



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

11:45 am

Weekdays & Holy Days

11:45 am

Confessions

By appointment. Contact

Fr Dermot Roache 201-567-0450 Ext 212

Bereavement & Visit to the Sick

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

Perpetual Mass Association

Office open Monday-Friday
from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

S.M.A. Vocation Office

Fr. Julien Esse, SMA
551-449-4357

Sunday Collection: \$632

Thank you for your support.
Please remember to support
your local parishes.

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Masses for the week of August 30— September 5, 2020

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of the SMA	
Sun. Aug. 30	10:00	John & Edythe Sheehy and Family+	
	11:45	Joan Naida+	Jane & Frank Marty
Mon. Aug. 31	9:30	Dec. Members of the Guiney Family	
	11:45	John F Neary NYPD+	Neary Family
Tue. Sept. 1	9:30	Michael R Desrochers+	
	11:45	Gina Ambulo (Liv.)	
Wed. Sept. 2	9:30	Deceased Members of the McCarthy Family	
	11:45	Eric Sarnier (Liv.) Spec. Intentions Birthday	Victoria Costa
Thurs. Sept. 3	9:30	Sheamus Feeney+ Kevin Sherry+	Mary Quinn & Family
	11:45	James Whelan+	Flynn Family
Fri. Sept. 4	9:30	Special Intentions Neil & Forgrave Families	
	11:45	Special Intentions Stoever & Mongiello Families	
Sat. Sept. 5	9:30	Special Intentions Stoever & Mongiello Families	
	11:45	Sean McCabe+	Sister in Law

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

Today's Readings: *First Reading* Jeremiah 20:7-9

Though Jeremiah feels that the Lord has deceived him, he knows that he must proclaim the prophetic message of what is to come.

Second Reading Romans 12:1-2

Paul urges us to follow the will of God, not the fashions of the world.

Gospel Matthew 16:21-27

Jesus makes it clear that there is a price to be paid for following him.

Pick up your cross and follow me.

Christianity is a religion of joy. We know that we have a God who loves us unconditionally. We have a God of infinite mercy and compassion! Who delights when those who have strayed come back to Him. In fact, prodigal daughters and sons are welcomed back to His embrace with open arms, celebration, and joy! We also have a God who is with us in our darkest moments if we turn to Him. However, we may not feel that way in the heat of the moment, but our faith tells us that this is true. Jesus, while on the cross said, "My God, my God why have you abandoned me?" Yet in reality, God the Father was ever so close to His Son at that horrific moment. For us, it is the same way when we are enduring our own crosses of life.

We are all on a journey back to God, back to the one who created us. It is a journey of joy, but often one of sorrows. St. Paul taught us that there is no crown without a Cross. In the context of Christianity, our life becomes like a school or trial that we undergo. Everything that goes on in our life is pointed towards, is aimed at salvation, beatific vision, heaven, eternal union with God. With and only with God's grace, when we successfully finish our spiritual journey in God's presence, we are assured of everlasting happiness and joy. Remember the Transfiguration, the Apostles got a taste of that eternal joy in order to strengthen their faith and that they could bear persecution bravely. Many are the trials of those who will enter the Kingdom of God (Acts 14:22). We know that no matter how difficult our trials on earth, that if we stick to our faith, trust God, and endure, we will be rewarded. Jesus died so that we have an opportunity for eternal joy and happiness with Him.

The Crosses that we all will face, at one time or another, come in so many different varieties. For some, your cross may be that of a hospital bed, where you lie in pain and suffering, both mental and physical. You may feel abandoned by God and even family. Jesus understands that pain. If that happens to you stick to your faith and turn to Him. For others there may be the cross of taking care of an elderly parent or special needs family member. This can be difficult, especially when you don't feel appreciated. Remember all true love involves self-sacrifice. Jesus didn't feel appreciated either. His followers scattered in His time of greatest need. Perhaps your cross will be in following Jesus' teachings on human sexuality. Your friends may mock you, but then again what kind of friends are these. True happiness and beautiful, real, true relationships come out of following Jesus' teachings, particularly in this area. If you follow Jesus' teachings you will be rewarded not only in the next life, but also in this one. Blessed are those who fear the Lord, he will have a happy family life (Psalm 128). Not my words, but His! Don't buy into Satan's teachings on human sexuality, despite how tempting they might be they lead to unhappiness, disappointment, and a string of failed relationships, stick to Jesus and you will lead a happy life.

So pick up your crosses, some more challenging than others, but we will all have them. There will be times where you are tested, times when you feel overwhelmed, be assured that they will happen. In those moments, don't buy into despair, keep your faith, trust in God and remember Jesus' passion. Turn to God always, but particularly in these moments, let our faith lead the way, let it not waver even if we feel abandoned. Let us pick up our cross and with as much joy as we can, follow our King into His eternal Kingdom to enjoy infinite happiness. Amen

Fr Michael Bova, SMA

SYMPATHY.- Our deepest sympathy and prayers to Richard and Eileen Moloney, and family on the passing of their daughter Claire Mackin. She died on August 25, 2020.

May She Rest In Peace

