



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: \$816

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

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

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Masses for the week of September 13— September 19, 2020

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of the SMA	
Sun. Sept. 13	10:00	Deceased Members of the Sheehy Family	
	11:45	Gino Pico+	Sister and Nephew
Mon. Sept. 14	9:30	Happy Birthday Christopher G. Neill (Liv.)	
	11:45	Justin Lamorena+	Family
Tue. Sept. 15	9:30	Annie Murphy+	Michael Murphy
	11:45	Special Intentions Linda Palmares (Liv.)	Rosanne Ambulo
Wed. Sept. 16	9:30	Michael Giotta+	His Mother
	11:45	Virgil and Laura Costa+	Victoria Costa
Thurs. Sept. 17	9:30	Emma and Reinhard Tietjen+	Family
	11:45	James McGoldrick+	
Fri. Sept. 18	9:30	John & Edythe Sheehy+	
	11:45	Francesco Pastore+	Friends and Family
Sat. Sept. 19	9:30	Abitante and Falotico Families	
	11:45	Rowena Refol (Birthday)	Josie Martinez

DEATH NOTICE

We are saddened to announce the passing of our confrere, Fr James Hickey, SMA. Fr Hickey died peacefully, Monday, September 7, 2020 in Dublin, Ireland.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord; and let the perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen

Today's Readings:

First Reading *Ecclesiasticus 27:30 – 28:7*

The cure for bad memories is to remember the things of God.

Second Reading *Romans 14:7-9*

Life and death only have meaning when they are lived for something more than ourselves.

Gospel *Mathew 18:21-35*

There is no limit to forgiveness, because heaven is eternal forgiveness.

“Unless you each forgive... from your heart.”

Illustration

We all probably take for granted the fact that there are seven days in the week. Yet no one really knows why there should be seven days. There are theories, of course, but none of them are certain. The seven-day week seems to have been used throughout the Mediterranean area and on into India. It is what it is. Yet the fact of the seven-day week seems to have suggested to the Jewish mind the idea of seven as a totality. In the Old Testament, the Jewish scriptures, the creation takes place in seven days because this means there is no moment of time in which God is not concerned with creation. In the New Testament, in the book of the Apocalypse, the message is to seven churches, because seven represents all the churches.

So when St Peter suggests that we should forgive people if they sin against us “seven times”, he is not suggesting just a small number. Seven is the number of totality, so Peter thinks he is saying something profound about always forgiving. We forgive while we live. Christ replies by saying, “Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times”, or “seventy times seven” in some translations. This multiplication is because mercy is not just for this life, for the time we have, the time of the seven days, but also for eternity. Eternity is unimaginable but we can think of it as time multiplied by time. So the Gospel story of the servant being led to judgement is our story, because if we do not forgive, how can we enter the world of forgiveness, which is heaven?

Gospel Teaching

Christian morality is the morality of heaven. We are not just concerned with how we live with each other on this earth, but with the life of the world to come. The shape of this new world is determined by how we live in this world. It is present, too, in the sacraments, in prayer, in those moments of peace that God alone can give. What really connects us to heaven is mercy. Nothing in Christian thought makes sense without the idea of the forgiveness of sin. The incarnation is for the sake of the forgiveness of sin.

The servant in the Gospel parable is asked to be like God to his fellow servants by forgiving them. It is not just God saying, “I forgave you, therefore you should forgive others”, but God saying, “I forgive all human beings, but I wish to forgive some of them through you. Their debt to you is yours and theirs, but the forgiveness is mine. And I want you to be ministers of that forgiveness.”

The Living Word

NOTICE: My dear friends of the SMA, Blessings and every good wish to you!

Our SMA Mission in the work of *primary evangelization* is to bring others to Jesus in a “hands on” manner. It involves direct interaction with people.

It is widely known that we thrive on this interaction - it is also known that we also enjoy our social gatherings and most especially the annual gala!

During this time of social distancing because of Covid our “annual gala,” which is one of our main fundraisers that keeps the operations of the SMA missions active, cannot occur. Visit our website at www.smafathers.org and go to Blogs - USA. I truly hope you will take time to watch the video posted there, reflect on and consider helping us. You can send a check made out to SMA Fathers—memo: Gala time.

As always we thank you for your support, love, friendship and prayers. Be assured of our continued prayers for each and everyone of you. Thank you and God bless you.

Fr. Dermot Roache, SMA

UPCOMING EVENTS AT KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: 61 Armour Pl. Dumont. RSVP REQUIRED
Call 516-220-9333 or email KofC1345Reservations@gmail.com.

- **Friday September 18th** – KARAOKE SOCIAL with New World Karaoke. Doors open at 7PM, Karaoke begins at 8PM. We will be serving hot dogs as a snack, and have a cash bar and drink specials, and 50/50 raffle. \$5/per person.