



Society of African Missions

“The Mission”

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 Frank Wright

201-567-0450 Ext 225

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 Dermot Roache, SMA

Director

201-256-0450 Ext. 253

Fr. Eliecer Sandoval, SMA

551-449-4357

Sunday Collection: \$1371

Thank you for your support.

Please remember to support
your local parishes.

Administration:

Fr Ranees A. Rayappan,
Provincial Superior

Fr Frank Wright,
House Superior

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Masses for the week of SEPTEMBER 12, 2021 – SEPTEMBER 18, 2021

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of the SMA	
Sun. Sept. 12	10:00	Connie Gabriel+	Richard & Lydia
	12:00	Abitante & Falotico Families+	
Mon. Sept. 13	9:30	Justin Lamorena+	Lamorena Family
	11:45	Michael James Harte+	
Tue. Sept. 14	9:30	Christopher G. Neill Happy Birthday	
	11:45	Souls in Purgatory	Victoria Costa
Wed. Sept. 15	9:30	Annie Murphy+	Michael Murphy
	11:45	Laura & Virgil Costa+	Victoria Costa
Thurs. Sept. 16	9:30	Michael R. Desrochers+	
	11:45	Mary Jean Quinn+	Lisa McCarthy
Fri. Sept. 17	9:30	James McGoldrick+	Friend
	11:45	Emma & Reinhard Tietjen+	John Tietjen
Sat. Sept. 18	9:30	Irene Talledo (Liv.) Birthday	Fe Vela
	11:45	Deceased Members of Pastore & Ladica Families	Pastore Family

Today's Readings:

First Reading Isaiah 50:5-9

The anonymous servant of the Lord faces terrible persecution on account of his preaching. He does not resist.

Second Reading James 2:14-18

James maintains that the real sign of faith is putting that faith into practice.

Gospel Mark 8:27-35

Peter says, “You are the Christ,” but he fails to see that the Christ must suffer.

24th Sunday Ordinary Time Reflection

This Sunday marks the 20th anniversary of the attack on the Twin Towers, and I'll have a chance in my homily to try to make sense of that tragedy and of the changes that it has brought about in our lives; however, for the moment, let's reflect, you and I, on the reading from the Epistle of James.

This week's excerpt contains the famous passage "If a brother or sister has nothing to wear and has no food for the day, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm, and eat well," but you do not give them the necessities of the body, what good is it? So also faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead." Strong words! In other words, put your money where your mouth is!

Martin Luther, the Protestant reformer, was scandalized by this particular passage in James' letter. Why? Because Luther had set up a dichotomy between faith and works. He averred that faith alone was sufficient: we are not saved by our actions but by faith in the promises of Christ. He was of the opinion that this passage contradicted his most basic assumptions. But, honestly speaking, this problem comes about, when we try to separate our faith, what we hold in our hearts, from our actions, which we hope may bear testimony to that faith. The fact is that they CANNOT be separated. If you think about it for a moment, it makes no sense to even try.

What does this mean in our present situation? When we are facing a world with seemingly overwhelming challenges, when we are tired to exhaustion by our apparent inability to affect the course of events, we cannot abdicate our responsibility to be proactive, to say the world can get along very well without us. As Christians whose actions should be consistent with our words, to say "I give up" is not an option.

Now I know we may well say that the problems on my personal plate, my share in the troubles of the world, take up all my time. Leave me alone, won't you? I have neither the time nor the energy to engage in anything beyond tending my own small garden patch, However, do you want to know something? You may find that your own garden abuts everyone else's garden; and really, your problems are not unique. Another way to put it is to say that if we're all in the same boat, then maybe we'd better start paying attention to the larger picture in our world. We are called upon by the faith we profess to act. I think it is there that James is leading us.

By Fr Frank Wright, SMA