of time (see Revelation 19:7–9; 21:1–4). As St. Paul warns in today's Epistle, Jesus is coming again, though we know not the day nor the hour. We need to keep vigil throughout the dark night of this time in which our Bridegroom seems long delayed. We need to keep our souls' lamps filled with the oil of perseverance and desire for God— virtues that are extolled in today's First Reading and Psalm. We are to seek Him in love, meditating upon His kindness, calling upon His name, striving to be ever more worthy of Him, to be found without spot or

blemish when He comes. If we do this, we will be counted as wise and the oil for our lamps will not run dry (see 1 Kings 17:16). We will perceive the Bridegroom, the Wisdom of God (see Proverbs 8:12–21, 35; 9:1–6), hastening toward us, beckoning us to the table He has prepared, the rich banquet which will satisfy our souls.

Announcements

1. St. Catherine of Sienna SCC will animate the Rosary on Saturday 14th November, after the 5.00 pm mass. All are welcome
2. There will be no infant Baptism in November, the next infant Baptism will be held on 19th December 2026. Kindly register at the Catechist's office during the week.
3. 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.
4. The Catholic Women Association (CWA) are recruiting new members. Ladies who are baptised and are 18 years old and above are encouraged to register at the tent outside the Church.
5. Children Holiday programme will begin on Tuesday 10th November 2026. All children between the age of 4 and 14 years are invited for age specific activities. For more information and to register, please visit the desk in the blue tent outside the Church
6. There will be a seminar for all Choir members, Proclaimers, Altar servers and Catechists on 14th November 2026, from 9.00am to 12.00pm. The seminar will be facilitated by Fr. Deo. Members are encouraged to attend
7. The **Harambee** for the gate and gatehouse project will be held on 15th November 2026. The following groups will animate;
    1. 9:00am –The Allamano board and professional group.
    2. 11:00am- Jumuiya and CWA
    3. 1:00pm- CMA and Youth

    We warmly invite you to contribute towards the successful completion of this project.

8. The construction of **New Gate and Gatehouse Project** is on - going. This project is intended to enhance the safety and security of our Parish community. We humbly appeal for your generous financial support towards our project. To pledge or contribute, kindly visit the desk in the blue tent, outside the Church, or send your contribution via the Allamano paybill ***804877***; Account: ***'Gate project'***. We appreciate your continued support
9. Consolata Shrine CMA in collaboration with St. Joseph Mukasa Catholic Church, Kahawa West will be hosting their annual rite of passage, from Thursday 12th November to Saturday 21st November 2026. Registration is ongoing. For more information, please see the posters on the notice board

Wedding Banns

There is a promise of marriage between:

1. ***Dorington Melitus Omondi and Florah Adhiambo (1st* Announcement)**
2. ***Daniel Otieno Ojwang and Esther Mutila Rose (1st* Announcement)**

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