



Society of African Missions

“The Mission”

1921 2021



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 9:30 am to 3:00 pm

S.M.A. Vocation Office

Fr. Eliecer Sandoval, SMA
551-449-4357

Sunday Collection: \$640

Thank you for your support.

Please remember to support
your local parishes.

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Masses for the week of July 4, 2021 – July 10, 2021

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of the SMA	
Sun. July 4	10:00	Thomas Lee (Liv.) Birthday	Jessica Lee
	12:00	Maria Gomez+	Guinto Family
Mon. July 5	9:30	Johnny Ray Yepes+	Luz Dimacali
	11:45	Deceased Members of Duggan Family	Family
Tue. July 6	9:30	Thomas Miculas+	RoseMarie & Stephanie
	11:45	Robert Doonan+	Susan Murphy
Wed. July 7	9:30	Jacqueline Guillen Special Int. & Protection & Health	Beatrice D'Souza (Friend)
	11:45	Francis Clark+	Nancy Poznanski
Thurs. July 8	9:30	Deceased Members Of the Guiney Family	
	11:45	Bridget Collum+	Mae Kenny & Family
Fri. July 9	9:30	John & Edythe Sheehy	
	11:45	Peltier Family+ Ann Kurpiel+ Birthday	Michelle Supper
Sat. July 10	9:30	Sung Choi Family (Liv.) & Mariana Cho	Mariana Cho
	11:45	William Higgins+	Diane & Mike Bruno

Today's Readings:

First Reading Ezekiel 2:2-5:

Ezekiel tells the rebellious people that whether they respond or resist, they will know that a prophet has been in their midst.

Second Reading 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

Paul boasts of his weaknesses: he proclaims that when we are weak, we can be strong in the Lord.

Gospel Mark 6:1-6

On his return to Nazareth, Jesus finds that a prophet is not welcome among his own; and so he cannot work many miracles there.

“It is when I am weak that I am strong.”

Illustration

A hospital chaplain was at the bedside of Ron, a man who from the age of fifteen had fought a drug addiction. Sometimes succeeding, sometimes failing, he never gave up the struggle. The use of dirty needles had almost cost him his leg; now it was threatening his life. The chaplain had first met him a few days earlier and noticed with surprise a well-thumbed New Testament, sitting open on his bedside locker. Now, just before anointing him, he heard Ron make this moving admission: “If I die tonight, I know it’s my own fault. I’ve brought it on myself. I reckon I’m a failure; but even if I die, I’ll die still trusting in Jesus.”

It’s often said that nothing succeeds like success. Today’s readings propose something rather different. They suggest that there are times when nothing succeeds like failure.

Gospel Teaching

The Lord certainly does not begrudge us our successes. It’s just that he doesn’t want us to be carried away by them. Success can make us imagine that we’ve managed it without outside help. We might not say it in so many words, but we begin behaving as though we were, literally, self-made men and women. Success can blind us to the fact that we are utterly dependent upon the Lord: we can never earn anything from him. Our good deeds don’t in some way put God in our debt. That is why weakness and failure are sometimes surer roads to God than strength and success.

Take St Paul, for example, who spoke to us in today’s second reading. He achieved amazing things. From the moment the risen Lord appeared to him – he was actually on the way to Damascus and the rounding up of Christians there – from that moment, he was totally dedicated to Jesus. He became an apostle, spreading the name of Jesus and setting up new Christian communities to the ends of the then known world. Yet he openly admits that he had a weakness – a “thorn in the flesh”, he calls it. We shall never know what it was, nor does that matter. The fact is that he had a chink in his armour, so to say, and it worried him. Three times he pleaded with God for help, and what reply did he get? “My grace is enough for you: my power is at its best in weakness.” That encourages Paul to say, “I shall be very happy to make my weaknesses my special boast so that the power of Christ may stay over me.” He adds, “For it is when I am weak that I am strong.”

Then there is the story in today’s Gospel. Jesus is God’s only Son, and yet he fails, fails in his own home town (where perhaps he most hoped to succeed). They don’t want to listen to him because they know him too well, or think they do. It must have been a disappointment and yet it was only a foreshadowing of what was to happen a few years later. He would be condemned to a brutal, utterly degrading death by crucifixion. There never was a greater apparent failure than that of Good Friday; yet that failure was the gateway to the glory of the resurrection and the salvation of the human race.

The Living Word



On behalf of the SMA Fathers we wish you all a

Happy Fourth of July!

Have a safe weekend. Good Bless America