



# Society of African Missions

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



Local Superior:

Fr. Anbu Kumar, SMA

Provincial Superior:

Fr. Michael Moran, SMA.

If you invite one of our priests out to perform a sacramental function please make sure he is informed.  
 201-567-0450 x 218

## Mass Schedule

### Sundays

8:00 am; 10:00 am; 12 noon

### Weekdays & Holy Days

8:00 am; 9:30 am; 11:45 am

### Confessions

Saturdays 4:30 pm to 5:00 pm

### Bereavement & Visit to the Sick

Contact Fr. Anbu Kumar  
 201-567-0450 Ext 204

### Our Lady of Perpetual Help

#### Rosary

Every Wednesday at 11:00 am

Followed by Mass, Adoration and Benediction at 5:30 pm

### The Little Way of St. Therese of Lisieux

2nd Sundays after 12 pm Mass

### Bible Reflection Group

Thursdays: 7:30 pm in the hall

### Perpetual Mass Association

Office open Monday-Friday from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

### S.M.A. Vocation Office

Fr. Julien Esse, SMA  
 201- 894-8611

### Sunday Collection: \$1,415.00

Thank you for your support.

## TWENTIETH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Masses for the week of **AUGUST 19 – AUGUST 25, 2018**

| Date             | Time        | Intention                               | Requested by:       |
|------------------|-------------|---|---------------------|
| <b>Sun.-Sat.</b> | <b>8:00</b> | <b>Liv &amp; Dec Benefactors of SMA</b> |                     |
| Sun. AUG 19      | 10:00       | Eileen Neary+                           | Veronica Lee        |
|                  | 12:00       | Santulli Family+                        | Their Children      |
| Mon. AUG 20      | 9:30        | Eileen Neary+                           | Neary Family        |
|                  | 11:45       | Rev. Timothy A. Christy (Liv)           | Friends             |
| Tue. AUG 21      | 9:30        | Ralph Iacullo+, Birthday                | Susan & Bob Iacullo |
|                  | 11:45       | Mary Keavney (Liv)                      | Friend              |
| Wed. AUG 22      | 9:30        | Ann Lee (Liv)                           | Mother              |
|                  | 11:45       | Joan Cohen+                             | Victoria Ann Costa  |
| Thurs. AUG 23    | 9:30        | Rose & Joseph Abitante+                 |                     |
|                  | 11:45       | Pio Lee (Liv)                           | Mother              |
| Fri. AUG 24      | 9:30        | Louis Vierno+                           |                     |
|                  | 11:45       | Mary Sugrue+                            | Winnie Grealish     |
| Sat. AUG 25      | 9:30        | Thomas Grealish+                        | Winnie Grealish     |
|                  | 11:45       | AFCM Ministry, Patterson                | Tom Jose            |

**We welcome the SMA  
 Choir!**

**September 2<sup>nd</sup> after the  
 12 Noon Mass**

**Novena to  
 Saint Lorenzo Ruiz**

**(The First Filipino Saint)**

## Today's Readings

### First Reading Proverbs 9:1-6

Wisdom teaches us that eating the bread and wine that God gives us will bring us everlasting life.

### Second Reading Ephesians 5:15-20

St Paul reminds us that we need to be careful about how we live our life. There are many things that could lead us away from God so we are urged to live by the Spirit and deepen our relationship with God through prayer and thanksgiving.

### Gospel John 6:51-58

Jesus invites us to eat his flesh and drink his blood so that we may have everlasting life.

## **Gospel Teaching**

This Sunday we continue to hear John's discourse on the Eucharist. We may remember that it began with the feeding of the five thousand. Since then we have heard Jesus telling us that, though the bread we eat is perishable, the bread that he offers us will last for ever; that he is the bread of life, the living bread that has come down from heaven. Today Jesus invites us to go beyond the fulfilment of our physical needs and eat his body and drink his blood. In doing so we will be given a life that is beyond words, the kind of nourishment that feeds our souls and can transform us. When we eat his body and drink his blood we take in all that Jesus is: a person of mercy, compassion, forgiveness. We digest his way of being, his way of seeing, his way of relating to the world and to God.

Jesus was vitally concerned with those who were poor. As he went about his ministry he met great numbers of hungry people and he fed them. His disciples failed to see the deeper significance in these events. For them the bread shared was bread, fish was fish, something for an empty stomach, which would become hungry again. Nothing more. When Jesus spoke of eating his own flesh and drinking his blood some were so horrified by this suggestion that they walked away. Those who remained gradually came to understand that Jesus was not talking about physical food (though he provided that anyway) but something far more lasting. Today we know that this is fully realised for us when we participate in the Eucharist.

## **Application**

Participating in the Eucharist is not only a great gift for us but it brings with it a great responsibility. St Augustine reminds us that those of us who receive are charged with becoming what we have received – that is, we become Christ for one another. We receive the body of Christ to become the body of Christ.

Like Augustine, Pope Francis, through his daily actions and interactions, reminds us that communion with Christ is deeply tied to communion with our brothers and sisters. It is no accident that the Communion Rite starts with the Lord's Prayer and the sign of peace. We ask God to forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Only then do we approach the table of unity and love to receive the mystery that unites us not only to Christ but to our brothers and sisters. We call the Eucharist "communion", and gathering around the table is our strongest sign of communion with Christ and one another. Today the world will only come to encounter Christ by the witness, the prayer and the love of our desire to share this gift with others. Words set by the British liturgical composer Bernadette Farrell capture the heart of the matter: "Bread for the world: a world of hunger. Wine for all peoples: people who thirst. May we who eat be bread for others. May we who drink pour out our love."

Receiving Christ's body and blood is never just about us. We receive so that we may reach out and share what we have received with everyone. In doing so we not only nourish our own souls but take on the responsibility of seeing and meeting the needs of those who hunger and thirst, not only for food but for love, for justice, for peace and for hope in a world where there is so much suffering and so much deprivation.

-The Living Word

## **SMA GALA NIGHT AT THE CLINTON INN OF TENAFLY**

**Friday, September 21, 2018 - TICKETS AVAILABLE**

**Also RAFFLE TICKETS FOUR CHANCES TO WIN**

**4 GIFT CARDS \$500 EACH**

**DONATION \$10**