



Society of African Missions

23 Bliss Avenue
 Tenafly, NJ 07670
 Phone: 201-567-0450
 Visit our website
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: \$2,346.00

Thank you for your support.

TWENTY– FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME Masses for the week of SEPTEMBER 23 – SEPTEMBER 29, 2018

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of SMA	
Sun. SEP 23	10:00	Pio Lee (Liv)	Mother
	12:00	Mark Anthony Santulli+	His Parents
Mon. SEP 24	9:30	Memory of Joseph Choi+	Mariana Cho
	11:45	Mr. Calvell (+)	Sister Agnes/Sister Hellene
Tue. SEP 25	9:30	Jonas Tolentino (Deceased)	Erlinda Cortez
	11:45	Yun Kyeong Aurelia Jeong (Liv)	Aurelia Jeong
Wed. SEP 26	9:30	Happy Birthday George T. Neill	
	11:45	Theresa & Michael Martin+	John Tietjen
Thurs. SEP 27	9:30	Bert Looby+	Emma & Family
	11:45	Muriel Gawlick+	
Fri. SEP 28	9:30	Paul Di Paolo+	Martha Di Paolo
	11:45	Janeth Aberde (Liv)	Rosanne
Sat. SEP 29	9:30	Happy Birthday Robert J. Forgrave	
	11:45	Maria R. Valdes	Friends

Today's Readings

First Reading Wisdom 2:12. 17-20

Jesus is foreshadowed as the one who will challenge the godless with his virtue.

Second Reading James 3:16 – 4:3

Proper prayer will unshackle us from our base desires, allowing us to grow in holiness as peacemakers.

Gospel Mark 9:30-37

Jesus, predicting his passion and death, instructs his followers that true discipleship lies in humble service.

We the SMA Community at "The Mission" is saddened by the death of Deacon Keith McKnight who work with us for many years.

We ask that you keep him and his family in your prayers.

Living a self-sacrificing and harmonious Christian life

Our first reading today has many facets that are fulfilled in Christ. It points to Christ the Son of God, who would be put to death by jealous people. As a righteous man, Jesus reproached the Pharisees and condemned the Scribes as lawbreakers. He reproached them for their ungodly ways and selfish ambitions. For this reason, they took offense. He was mocked, tortured, and was condemned to death as a criminal. Like Christ, often times, we are persecuted by enemies and castigated by even our friends for doing the right thing. However, we must remain steadfast because God will surely come to our rescue.

Our second reading and gospel this Sunday help us to live our lives in harmony by focusing sincerely on the things that unites us rather than the ones that divide us. We all desire harmonious relationships, and yet many Christian communities, families and homes are marked by frequent conflicts. As much as conflicts are inevitable in life, we must not allow them tear us apart. So, James admonishes us not to allow conflicts and selfish ambitions destroy our relationships, families and communities. He reminds us that the root of most conflicts is selfish ambitions within us: “Where do all these battles between you first start. Is it not precisely in the desires fighting inside your own selves? You have an ambition that you cannot satisfy; so you fight to get your way by force...”

In today’s gospel, Jesus foretells his death and resurrection, rebukes his disciples for arguing about who was the greatest among them, and points to a child as a model for discipleship. Like the church that James wrote to, Jesus’ disciples were experiencing a conflict of interest, position and leadership among them. Even when Jesus speaks plainly, they do not understand because, there is such a great rift between their ambitions or expectations, and the predictions of Jesus. For this, they were afraid even to ask for clarification.

Also, instead of reflecting on what Christ was telling them, they were busy quarrelling over who was the greatest. However, being God, Jesus knew their hidden ambitions, priorities and focus on their reputations. This is what we often see in any society, church, family, and anywhere that worldly ambition is considered more than spiritual ambition. There we see infighting, gossips, indifference, enmity, threats, evil plots, hatred, and all sorts of vices that both our first and second readings mentioned today. Wherever these exist, there can be no progress, prosperity, harmony or peace.

Therefore, by using a child as an example for us today, Jesus is simply teaching us that we have to become like children in order to be great. Of course, this does not mean being childish or foolish. Instead, it means that we have to live our lives in humble service to God and to one another rather than being preoccupied selfish ambitions. Jesus is also encouraging us to be more focused on our inward lives. That is, on becoming more pure, more innocent, more humble, more accommodating and more trusting. Therefore, to be great is to be focused on something other than oneself. It means our ability to accommodate, welcome, and work in harmony with others just as children are always ready to do. It means readiness to accept the truth and, to reflect positively on them. It also means to be ready to serve and, offer oneself for the sake of others as Christ did, rather than seeking to be served by others.

-Fr. Anthony Korir

The SMA Community wish to thank all the Sponsors, Supporters and Friends for making the 5th Annual Gala such a great success!

Congratulations to the raffle winners:
Edelina Sanque (1708), Marin Quinn (1037),
Pine Castro (1960) and Marilyn Vertullo (987).

SAVE THE DATE:

LIVING ROSARY

Sunday, October 14, 2018 at 3 pm
SMA Chapel, 23 Bliss Avenue, Tenafly, NJ 07670
(Assembly 2:30 pm at the SMA Museum-Chapel Entrance)
Coordinator Carol Dumlao/SMA CHOIR