



# 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

### 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: \$1,414.00**

Thank you for your support.

## EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Masses for the week of MARCH 03 – MARCH 09, 2019

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
<b>Sun.-Sat.</b>	<b>8:00</b>	<b>Liv &amp; Dec Benefactors of SMA</b>	
Sun. Mar. 03	10:00	Louis J. Morelli+	Maria Morelli (Wife)
	12:00	Peter Quinn+ (11th Anniversary)	Mary Quinn & Family
Mon. Mar. 04	9:30	Special Intentions	Breda/Benny Walsh
	11:45	Peter Quinn+ (Birthday in Heaven)	Mary Quinn & Family
Tue. Mar. 05	9:30	John & Edythe Sheehy+	
	11:45	Muriel Gawlik+	
Wed. Mar. 06	9:30	Gerardo Sozio+ (Birthday)	Susan/Bob Iacullo
	11:45	Andaya Family+ & Rubio Family+	Erlinda P. Rubio
Thurs. Mar. 07	9:30	Sung Choi Family & Mariana Cho (Liv)	Mariana Cho
	11:45	John & Edward Martin+	John Tietjen
Fri. Mar. 08	9:30	Laura/Assoero Passarelli	Enrico/Filomena Salituro
	11:45	John Paladino+	Martha Paladino
Sat. Mar. 09	9:30	Karen Camporeale+	Michele Sullivan
	11:45	Thomas & Jessica Lee Family	Thomas & Jessica Lee Family

## Today's Readings

### First Reading Ecclesiasticus 27:4-7

As a tree's fruit bears witness to the care that has been lavished on it, so a person's speech reveals his or her heart and mind.

### Second Reading 1 Corinthians 15:54-58

Death will be swallowed up in victory, and none of our labours will be in vain.

### Gospel Luke 6:39-45

The value of a tree is shown by what it produces, and our speech wells up from what is in our hearts.

**Saturday, March 9**

**9am—11:45am**

**LENTEN RETREAT**

**Theme: JOEL 2:13**

**Fr Patrick Kroteh**

**The Mission's Hall**

# THE GIFT OF SPEECH

A well-known proverb states that “Speech is silver, but Silence is golden.” That, of course, is not always true. It may be true when a speaker is able to speak eloquently and knowledgeably about a specific topic, and the truth might therefore ring out in silver clarity. Likewise, another who knows nothing of the specified topic, best serves the situation –and his own reputation-- by refraining from speech, maintaining a golden silence. In this case, yes, speech is silver, and silence is golden.

In the 1st Reading for today, Sirach gives us some good insights into truths about speech: “When a sieve is shaken, the husks appear; so too a man’s faults when he speaks . . . The fruit of a tree shows the care it has had; so too does a man’s speech disclose the bent of his mind. [Notice in today’s Gospel, that Jesus picks up this theme of a tree’s bearing fruit]. Praise no one before he speaks, for it is then that men are tested,” Sir 27:4-7 (This all holds true of women, too, of course.)

Speech is a powerful gift from God, one that we can choose to use for good or for evil, effective for building up or for tearing down, effective for encouraging others or for belittling them and killing their spirits, for proclaiming the Good News and spreading Truth, or for promoting meanness and injustice through gossip and lies.

This might be a good day to take a look at how we use our gifts of speech and silence, our gifts of “silver” and “gold”. Do we publicly use our words to thank God for the opportunities we have to serve others? As parents, as teachers, as leaders of any kind, do we encourage and compliment children, students, co-workers in their efforts. Or do we cut down, discourage, belittle, compare to others, complain about who they are and what they do? Some words of criticism never leave people’s hearts, once they cut and hurt. Such speech is not silver. It resembles the husks of Sirach’s sieve.

How golden is our silence? Are there times when we OUGHT to speak up for truth and justice, yet maintain our silence out of fear or with the attitude of Cain: “Am I my brothers/sister’s keeper?” Silence is truly golden when we spend it in the Presence of God, in His love and wisdom, His beauty and truth. Such silence can then only beautify the silver of our speech in our interactions and loving presence with others. But if, in our “golden” silence, we quietly judge others and stew over angry thoughts and perceived slights, hugging hurts and failures to our hearts in self-pity, then that “golden silence” becomes toxic. Words can be powerful and beautiful. God spoke only One, who says all. It might be good to read the entire chapter of Sirach 27 this week. Verses 4-7 are only a few of its quotable gems!

Sr. Raphael Drone,

## REMINDER

**Wednesday, March 6, 2019 marks the beginning of Lent. Ashes will be distributed at all Masses (8:00, 9:30 & 11:45 AM).**

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Fridays during Lent at 7:00 PM**

