



Society of African Missions

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



Administration:

Fr Ranees Anbukumar Rayappan,
 Provincial Superior
 Fr Dermot Roache,
 Vice-Provincial
 Fr Richard Angolio Mwisheni,
 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. Dermot Roache

201-567-0450 Ext. 212

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

Fr. Michael Bova

201-567-0450 Ext. 207

Sunday Collections: \$1,288.00

Thank you for your support.

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Masses for the week of SEPTEMBER 15–SEPTEMBER 21, 2019

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of SMA	
Sun. Sept. 15	10:00	Annie Murphy+	Michael Murphy
	12:00	Gino Pico+	Sister and Nephew
Mon. Sept. 16	9:30	J P McGowan+	Gerald McGowan
	11:45	Sister Corazon Gonzalez+	Cely Rosal
Tue. Sept. 17	9:30	James McGoldrick+	
	11:45	Emma and Reinhard Tietjen+	Family
Wed. Sept. 18	9:30	Eileen Neary +	Veronica Lee
	11:45	Gina Ambulo (Liv.) Thanksgiving	Rosanne Ambulo
Thurs. Sept. 19	9:30	Abitante/Falotico Families+	
	11:45	Gregorio & Damiana T. Maglikian+	Luz Dimacali
Fri. Sept. 20	9:30	The Lo Casto Family+	Susan/Bob Iacullo
	11:45	John Loughlin+	Vickie Kapal
Sat. Sept. 21	9:30	Catherine Hamill+	Friend
	11:45	Ernest & Helen Joven (Liv.)	Linda Rubio

Today's Readings

First Reading Exodus 32:7-11. 13-14

In his mercy the Lord relents and does not bring on his people the disaster he had threatened.

Second Reading 1 Timothy 1:12-17

Nobody should doubt that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

Gospel Luke 15:1-32

There is rejoicing among the angels of God over one repentant sinner.

MEMORIAL DONATION.— The Altar Bread and Wine donated this week is in memory of Annie Murphy requested by Annmarie Murphy and Michelle Sullivan.

“This son of mine... was lost and is found.”

Illustration

St Anthony is one of the most popular of the saints. Many of our churches are dedicated to him; many more possess a statue of him, perhaps with a stand in front of it to hold the candles of the faithful. Why is he so popular? Because he specialises in finding things, and losing things is a very common human experience. We lose our keys, our purses, our glasses, our passports – and we call upon St Anthony to help find them for us. And many people believe that he does often seem to do it; there are numerous stories about it.

Talking about praying to St Anthony, one woman recalled a prayer that had been taught to her in her childhood by a nun: “Tony, Tony, turn around, something lost must be found.” “This works more times than not,” she went on to say, “and if I don’t find it, at least I remembered to say a prayer to St Anthony.” Another woman told the story of when she lost the precious stone out of her ring: “I noticed it gone on Sunday night. On the Monday we went back to the church and prayed to St Anthony for help, knowing it could have been lost anywhere. In the darkened building my husband shone a light under the pews... and there we found it. We had promised St Anthony that we would give a donation for the poor, and we were more than happy to give it.”

Gospel Teaching

In today’s Gospel, Jesus uses the very common human experience of losing things to give us a glimpse into the heart of God. We should appreciate what an astonishing thing Jesus is doing. We wonder: who can look into the mind of God? Who can possibly penetrate into the inner depths of the heart of God? It’s easy, says Jesus. We can all think ourselves into the mind of a shepherd who has lost a sheep, or a housewife who has lost a coin, or maybe especially into the mind of a man who has lost a son. And if we can do this, we can think ourselves into the mind of God.

This is, after all, what we might expect, because the scriptures tell us that God made us in God’s own image and likeness. This does not mean, of course, that our physical bodies resemble God, for God is pure spirit. So what else can the text mean except that we share something of God’s mind, something of God’s heart, something of God’s spirit?

Application

These parables of Jesus teach us something of how God feels about sinners and about the repentance of sinners. But more than that, they tell us that if we can look into the heart of any human being, even into our own heart, we can look into the heart of God. Of course, human hearts can be embittered, hurt, twisted, and we must make allowance for this. But if we are willing to let our imagination sweeten the bitterness, soothe the hurt, straighten out what is twisted, then we can learn something of the love of God from everyone we meet. That offensive neighbour who gives us such grief; that annoying colleague who always irritates us; that person whose lifestyle seems so contrary to the teachings of our faith; even that violent and vicious criminal who has just received a very long stretch in prison – all have something to tell us about the love of God, if we look at them through the eyes of Jesus.

And if we are to do this effectively, we must remember a saying of Jesus: “Do not judge, and you will not be judged.” It is not for us to judge these lost children of God our Father, who have wandered so far from him; it is our business to pray for them, that like the prodigal son they may turn back to their heavenly Father. And it is our business, too, to gaze into our own hearts, which are the hearts nearest and most accessible to us, to discern our deepest longings, our profoundest yearnings, and to see in them a reflection – distorted, no doubt, as if through a glass darkly, but still a likeness – of the yearning of God our Father to bring us, his dear children, into full union with the love of his own heart.

The Living Word

Please Remember! SMA ANNUAL GALA, Friday, September 27, 2019 The Clinton Inn—Tenafly. Call (201) 567-0450 for more information.

Knights of Columbus St. John's Council - Blood Drive - Sept 22

On Sunday September 22nd we will be hosting a blood drive. The blood drive will be held at St. John's Church - Conlon Hall from 10am to 2 pm. Blood supplies are close to an all-time low. I also want to thank all those who have come out to support our blood drives in the past and invite you to come again and bring a friend.