



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

Thank you for your support.

Please remember to support
your local parishes.

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Masses for the week of July 18, 2021 – July 24, 2021

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of the SMA	
Sun. July 18	10:00	Robert Feulner+	Kathleen Jaeger
	12:00	Cecille Pasquale+	Rosanne
Mon. July 19	9:30	Bernardita De Gene Imaza+	Rosal Family
	11:45	Ruth Kane+	Marilyn & Rich
Tue. July 20	9:30	Albert & Helen Fleckenstein+	
	11:45	Caiden Rubio (Liv.) Emma Uy (liv.)	Linda Rubio
Wed. July 21	9:30	Catherine M. Hamill+	Friend
	11:45	Catherine & John Moccio+	Victoria Costa
Thurs. July 22	9:30	John J. & Helen M. Sheehy	
	11:45	Jack Kenny+	Mae Kenny & Family
Fri. July 23	9:30	Deceased Members of the Guiney Family	
	11:45	Crispin Llanillo+	Martha Paladino
Sat. July 24	9:30	Peggy Collins+	Daughter Margaret
	11:45	Rodrigo Espinal+	Rosanne Ambulo

Today's Readings:

First Reading Jeremiah 23:1-6

The Lord himself will look after his people as he brings them back from exile.

Second Reading Ephesians 2:13-18

Christ Jesus is the peace between all peoples, making us one in his Spirit.

Gospel Mark 6:30-34

Jesus takes pity on the people for they are like sheep without a shepherd.

“He took pity on them for they were like sheep without a shepherd.”

Illustration

Who do we believe? Whose authority do we accept? It is a question that dominates our present world. From a medieval world where the authority of State, Church and family were clearly defined, we moved through the era of the Enlightenment to a world inspired by the sciences and monitored by the professions, doctors, teachers and lawyers, and the clergy still to some extent. Our modern world seems to have lost these bearings. Political leaders have lost credibility. All the professions have had doubts cast upon them for different reasons, from corruption to sexual abuse, and social media have become the controlling force in many of our lives, despite there being little evidence to support many of the claims that are made.

The underlying question has always been not just: “Whose authority should I believe and accept?” It has also been: “How do I develop my ability to discern what is true and what is false?” The sciences are usually credited for demanding clear evidence for statements made, but in fact this testing of information has been part of good thinking since the ancient Greeks. This is not to say that both Church and State have not at times claimed our allegiance merely on the basis that they were the voice of authority. There has always been a tension between the two approaches. Do we follow our leaders just because they are our leaders or because they are demonstrably speaking the truth?

Gospel Teaching

In the first chapter of Mark’s Gospel, the people respond to Jesus because he teaches with authority. The basis for their appreciation is that he has just shown them how he can cure sick people. In other words he backs up his words with actions. In today’s Gospel Jesus welcomes back his disciples, who have been displaying the same gifts in their first mission by themselves. The Gospel understanding of authority is identical with the idea of authenticity. You cannot just make statements and declarations. You have to give evidence to back up your arguments. The Gospel of Jesus is one of repentance, of the need to change our lives. The change of life is in itself a getting rid of any darkness in our lives, whether it be physical or spiritual. Jesus has the power to enable us to make this change and he uses that power.

In much of this section of Mark’s Gospel Jesus is in conflict with those who think and behave differently from him. Quite often it is the scribes and the Pharisees, but today’s Gospel follows the story of the death of John the Baptist, in which we are faced with the conflict between the ruling forces and the message of truth. It is a forewarning of what will happen to Jesus himself. We remember that the first readers of Mark’s Gospel were Christians who themselves were having to deal with persecution and the opposition of both family and former friends. Jesus himself is no stranger to such conflicts.

The Living Word

MEMORIAL DONATION.—

The Altar Bread and Wine this week is donated by Rich Kane in memory of Ruth Kane.