



# Society of African Missions

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



## Administration:

Fr Ranees Anbukumar,  
Provincial Superior  
Fr Dermot Roache,  
Vice-Provincial  
Fr Richard Angolio,  
Councillor

## 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

### African Art Museum

Open daily. Contact:

Fr. James McConnell

201-567-0450 Ext. 242

Deacon Michael Bova

201-567-0450 Ext. 207

### Sunday Collections: \$1,050.00

Thank you for your support.

## SMA ANNUAL GALA

Friday, September 27, 2019

The Clinton Inn—Tenafly  
call (201) 567-0450

TICKETS AVAILABLE

## SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Masses for the week of JULY 28 – AUGUST 3

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
<b>Sun.-Sat.</b>	<b>8:00</b>	<b>Liv &amp; Dec Benefactors of SMA</b>	
Sun. July 28	10:00	Michael Neary+	James Neary
	12:00	Maria Valdes+	Friend
Mon. July 29	9:30	Enrico G. Jr/Anna Salituro	Enrico/Filomena Salituro
	11:45	Katie G. Nell (Liv.) - Happy Birthday	
Tue. July 30	9:30	Robert Doonan+	Susan Doonan Murphy
	11:45	Silveria Ascrate+	Erlinda Cortez
Wed. July 31	9:30	Rev. Anthony De Maria SJ.+	
	11:45	Lyndsey & Ben Kintop (Liv.)	Louise Coull
Thurs. Aug. 1	9:30	Lyndsey & Ben Kintop (Liv.)	Louise Coull
	11:45	Lydia Ramirez+ / Agosto Ramirez +	Ben/Mely Ramirez
Fri. Aug. 2	9:30	Lee Averso+	Mildred/Larry Fleming
	11:45	Special Intentions Neill & Forgrave Families	
Sat. Aug. 3	9:30	Special Intentions Neill & Forgrave Families	
	11:45	Special Intentions Stoever & Mongiello Families	

## Today's Readings

### First Reading Genesis 18:20-32

Abraham bargains with God on behalf of the innocent.

### Second Reading Colossians 2:12-14

God has brought us to life and forgiven our sins.

### Gospel Luke 11:1-13

Jesus teaches us how to pray and reminds us that we pray to a Father who gives his best to his children.

***“Knock, and the door will be opened to you.”***

### **Illustration**

*Why is it so important for Christians to pray, to stop and listen to God? Unless we do this we get lost in activity, never really asking ourselves whether what we are doing with our lives is the best course to follow. It may take an accident or an illness to give us time for reflection. This happened to St Ignatius of Loyola. As a young man he was caught up in the thrill of military exploits, but then he was wounded in battle. He had to convalesce and during this time he wanted to read about great military heroes. But when these books were not available he turned to books about Christ and the saints. He wondered whether he could emulate their saintly exploits, but then he turned back to his more worldly interests. Eventually he noticed something. After he had been reading about great exploits of battle he felt pleasure, but it did not last. But when he read about the exploits of the saints his pleasure remained and he was filled with joy. Only through this timeout did he discern what he really wanted in his life. It took prayer and reflection for Ignatius to discover his true vocation.*

### **Gospel Teaching**

*In the Gospel today the disciples realise how important prayer is for Jesus. He is constantly turning aside to pray. They want a share in it and ask him to teach them to pray. So what does he tell them? First, you must talk to God. After all, if you never speak to a friend, how can that be friendship? And you must talk with boldness. It's rather like Abraham in today's first reading – he really wants to save innocent people and so he bargains with God. Surely, he says, you are not much of a God if you destroy the innocent with the guilty? Some of us may find that rude; surely, we think, you should not talk to God like that? But God is not offended, and at least such frankness means you actually believe in God.*

*Jesus expects us to have a similar daring. He wants us to call on God as Father and state our needs. He gives us a model prayer for this. Ask our Father, he says, that his rule may come, that we have food to live on, mutual forgiveness to unite us and protection against evil. And go on asking; God will answer you. You have to be like that neighbour who wakes up his friend at midnight because a guest has come and he needs food for him. The important thing about prayer is to do it. Don't give up and despair because God does not seem to answer. Go on knocking till God answers. Jesus says you will receive an answer.*

### **Application**

*Some people may think all this asking is pointless. God knows what we want already – but do we? Our difficulty with prayer may be that we don't ask for the things we really want. We may think they sound too selfish – passing an exam or getting a promotion. Should we not pray for noble ends, like peace in the world? We get distracted because we are not really concerned. It is better to ask for what we really need, as Jesus shows us, and then God will gradually deepen our desires, just as St Ignatius gradually discerned in his prayer what he really wanted, and grew in faith as a result.*

*God does answer our prayers and often gives us what we want. But sometimes God answers us by giving us more than we asked for. Prayer is risky. Jesus prayed to his Father in Gethsemane. He asked to be delivered from evil but also to do his Father's will. It seemed as if his prayers were not answered, but then his Father raised him to life. Today we are given an image of that Father to whom we pray. He is a Father who gives what his children ask for. Why would such a parent give a stone if asked for bread? It is the same Father who welcomes back the failed son or daughter and searches out the lost sheep. Prayer is essential for us not just because we can ask for what we want but because in praying we get to know God. We gradually deepen our love for the one who not only saves us but who reveals to us in the depths of our heart what we really want.*

The Living Word

## **Knights of Columbus St. John's Council #1345**

### **Pasta [Night – August 2nd](#)**

Do you enjoy those Friday Evenings during Lent when you don't have to cook because we are hosting a Fish Fry? Don't heat your kitchen up. Join us for Pasta [Night on Friday August 2nd from 6-8PM](#). The menu will consist of bread, salad, pasta and sauce, meatballs, and eggplant rollatini. Cash bar available. All for only \$12 per person. Call or text Ken A. at [1-516-220-9333](tel:1-516-220-9333) or email [kofc1345reservations@gmail.com](mailto:kofc1345reservations@gmail.com) to RSVP.