



Society of African Missions

“The Mission”

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



Mass Schedule

Sundays

10:00 am; 12 noon

Weekdays & Holy Days

11:45 am

Christmas & New Year's Day

10:00 am; 12 noon

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. Eliecer Sandoval, SMA
551-449-4357

Sunday Collection: \$591

Thank you for your support.

Please remember to support
your local parishes.

HOLY HOUR
SATURDAY,
MAY 15, 2021
8PM

CELEBRATE WITH US!

HONOR A LOVED ONE
BY PLANTING A TREE

For more information,
please call

(201) 567-0450

Administration:

Fr Ranees A. Rayappan,
Provincial Superior

Fr Dermot Roache,
House Superior

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Masses for the week of May 2, 2021 - May 8, 2021

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of the SMA	
Sun. May 2	10:00	Sung Choi Family & Marianna Cho (Liv.)	Marianna Cho
	12:00	JoAnn DiPaolo+	Martha DiPaolo
Mon. May 3	9:30	Bill Moran+	Jinnie Moran
	11:45	Helena Etter+	Flor & Lito
Tue. May 4	9:30	Michael R Desrochers+	
	11:45	Leticia Ricafrente Lawler+	John Lawler
Wed. May 5	9:30	Michael R. Desrochers+	
	11:45	Joseph Abitante+	
Thurs. May 6	9:30	Suzanne Castelein+	Mary Ann Pruzinsky
	11:45	Diane Crowell+	Martha DiPaolo
Fri. May 7	9:30	Special Int. Neill & Forgrave Families	
	11:45	Special Int. Stoever & Mongiello Families	
Sat. May 8	9:30	Michael R Desrochers+	
	11:45	Leticia Ricafrente Lawler+	John Lawler

Today's Readings:

First Reading Acts 9:26-31

Barnabas introduces Saul to the apostles, preparing the way for the mission of the future apostle, Paul.

Second Reading 1 John 3:18-24

We know that God lives in us when the Holy Spirit enables us to believe in Jesus and love one another as he told us to.

Gospel John 15:1-8

Just as the branch has to be attached to the vine if it is to bear fruit, so we have to be united to Christ if we are to bear the fruits of love.

“Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty.”

Illustration

When Covid-19 struck our world, we had to learn a new way to be human. Things that we used to think of as normal behaviour, even polite behaviour, became unacceptable – no shaking hands, embracing or kissing outside our own immediate circle. Social distancing became necessary to restrict the spread of the virus. New recommendations were promoted with ever-growing confusion in the instructions people were given: stay two metres apart; or maybe one metre was sufficient, so long as there were added precautions; masks may be worn, should be worn, must be worn in a variety of circumstances. We were told to stay at home and to meet with no one outside our own household; then the guidance changed so we could meet with certain numbers of people, outside but not inside. For many of us, it all became increasingly muddled and confusing.

As human beings we are social animals. We live in a society. We need other people. Our world only works because we live and work together. Social isolation, being cut off from one another, for most of us, is akin to death, and yet, in a pandemic, social integration can indeed lead to death. Our world has been turned upside down.

Gospel Teaching

Today, in the Gospel reading about the vine, Jesus teaches us a new way to live in relationship with God. He uses the well-known image of the vine. In an agricultural society, people will understand how to get the best out of a vine. If the grapes are to develop so that they can be turned into good wine, they need careful management. The energy of the plant has to be directed to the fruit through proper pruning. The vine cannot be left to do its own thing or it will simply produce lots of leaves and poor quality grapes. There is an obvious connection between root and branch, leaf and fruit – they share the one life. Cut off from that life, they shrivel and die.

This same interdependence Jesus describes for us as the relationship which gives us eternal life. We are one with him and with each other, sharing the one life, his life, and in this way we can live with him and like him and produce the fruits of his love. But, Jesus warns us, the vine cannot be left to its own devices; it needs a vinedresser to manage its growth and encourage its fruitfulness, and God is such a vinedresser. God knows us and knows what part of us needs to be cut away and what needs encouragement. We are in partnership with God to produce the best version of ourselves, the best fruit, the best wine.

The Living Word

NOTE.- Dear friends,

In this Easter Season when we are steeped in the joy of Christ’s Resurrection and Mercy, we thank God for the continued blessings that He bestows on us. In a particular way, here at the Mission in Tenaflly, we are also thanking the Lord for a very special milestone. This year **SMA celebrates 100 years of service at 23 Bliss Avenue!**

As an effort to mark this great event, we are giving the property a “face lift” by planting a variety of 100 trees that will help enhance the beauty of the grounds of the Mission. It is a big task, but with your help, it will be a memorable one. Each tree we plant will be in memory of a special loved one in our lives.

If you would like to help sponsor us with a **\$250** donation for a tree in memory of a loved one, we will remember their name(s) in a memorial plaque that will be unveiled on the property later on this fall.

Due to the nature of the shrubbery, planting will commence at the middle of April and will be completed by September. We are requesting the donations be received by **May 31st 2021.**

Your friendship has always been a gift to us. Thank you for your support. Fr. Dermot Roache, SMA