



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

9:30 am & 11:45 am

Christmas & New Year’s Day

10:00 am; 12 noon

Confessions Saturdays:

After 11:45am Mass.

Or by appointment.

Contact Fr. Frank Wright

201-567-0450 Ext 225/231

Bereavement & Visit to the Sick

Contact Fr. Frank Wight

201-450-6586

Perpetual Mass Association

Office open Monday-Friday
from 9:30am to 3:00pm

S.M.A. Vocation Office

Fr Dermot Roache, SMA

Director

201-256-0450 Ext. 253

S.M.A. Museum

Open Monday-Sunday from
9:00am –5:00pm

Sunday Collection: \$

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-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Masses for the week of OCTOBER 1, 2023 – OCTOBER 7, 2023

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv. & Dec. Benefactors of the SMA	
Sun. Oct. 1	10:00	Benedict & Anthony Walsh+	Breda Walsh
	12:00	Virgil & Laura Costa	Victoria Costa
Mon. Oct. 2	9:30	Thomas and Jessica Lee Family (Liv.)	Juliana and Joseph Family
	11:45	Rosario Ambulo+	Rosanne Ambulo
Tue. Oct. 3	9:30	Alberto Rodriguez+	Family
	11:45	Nam Yae Cho Marianna+	Anna Lee
Wed. Oct. 4	9:30	Lilia R. Tocker+	Friend
	11:45	Dr. Mark Kahn	
Thurs. Oct. 5	9:30	Oscar Virtucio+	
	11:45	Steven Coppolino+	Angela and Roger Gussoni
Fri. Oct. 6	9:30	Deceased Members of the Guiney Family	
	11:45	Rean Quito+ Arthur Benemerito+	
Sat. Oct. 7	9:30	Special Int. Neill & Forgrave Families	
	11:45	Jeryle Maglio (Special Intentions)	Victoria Costa

Today’s Readings:

First Reading Ezekiel 18:25-28

It is right that we receive the just rewards of our actions, good or evil.

Second Reading Philippians 2:1-11

In our minds we must be like Christ Jesus, who emptied himself that he might be raised by God in glory.

Gospel Matthew 21:28-32

We receive the reward of true righteousness.



26th Sunday in Ordinary time reflection

Why is this parable addressed to the chief priests and elders of the people? Well, if you keep focused on the reading until the end of the passage, you will see that Jesus has it in for the chief priests and elders of the people: why have they not placed their trust in the message that Jesus brings? What's stopping them? They can't make their yes mean yes and their no mean no.

When Jesus talks to them, he paints a picture of the world that is changing, and upsetting to put it mildly. The tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before the chief priests and the elders. Somehow, they have been found wanting. What's the problem? ... Well, they're people who are sitting on the fence. They're hedging their bets. They're talking out of both sides of the mouth at the same time. And, quite frankly, they are AFRAID of this great reversal that Jesus's presence is heralding.

The parable he tells fits them to a T. The son who immediately replies that he will go and work in the field is telling his father what he wants to hear, but this brother figures that nobody is going to go and check on him. He's getting away with fine words that mean nothing in the end. I call this duplicity.

The second brother is a lot more straightforward in his dealings with his father: he refuses to go! He has better things to do with his time. He's asking himself the question, "Why must all this work fall on my shoulders?" He is resentful. ... However, he is someone who acknowledges his relationships: he's part of the family, and the economic well-being of the family depends on everybody shouldering his share of the burden. He may have begun by getting angry, but really he gets there in the end.

There's something very honest and straightforward about this parable. It paints life as we know it, without cardboard figures and without rose-tinted glasses. You and I, we are often undecided about what to do. We tell ourselves one thing, and then we tell ourselves the exact opposite. ... Don't worry, it's part of the human condition! (I say this because my cat isn't bothered by these scruples at all.) In the end, when it comes to serving God, when it comes to collaborating in the building up of the kingdom, when it comes to doing the right thing, take your time, and just make sure, like the second brother, that you come up with the right answer in the end.

By Fr Frank Wright, SMA

Special Book Signing

Join **Fr. Dermot Roache, SMA** as he gives a presentation on his recent publication:

I am the Virgin Mother of God: And your Mother too

At the Knights of Columbus St. John's Council Hall

64 Armor Place, Dumont NJ

Monday Evening, October 16th, 8pm