



Society of African Missions

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



Administration:

Fr Ranees Anbukumar Rayappan,
 Provincial Superior
 Fr Dermot Roache,
 Vice-Provincial
 Fr Richard Angolio Mwisheni,
 Councillor

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 2012

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

Deacon Michael Bova

201-567-0450 Ext. 207

Sunday Collections: \$1,870.00

Thank you for your support.

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Masses for the week of SEPTEMBER 8–SEPTEMBER 14, 2019

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of SMA	
Sun. Sept. 8	10:00	Ancy Palliyath George	
	12:00	Rodrigo Quintin+ Jo Adam Moises+	Erlinda P. Rubio
Mon. Sept. 9	9:30	Madeline Halley+	Susan Dooran Murphy
	11:45	Sheamus Feeney & Kevin Shanks+	Mary Quinn & Family
Tue. Sept. 10	9:30	Antonio Fernandez (Liv.)	Sister
	11:45	Ancy Palliyath George	
Wed. Sept. 11	9:30	Victims of Terrorism	James Neary
	11:45	Adrienne O'Brien	Diane & Mike Bruno
Thurs. Sept. 12	9:30	Special Intention	Breda/Benny Walsh
	11:45	Judy Perry+	Mae Kenny
Fri. Sept. 13	9:30	Memory of Joseph Choi (Deceased)	Mariana Cho
	11:45	Carmelo Gonzalez+	Ben/Mely Ramirez
Sat. Sept. 14	9:30	Happy Birthday Christopher G. Neill (Liv.)	
	11:45	Justin La Morena+	Family

Today's Readings

First Reading Wisdom 9:13-18

God in wisdom made the earth and the heavens and all they contain. Humankind cannot comprehend fully the mind of God or what is on earth.

Second Reading Philemon 9-10. 12-17

In this short letter, Paul appeals to Philemon to take back his runaway slave, not just as a slave but as a brother in Christ.

Gospel Luke 14:25-33

The importance of serious commitment to following Christ. Jesus calls for undivided loyalty above even family loyalties.

The Society of African Missions (SMA)

Invites you to join us in celebrating The Priestly Ordination of **Michael P. Bova, SMA**

On Saturday, the 14th of September 2019, at one p.m. at Saint Antony Chapel.

First Mass of Thanksgiving which will be celebrated, Sunday the 15th of September 2019 at twelve noon.

The ordination will be live broadcast on our SMA Fathers NJ Facebook Page.

“Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.”

Illustration

A Filipino diplomat reviewed his life in 2013 after super-typhoon Haiyan devastated his home region of the Philippines. Yeb Saño’s family lost their homes and he knew some of the six thousand people who were killed. “Haiyan was catastrophic but it has woken the [Philippines](#) at least to the reality of climate change,” he said. In 2015, he resigned as a negotiator of the Philippines Climate Change Commission and announced he would be working with various faith groups across the world, as part of the larger global climate movement.

He became a climate justice pilgrim and started a global campaigning movement. As a Catholic mindful of the Church’s social teaching he decided that climate change is part of a larger struggle for a more just, peaceful and caring world. He led a pilgrimage from the Vatican to the UN Climate Change Conference in Paris. It was a sixty-day walk, and upon arrival in December 2015 he was part of a delegation that presented almost two million signatures of people of faith to the United Nations and to the French government, calling for an agreement on climate change. Last year he walked nine hundred miles again, this time from the Vatican to climate talks in Poland, lobbying that the Paris Agreement be fully implemented to reduce greenhouse gas emissions that are warming earth’s climate. In his mission he often has to leave his two children, but he feels called to protect the well-being of future generations. He reflects, “It is not someone else’s job to protect young people and the planet.”

Gospel Teaching

In today’s Gospel Jesus says that his followers must be willing to give up everything for him. Such total commitment could mean separation from treasured possessions and family. The passage speaks of the importance of loyalty and allegiance to Jesus over all other competing loyalties. The two parables remind us of the need to weigh up the costs of discipleship. Following Jesus seriously is a demanding way of life. It offers an interior freedom that understands that material possessions can be real obstacles and that even family can stand in the way of a vocation. Discipleship is a venture that demands total dedication. Everything else must become secondary if Jesus is to be the Lord of our life. The harsh-sounding words about “hating” are intended to indicate that if a conflict of interest arises, a disciple will prefer to follow Jesus and not let family ties, personal wealth or possessions, or work or leisure activities interfere.

God always surprises us. The first reading calls us to remember that we cannot know God’s intentions and should use the gift of wisdom to spend time discerning our paths in life. A surprise comes in the second reading where Paul appeals to Philemon to take back his runaway slave, not just as a slave but as a brother in Christ. Paul is challenging the practice of slavery which was common at that time throughout the Roman Empire.

Application

The people of God are continually tempted to accommodate and assimilate the values of society. However, compassion replaces ambition among them; equality supersedes competition and achievement. Jesus reverses assumptions and expectations and encourages his followers to be a gift to the world. The search for meaning and purpose in our lives is continuous, but serving others helps us to be the fullest versions of ourselves. Our attachment to possessions and comfort zones is challenged by our growing relationship with Jesus.

We have plenty of inspirational Christians in our world. Yeb Saño has stepped off the career ladder to raise awareness and prompt action on the climate crisis, which is so devastating to poor communities in the Philippines and elsewhere. Christians are heavily involved in tackling human trafficking, which is an ongoing form of slavery in our world, undermining human dignity. In Britain some religious orders offer safe houses for women freed from this modern slave trade. Many find it life-affirming to volunteer at food banks and at projects offering overnight accommodation and an evening meal to people who are homeless. Others are involved in peace education with young people, helping them to build a better world for the common good. We all have to make choices between the call of the Lord and the pull of family, possessions and worldly values, which can sometimes block God’s invitation and grace. How far are we able to let go of our old securities? In what new ways can we follow and serve to build God’s kingdom?

The Living Word

The SMA Community congratulates Fr Dermot Roache, who was appointed as a House Superior of the Tenafly House. As we celebrate The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we ask Her to lead Fr Roache as he takes this new assignment.