



Society of African Missions

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



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. 212

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

Administration:

Fr Ranees A. Rayappan,
Provincial Superior

Fr Dermot Roache,
House Superior

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Masses for the week of July 19— July 25, 2020

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of the SMA	
Sun. July 19	10:00	Michael Giotta+	His Mother
	12:00	Gino Pico+	Sister & Godson
Mon. July 20	9:30	Caiden Rubio (Liv.) Emma Vy (Liv.)	Linda Rubio
	11:45	Ruth Kane+ 20th Anniversary	Rich & Marilyn
Tue. July 21	9:30	Irene Fleming	Millie & Larry Fleming
	11:45	Catherine M Hamill+	Friend
Wed. July 22	9:30	Gerry Corrigan+	Joan & Joseph Mollan
	11:45	Jack Kenny+	Mae Kenny & Family
Thurs. July 23	9:30	Spec. Int. Rita Ballantine	Mary Rayunas
	11:45	Patricia Fineza+	The Hellman Family
Fri. July 24	9:30	Mary Laird+	Martha Paladino
	11:45	Peter O'Neill+	Mae Kenny
Sat. July 25	9:30	Ralph Iacullo+	Susan/Bob Iacullo
	11:45	Rosario & Pino Saliturno+	Enrico & Filomena Saliturno

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

Today's Readings: *First Reading* Wisdom 12:13. 16-19

God rules with justice and expects us to be merciful and kind to others.

Second Reading Romans 8:26-27

The Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness.

Gospel Matthew 13:24-43

The kingdom of heaven is likened to good seed being sown in the field, the potential in a tiny mustard seed, and the yeast in the dough.

“The virtuous will shine like the sun.”

Illustration

A London parish with a large number of refugee individuals and families decided to hold a “Story-telling and Supper” evening. The aim was to celebrate diversity in the parish and learn something about parishioners who came from various conflict-ridden countries in the Middle East and global south. It was a great success. On a beautiful summer evening, participants enjoyed food from such countries as Syria, Iraq, Pakistan, Cameroon and Guatemala. They sat around tables and listened to the stories and poems performed on stage: Syrian refugee Muhammet talked about fleeing his country at the beginning of the civil war in 2011, and his traumatic journey, which eventually brought him to Britain. He recalled the wonderful food his mother used to serve up and her generous hospitality. Consolata and her two children fled her village in Cameroon when it was attacked by militia one evening. She never saw her husband again and her children cried for weeks, even after receiving shelter in a camp for displaced people. She was grateful that in Britain her children “can play and sleep well whenever they want”.

At the end participants were invited to share their thoughts on postcards and some were read out. One person remarked: “It just reinforces that people are the same the world over – wanting the same things” and “Thank you for enlightening us – we must try to imagine being in the shoes of others”. The parish garden was filled with a sense of the inclusion of refugees and asylum seekers in the parish community.

Gospel Teaching

One interpretation of the parable of the wheat and the darnel is that it is about inclusivity. Darnel is a weed that closely resembles wheat and the difference is evident only when the plants mature and the ears appear. When the owner’s servants discover weeds in the wheat field, the question is not only where they could have come from, but also what should be done about them. To their surprise the owner tells them not to weed the field but to let the wheat and the darnel grow together. When both are mature at harvest time the sorting will be done. The wheat will be gathered up and stored; the darnel will be burned.

Jesus explains that the parable is about good and evil thriving alongside each other in the world. It is not always easy to tell the weeds from the wheat and their roots are intertwined below ground. Judgement is left to God’s angels. We see the inclusive nature of Jesus’ vision. He explains that the power of the kingdom of God is like the growth potential of a tiny mustard seed, or the transforming qualities of yeast. The tiny seeds and yeast spores have a dynamic potential for change that is out of all proportion to their size. With the metaphors of the mustard seed and the yeast, Jesus asks us to trust our inner energies and the power of the Holy Spirit. We can all be agents of change in our world.

Application

So we are invited to use our potential to build God’s kingdom. And a part of that is avoiding the most prevalent of all our sins, the sin of judging other people. Jesus recognised this tendency in his followers, and there is a warning to us in the Church today. We can set ourselves up as gatekeepers, and make some people welcome in our communities, while discouraging others. However, let us get on with the mission Jesus has given us: proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. This will help us guard against becoming weeds ourselves.

Jesus teaches us to be patient with the ambiguities of life and situations and people, particularly those who are different from ourselves. We can apply this parable to our own Christian lives. We are called to follow Jesus’ patience and tolerance towards our neighbours, particularly vulnerable people such as refugees and asylum seekers. And nurturing wonder and humility towards the whole community of our planet – God’s creation – is appropriate today as Jesus reminds us of the power of seeds and yeast. From fields of wheat swaying in the wind to birds perching on a mustard tree to the smell of baked bread, there is infinite healing and generosity in nature. Jesus uses another wonderful image from our environment to conclude the Gospel. “The virtuous will shine like the sun” in God’s kingdom.

The Living Word

MEMORIAL DONATION: This week the Altar Bread and Wine were donated in memory of Ruth Kane by Rich & Marilyn.