



Society of African Missions

23 Bliss Avenue
Tenafly, NJ 07670
Phone: 201-567-0450
Visit our website
www.smafathers.org



Mass Schedule

Sundays

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

Weekdays & Holy Days

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

Christmas & New Year's Day

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

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
551-449-4357

Sunday Collections:

\$1,312.00

Thank you for your support.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Masses for the week of DECEMBER 16 – DECEMBER 22, 2018

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of SMA	
Sun. Dec. 16	10:00	Arabia Padaloy (Liv) & Angel Rubio (Liv)	Linda Rubio
	12:00	Deceased Members of the Pico Family+	The Family
Mon. Dec. 17	9:30	Annie Hamill+	Catherine
	11:45	Vincent Murphy+	Ann Marie Murphy
Tue. Dec. 18	9:30	Eileen Neary+	Veronica Lee
	11:45	Theresa Tietjen+	Family
Wed. Dec. 19	9:30	Meliam Gonzales (Liv)	Ben & Mely Ramirez
	11:45	Maureen Ann Portmann+	Michelle Supper
Thurs. Dec. 20	9:30	Emma G. Haggerty+	Bob & Kathy Jaeger
	11:45	Sung Choi Family & Mariana Cho (Liv)	Mariana Cho
Fri. Dec. 21	9:30	Special Intentions: Neill, Forgrave Families	
	11:45	Special Intentions: Stoever, Mongiello Families	
Sat. Dec. 22	9:30	Anna Lee (Liv)	Mother
	11:45	Carmela & Giuseppe Salituro+	Enrico & Filomena Salituro

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

Today's Readings

First Reading Zephaniah 3:14-18

The prophet tells the people of Israel to rejoice for the Lord will save them and be in their midst.

Second Reading Philippians 4:4-7

Paul tells his congregation to rejoice always for the Lord is at hand.

Gospel Luke 3:10-18

In the face of the coming judgement, John the Baptist explains how his questioners must behave.

**Simbang Gabi novena
Mass, December 22,
2018 at 4:00 pm
All are welcome!**

REJOICE ALWAYS...!

When God created the universe and all creatures in it, He didn't just set them in motion letting them run their course without direction as if He was sitting back enjoying a show. No. Every one of his creations (including us) are intimately designed with purpose and care and He is very much part of our growth, protection and life. In fact, we are the apple of His eye and God wills that He would walk among us and literally share every moment with us so that our purpose would be fulfilled in His will. So, amidst any troubles, Rejoice! Take delight in his love for us!

Today's Advent reading from this fairly-unknown prophet Zephaniah again present us with the reality of how we frequently fall short of God's love. Here the prophetic warnings of imminent destruction cry out to the Israelites due to their moral laxity, infidelity and the corruption of their nation!

These destructions and chastisements are real; even today they should speak loudly to us about the results of our immoral actions. But let me be very clear – these chastisements do not have the last word. Jesus Christ does. Zephaniah, like all the prophets, believed in the salvation of their people. They needed to voice a vision, a prophecy for what was to come if humanity didn't repent.

St. Paul, knowing that the situation seemingly got worse, best explains Christ's mission on earth with a far deeper understanding of why we must rejoice. He reminds us that in the fullness of time, the Son of God humbled himself to walk and share in humanity, so that we someday could share in His divinity. He knew that the totality of Zephaniah's warning was recognized in the Paschal Mystery of Christ: Jesus became sin for us on the cross, going to the darkest depths and back. He bore our sin, died our death, and took on our sin which is rightfully ours. Jesus took what frightens us the most. Then, He rose from the dead. Jesus demonstrates that His love is more powerful than all we fear. The King, who like in the story of creation longs to walk in our midst, is here, and we have nothing to fear.

Gaudete (Rejoice) Sunday is an imperative...The Church is telling us to rejoice! Get in tune with the truth of Scripture, the Truth of Christ's coming to liberate us, heal us, move us and transform us. May it be so.

-Fr. Dermot Roache, SMA

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve Mass: 8:00pm

Christmas Day Masses: 8:00am, 10:00am and 12 Noon

New Year's Eve Mass: 10:00pm

New Year 's Day Masses: 8:00am, 10:00am and 12 Noon



We extend our condolences to Rosalie Ponte and family on the passing of Angelo Ponte .

Rest assured of our prayers.