



Society of African Missions

23 Bliss Avenue
Tenafly, NJ 07670
Phone: 201-567-0450
Visit our website
www.smafathers.org



Administration:

Fr Ranees A. Rayappan,
Provincial Superior

Fr Dermot Roache,
House Superior

Mass Schedule

Sundays

8:00 am; 10:00 am; 12 noon

Weekdays & Holy Days

8:00 am; 9:30 am; 11:45 am

Christmas & New Year's Day

8:00 am; 10:00 am; 12:00 noon

Confessions

Saturdays 4:30 pm to 5:00 pm

Bereavement & Visit to the Sick

Contact Fr. Dermot Roache
201-567-0450 Ext. 212

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Rosary

Every Wednesday at 11:00 am
Followed by Mass, Adoration
and Benediction at 5:30 pm

The Little Way of St. Therese of Lisieux

2nd Sundays after 12 pm Mass

Bible Reflection Group

Thursdays: 7:30 pm in the hall

Perpetual Mass Association

Office open Monday-Friday
from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

S.M.A. Vocation Office

Fr. Julien Esse, SMA
551-449-4357

African Art Museum

Open daily. Contact:
Fr. James McConnell
201-567-0450 Ext. 242
Fr. Michael Bova
201-567-0450 Ext. 207

Thank you for your support.

Please note that the Mass
Intentions are being honored
in private by our Priests.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Masses for the week of MARCH 22 — MARCH 28, 2020

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of the SMA	
Sun. March 22	10:00	Fr Dermot Roache, SMA (Liv.)	Friends
	12:00	Mary Elizabeth Tietjen+	Family
Mon. March 23	9:30	Maureen McDonald+	Friend
	11:45	Andrej Mikulak+	Family
Tue. March 24	9:30	John & Edythe Sheehy+	
	11:45	Kathleen Ryan+	Breda & Benny Walsh
Wed. March 25	9:30	Catherine M. Hamill+	Friend
	11:45	Fe Tolentino+	Erly Cortez
Thurs. March 26	9:30	Bernardo Sangalan+ Feb. 8	Joseph Sangalan
	11:45	Dec. Members of Guiney & McCarthy Families	
Fri. March 27	9:30	Fr John Robinson+	Friend
	11:45	Stefania Michalowska+	Richard & Lydia
Sat. March 28	9:30	Kathleen Cunnion+	Aileen Walsh
	11:45	Terry Laughton+	The Porto Family

Today's Readings

First Reading 1 Samuel 16:1. 6-7. 10-13

God gives Samuel a special insight to choose Jesse's son David.

Second Reading Ephesians 5:8-14

God has brought us out of darkness so we can live in the light of the Lord.

Gospel John 9:1-41

A blind man is healed and, in the face of opposition, comes to faith by seeing Jesus as his saviour.

Sometimes gifts don't look like blessings to us, but they can be. So it is with this unwanted, unexpected and intimidating guest... maybe it's a curse, maybe a blessing.

The world has grown silent for a moment, the industrial giant is quiet, all people are equal again, both great and small, trembling with the same fear before the unknown...

The entire Christian world is praying together for the same thing. Families are finally coming to know one another, to become familiar, to socialize and pray out loud, and suddenly there is plenty of time. The virus even slows down time.

Where were we hurrying to? What are we doing with ourselves while our days have been counted just as the hairs on your head have?

God is detaching us from the securities of this world. In the gift of silence, where God speaks, we are now able to make a deep examination of conscience so we can clean what prevents us from hearing the Voice of God clearly. Let us use this time and sincerely ask God to tell us what He wants of us today, and continue to do that every day. Spend as much time as possible with God at church or somewhere in your home or where you find the silence. He is all we need.

Stop, and listen to the silence. Let us return to our roots and pray to God. We can be so desperately afraid for our bodies but what about our souls, how are we preparing it?

Some gifts don't look like blessings to us, yet they are... Just open your eyes and look around. Above all never forget that God above is seeing everything and He is in control.

Trust always in Jesus the Good Shepherd- the Savior of the world- The King who wears The ultimate Crown of glory!

Fr Dermot Roache, SMA

HOMILY

"You are looking at him; he is speaking to you."

Illustration

There are at least two ways of thinking about how we see the world. The first may involve going to the optician to have our eyes checked. We undergo tests to see if our physical sight and can be improved. But the second way transcends physical sight. In today's first reading Samuel the prophet visits Jesse to choose one of his sons to be anointed as king. He sees seven sons but rejects them all because he does not judge by physical appearance. God gives him spiritual insight, which looks to the heart and enables him to choose David.

Easter night can show us two different ways of seeing. The Vigil Mass begins in darkness. After the new fire is lit, the light is passed through the church and people can see as the physical darkness is dispelled. Then, in the light of the paschal candle, the readings, from Genesis to the Gospel, are read aloud. The readers can see the words in the lectionary, but do they understand their meaning? They only make sense in the light of Christ. He gives us the spiritual sight to understand them and see how they all point forward to Christ himself. Our physical sight is given by the candles but our spiritual sight is given by Christ. He gives us a way of looking at the world which we call faith. But how do we come to faith?

The Living Word