



# Society of African Missions

## “The Mission”

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

**May 28: \$807, June 6: \$789**

Thank you for your support.

Please remember to support  
your local parishes.

## ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Masses for the week of June 13, 2021 – June 19, 2021

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
<b>Sun.-Sat.</b>	<b>8:00</b>	<b>Liv &amp; Dec Benefactors of the SMA</b>	
Sun. June 13	10:00	Conversion of Family Friends and Members	
	12:00	Laura and Virgilio Costa+	Victoria Costa
Mon. June 14	9:30	Annie Feeney+	Mary Quinn and Family
	11:45	Mary Jean Quinn+	Lisa McCarthy
Tue. June 15	9:30	Spiritual & Material Blessing for Anointing Fire Catholic Ministry NJ - by Jose Tom	
	11:45	Justin & Jonas Lamorena+	Lamorena Family
Wed. June 16	9:30	Jose Tom & Amala Jose (Blessing and Thanksgiving)	Jose Tom
	11:45	Lydia Reynaldo+	Santamaria Family
Thurs. June 17	9:30	Felix & Juana Rosal+	Rosal Family
	11:45	Leticia Ricafrente Lawler+	John Lawler
Fri. June 18	9:30	Eulani Labay (Birthday)	Family
	11:45	Carlito Rapada+	Rosanne
Sat. June 19	9:30	All prayers request & Thanksgiving for Anointing Fire Catholic Ministry NJ - by Jose Tom	
	11:45	Jo Boy Ester+ Carmen Ergan Lara+	Linda Rubio

### Today's Readings:

#### *First Reading Ezekiel 17:22-24*

*The Lord has spoken – God will carry out God's word.*

#### *Second Reading 2 Corinthians 5:6-10*

*We walk by faith and not by sight.*

#### *Gospel Mark 4:26-34*

*This is what God's kingdom is like – and how it grows.*

**CELEBRATE WITH US!**

**HONOR A LOVED ONE  
BY SPONSORING A TREE**

**For more information, please call  
(201) 567-0450**

# ***“This is what the kingdom of God is like.”***

## ***Illustration***

*Oscar Romero, the Archbishop of San Salvador, was brutally martyred while celebrating Mass in March 1980. He had been outspoken in his condemnation of poverty, social injustice, assassinations and torture used in the vicious war between left-wing and right-wing forces in El Salvador. In 2018, he was proclaimed a saint and martyr by Pope Francis, who praised his ministry among the most poor and marginalised people. But Romero wasn't always feted by the Church. On the one hand, he found himself frustrated in his efforts by a large number of his own clergy who collaborated with the oppressive government; and on the other hand, his ministry was undermined by a Vatican policy which refused his request to condemn the government's violations of human rights.*

*It would be easy to portray Romero as a lone voice, powerless in the face of implacable odds. But in fact, by means of his weekly Sunday broadcasts to the nation, he was able to make sure that his small voice was amplified by being received and welcomed by the ordinary people of El Salvador. His single voice resonated in the seeds of hope it planted in the hearts of those who longed for a better future.*

## ***Gospel Teaching***

*The ministry of Oscar Romero is itself a parable of the mystery of the kingdom of God which Jesus announces – the kingdom which encapsulates humanity's deepest hopes. Jesus' first parable today tells us that just as seed grows without the knowledge or activity of the farmer who sowed it, so God's kingdom will grow in the same unstoppable way. The seed has an inner dynamic to grow and become a rich harvest. It's a wonderful expression of the power of God at work in our world, irrespective of human efforts either to encourage or to thwart that growth. It conveys absolute trust in God's power to achieve God's purposes and realise God's plan, which is the flourishing of the kingdom in all its fullness – a kingdom of love, justice, peace and freedom. The parable contains a hope-filled promise: the harvest time will come. This image of reaping the harvest is drawn from the prophet Joel, who affirmed his absolute certainty that, no matter what, God's plan will be accomplished.*

*Jesus' second parable expresses a related truth about the kingdom. This time Jesus draws imagery from the prophet Ezekiel, who spoke of God's kingdom becoming like a mighty cedar towering above all others, offering protection and security to all peoples, represented by the birds of every kind which can rest in its shade. Jesus uses the example of the mustard seed to respond to those who question his vision of the future greatness of the kingdom he is ushering in. Although the kingdom has only small beginnings – rooted in the life and ministry of one man, Jesus – just like the mustard seed, it has the potential of greatness within it and can become the biggest of all shrubs, able to offer welcome to all.*