



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: \$861
 Thank you for your support.

Please remember to support
 your local parishes.

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Masses for the week of October 18, - October 24, 2020

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of the SMA	
Sun. Oct. 18	10:00	James Quaglitta+	Gloria Quaglitta
	11:45	Tom Brunetto & Family	Vincent Pruzinsky
Mon. Oct. 19	9:30	Catherine M. Hamill+	Friend
	11:45	Victor Bontuyen+	Family
Tue. Oct. 20	9:30	Catherine M. Hamill+	Friend
	11:45	Mary Abitante+	
Wed. Oct. 21	9:30	Catherine M. Hamill+	Friend
	11:45	Sung Choi (Liv.) Birthday	Mariana Cho
Thurs. Oct. 22	9:30	Maria R. Valdes+	Friend
	11:45	Fr. James Hickey, SMA	Martha Paladino
Fri. Oct. 23	9:30	Maria R. Valdes+	Friend
	11:45	Diana Colon (Liv.) Birthday	John Tietjen
Sat. Oct. 24	9:30	Tony Pagliaro+	Susan/Bob Iacullo
	11:45	Maria R. Valdes+	Friend

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

Today's Readings: **First Reading** Isaiah 45:1. 4-6 God has called each of us by name.
Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5
 Paul tells his Thessalonian congregation that he prays constantly for them.
Gospel Matthew 22:15-21
 Jesus' enemies tried to trap him with a question about whether or not to pay taxes. Whichever answer he gave could catch him out and lead to his ultimate downfall.

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

“Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.”

Illustration

John was critically ill. His parents, Titus and Blessing, unable to prevent a dog biting him, recognised that he needed urgent medical help and walked for two days to the hospital, carrying John on their backs for the entire distance. People saw John’s symptoms of rabies and avoided the family in the isolated African fishing villages through which they trekked. In their limited medical knowledge, the villagers blamed evil spirits and were frightened of the consequences of approaching the suffering family.

Many mission hospitals cannot afford to keep anti-rabies vaccine on standby in case of need. It’s expensive and must be kept cool, a real problem in places with uncertain or non-existent electricity. The Sisters at the hospital tried to contact other medical facilities within a range of several hundred miles. Some could only be reached via a walkie-talkie radio. There was no Internet connection in the area and telephones rarely worked. With John’s condition rapidly deteriorating, the situation was increasingly desperate. At last, a distant Salvation Army hospital responded via the radio. They would give John their only dose of vaccine. To send it by road would take at least eight hours. Instead, they had contacted a Lutheran volunteer pilot with Mission Medic-Air. He would fly the vaccine to the mission hospital’s grass landing strip if someone could meet the six-seater plane in two hours’ time. Blessing sat, ignoring the risks to herself, with John on her knee, refusing to let go of her child. Sadly, it was too late and John died even as one of the Sisters prepared the injection which, a few hours earlier, might have saved his life.

Gospel Teaching

In today’s Gospel, Jesus’ enemies tried to trap him with a clever question about whether or not to pay taxes. Whichever answer he gave could lead to his ultimate downfall. Despite the flattery with which they tried to ensnare Jesus, the Pharisees saw themselves as the religious elite to which he could never belong. How dare an uneducated carpenter from Galilee tell them how to live!

The Pharisees and Herodians were not concerned about the legitimacy of taxation: they just wanted to get rid of Jesus, who was “not one of us”. Likewise, they saw the Romans as “them” and not “us”: foreigners with a different language, way of life and religious beliefs. There was an unbridgeable divide: “they” could never be the same as “us”. True, the Romans had occupied Israel and had created their own “them and us” situation which fostered hatred and dissent rather than respect and unity, but Jesus’ questioners had no intention of healing the divisions between the two peoples. They only wanted to trap him and did not look for a sincere answer to their question. They were unprepared for Jesus’ suggestion that the only conflict of interests lay in their own hearts.