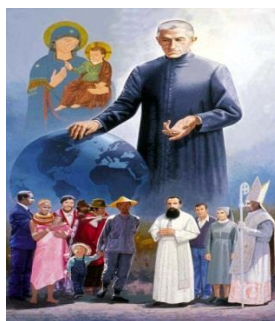


**CONTINENTAL
BIENNIAL
2019-2020**



**"Renew
the Gift of
God that is
in you"
(2Tim.1,6)**

OPENING MASS FOR THE VOCATIONAL BIENNIAL 2019 - 2020



FOUNDER'S FEAST FOR IMC-MC

BLESSED JOSEPH ALLAMANO

Opening commentary of the Mass

Dear brothers and sisters, you are welcome to this celebration. Today is the feast of our founder Blessed Joseph Allamano in which our Consolata Family in the Americas begins the Vocational Biennium. First of all, we want to thank God for the gift of vocation that Consolata missionaries have received in the spirit of the founder and the company of the Virgin Mother Consolata, "Woman of new wine." Confident in their presence, we ask Jesus to encourage us to renew "the gift of God" that is in each of us. And, in turn, we ask him to continue sending us more laborers into his harvest. Because we know the Lord is with us and still calls workers to proclaim and build his Kingdom here, there and beyond borders. Let us receive the entrance procession with a song.

Entrance song: Blessed Joseph Allamano

(The president of the celebration, ordained and lay ministers, altar servers and some youth enter in procession.)

GREETING: In the name of the Father....

PENITENTIAL ACT: Song

GLORIA: Song.

OPENING PRAYER

Lord, our God, who in Blessed Joseph Allamano, has raised a burning desire to cooperate in your universal plan of salvation, and you made him formator of priests and father of

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missionary families to proclaim the Gospel to all peoples, grant us, we pray, to grow in the same zeal to give our lives for the brothers. Through our Lord Jesus Christ . Amen.

Commentary to Scripture Readings

The Word of God directs and feeds the proclamation of the Gospel to all peoples of the world. In the first reading, St. Paul exhorts us to renew the gift of God in everyone. We should cherish our vocation; we cannot dishonor the charism of our sublime and holy vocation. This reading also reminds us of the imperative of Blessed Joseph Allamano: Saints first, then missionaries.

In the Gospel, Jesus proclaims his messianic project, emphasizing his preference for the poor and oppressed. Encouraged by the Spirit, let's take consolation to the people on this mission he fulfilled and that all of us, missionary disciples, must undertake.

FIRST READING (2 Tim 1: 1-3. 6-12)

A Reading from the Second Letter of St. Paul to Timothy

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, in keeping with the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus; to Timothy, my dear son: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

I thank God, whom I serve, as my ancestors did, with a clear conscience, as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers. For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.

So do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner. Rather, join with me in suffering for the Gospel, by the power of God. He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel. And of this Gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher.

That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet this is no cause for shame, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him until that day.

CONTINENTAL BIENNIAL 2019-2020



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RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 95: 1-3.7-8.10)

R / Let the Peoples praise the Lord

Sing to the Lord a new song, sing to the Lord, all the earth; sing to the Lord, bless his name.

R / Let the Peoples praise the Lord

Proclaim his victory day after day, tell the people his glory, his wonders among all nations.

R / Let the Peoples praise the Lord

Clans of the people, praise the Lord, praise the glory and the power of the Lord, praise the glory of the name of the Lord.

R / Let the Peoples praise the Lord

Tell people: "The Lord is King, he secured the world, and will not move; he governs the peoples with equity."

R / Let the Peoples praise the Lord

Gospel Acclamation (Mt 28: 19-20)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Go and teach all nations, says the Lord;
I am with you every day,
until the end of the world.

R- Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL: (Lk 4: 16-21)

Reading from the Gospel according to Luke

At that time, Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up; and as was his custom, he entered the synagogue on the Sabbath, and stood up to read. And the book of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. He opened the book and found the place where it was written,

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim the release to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free those who are oppressed, to proclaim the Favorable year of the Lord."

Then he closed the book, gave it back to the attendant and sat down; the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

Word of God

HOMILY:

INTERCESSION PRAYERS

Filled with joy and gratitude for the gift of vocation to the great mission of proclaiming the Good News to all peoples, let us make our confident prayer to the Father. To each request you respond "Renew in us, Oh Lord, the gift received from you."

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1. For the universal Church, Pope Francis and the bishops, so that they may be faithful to the Holy Spirit, and good shepherds to lead the Church, the sacrament of the Kingdom of God, as the way to unity and communion. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
2. For the priests and the religious, Consolata missionaries, so that the Lord may continue to enlighten them in the fulfillment of His will; and that during this vocational Biennium, strengthen their religious and missionary consecration, practicing the living testimony of holiness and prophecy. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
3. For the lay Consolata missionaries and other lay members of the Church, aware of being "baptized and sent" and "domestic church" Christian families, they may revitalize generously the task of evangelization and be source of vocations. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
4. For the youth in the Americas, so that, through the intercession of the Virgin Mary Consolata, be generous in their following Jesus Christ and, if God calls them to the missionary vocation, be courageous enough to offer their lives for the evangelizing service in

the Church for the world. *Let us pray to the Lord.*

5. For all patients, especially the elderly and young missionaries, so that Jesus, the consolation of humanity, may accompany them in their weakness and thoroughly renew them to persevere as "salt and light of the world." *Let us pray to the Lord.*

Gracious Father, hear our prayers, grant us the apostolic zeal and help us to be faithful, creative, and consistent missionaries in holiness, so that we can guide the youth of the continent in vocational discernment. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

PROCESSION WITH OFFERINGS

The youth and adults come with offerings. Besides bread and wine, there are signs that will be presented at the altar, namely a plant in a vessel and a banner logo of vocational biennium, the picture of Blessed Joseph Allamano, and some youths or seminarians.



- ❖ **Bread and wine:** We offer you, Lord, bread and wine and, through them, the life of those called to the Vineyard, for your Body and Blood are food for them and strength to walk in the proclamation of your Gospel.

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- ❖ **Plant:** We present you, Lord, this fresh plant, a sign of vocation and consecration of missionaries, so that they take good care of it, to strengthen and multiply your spirit, so that they can bear much fruit. Together with it we also offer this logo of Vocational Biennium.



people of God. Help them to be obedient and generous to your Will, like Mary, and cooperate for the Kingdom of God.



- ❖ **Blessed Joseph Allamano picture:** We present you, Lord, the picture of the founder of the Consolata missionaries, so that, together with Blessed Leonella Sgobarti, protectress of the year, intercede for the vocational animators and all of us, and inspire us to clearly reflect our identity and sanctity of life.



- ❖ **The youth:** We present you, Lord, these youths and, with them, all young people of the continent. They are a sign of joy, energy and generous dedication, in renouncing their inner self and go out to serve the

OFFERTORY: Song.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Receive, Oh Father, this memorial of our redemption and grant that, through the fountain of your mysteries, we may attain the spirit of holiness to please you only and adhere to Christ the Lord, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

HOLY: Song

Preface: (Common Preface VI)

OUR FATHER: (Recited in different languages)

LAMB OF GOD

COMMUNION: Song

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let the participation in this sacrament of your love, rekindle in us, Oh Lord, the fire of charity that blazed in Blessed Joseph Allamano, so that with Mary Consolata, our Mother, we may bring to the world the true

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**consolation and, with peaceful strength,
proclaim your glory to the peoples. Through
Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

PRAYER OF VOCATIONAL BIENNIAL

Lord Jesus, during this vocational biennial
we ask you to revive in us
our religious and missionary consecration.

Help us to testify in community
and with audacity, the gift of our life
dedicated and given to the mission.

Teach us to be creative missionaries,
able to help the young people of the
continent
on the way of vocational discernment.

Lord, that our style and our missionary
options
inspire young people to fulfill their projects
of life and mission in communion with the
Church.

Wake up in every young person the desire
to live
the generosity of your love and dedication
for the vulnerable situations of humanity.

We ask this, through the intercession of
Mary, always faithful to the call of God, and
of Blessed Joseph Allamano who instilled in
us the courage to answer your call. Amen

CONCLUDING RITE (VII Ordinary Time, 2Thes 2:
16-17)
Blessing

Jesus Christ, the Lord and God our
Father, who loved us so much and has
given us the comfort of a great hope,
guide you and strengthen you for all
kinds of words and good deeds.

R. Amen.

And the blessing of Almighty God, the
Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
descend upon you and remain forever.

R. Amen.

You may go in peace ...

Last song: A song to Mary Consolata

**BUONA FESTA
16. 02. 2019**