



# 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 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

**THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**Masses for the week of OCTOBER 27—NOVEMBER 2, 2019**

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
<b>Sun.-Sat.</b>	<b>8:00</b>	<b>Liv &amp; Dec Benefactors of SMA</b>	
Sun. Oct. 27	10:00	Mary Quinn+	Ortaglia & McCarthy
	12:00	Rodrigo Bontuyan+	Family
Mon. Oct. 28	9:30	D.J. Carey+	James Neary
	11:45	Teresa Blasco+	Martha Paladino
Tue. Oct. 29	9:30	Maria Valdes+	Friend
	11:45	Jack Kenny+	Mae Kenny & Family
Wed. Oct. 30	9:30	Marko Gjini (Liv.)	
	11:45	Adreanna (Liv.) Healing	Grandma
Thurs. Oct. 31	9:30	Salvatore Di Paolo+	Martha Di Paolo
	11:45	Todd Alsberge (Liv.)	Mary Ann Pruzinsky
Fri. Nov. 1	9:30	Rosario Pino/Enrico G Saliturno Jr.	Enrico/Filomena Saliturno
	11:45	Neill & Forgrave Families Special Intentions	
Sat. Nov. 2	9:30	All Family Members+	Enrico/Filomena Saliturno
	11:45	Rosario Ambulo+	Rosanne

**Today's Readings**

**First Reading** Ecclesiasticus 35:12-14. 16-19

The Lord is quick to answer the prayers of those who serve him wholeheartedly.

**Second Reading** 2 Timothy 4:6-8. 16-18

Paul is confident that his eternal reward is to come soon.

**Gospel** Luke 18:9-14

The humility of the tax collector is held up by Jesus as an example of true prayer.

**Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup>**  
 - ALL SAINTS DAY -  
 Holy day of obligation.  
**Masses: 8am, 9:30am  
 and 11:45am**

**God's Mercy is Here!**  
 Please join us for a powerful holy hour of praise and worship.  
 Saturdays, November 16 and December 14, 2019 at 8pm  
 SMA Chapel

## Mission is the Activity of The Church

A thing's purpose dictates its form. Its mission determines its shape. That's why a knife differs in shape from a spoon. It's why a house differs in shape from a pen. Purpose determines shape or form. It seems obvious, but the implications are far reaching.

Consider the purpose of the Church. What is its mission? What shape must the life of the Church take in order to match its mission by God's design? When it comes to the purpose of the Church, we often **start in the wrong place**, approaching it backwards. That is, we begin with the wrong reality. We can take the Church as a given, and then we ask, "What is the Church's mission?"

As scholar Christopher J. H. Wright has said, "[I]t is not so much the case that God has a mission for his Church in the world, but rather that God has a Church for his mission in the world. Mission was not made for the Church; the Church was made for mission—God's mission" (14). "*The church is the consequence, the result, of God's own missionary activity.*"

Christ's mission in the Church has and continues to come forth in fresh and new ways. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, when the Lord wanted the mission to be rooted in Africa, His Spirit called missionaries to found institutes designed for this specific purpose. The Society of African Missions (SMA) was one of them. These men were true ambassadors of Christ's message proclaiming it with a firm purpose. On December 8, 1856, our founder Bishop Melchior de Brésillac with a few other priests made the pilgrimage to the Shrine of Notre Dame de Fourviere, near Lyons, France and there established the Society to the patronage of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Each in turn took an oath: "...here and now I offer my life to God, accepting in advance and with joy, for His greater glory ... the pains and privations, the hardship... the suffering of persecution, and even martyrdom, should God deem me worthy to bear witness to the faith by my death..."

What is the Lord's purpose for the SMA? It has as its principal aim the evangelization of the countries of Africa which have most need of missionaries. Independently of the care it will be given to the missions, the SMA constantly works to prepare ways for penetrating into the places in Africa where there are no missionaries yet.

Like Bishop de Brésillac, our identity as ambassadors is connected to Christ's missionary purposes in the world. Jesus has saved us from sin, but he saved us for mission, making us his own representatives. Indeed, that's what ambassadors are: representatives who speak and act on the king's behalf, under his authority, carrying out his desires.

Finally, it means we embrace our calling on mission. Jesus says, "As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you" (John 20:21). This is not only for missionaries and church planters. It's a job description for us all – as ambassadors of the Gospel. It's the purpose of the Church.

Fr Dermot Roache, SMA

## SAVE THESE DATES...

### The Knights of Columbus Council #1345 of Bergenfield/Dumont

will be here at all three Masses on these dates:

Sunday, **October 27<sup>th</sup>** .- **ROSES FOR LIFE**.- distribution of the small roses

Sunday, **November 10<sup>th</sup>** .- **RECRUITMENT**.- Learn more about becoming a Knight.

### OFFICE OF CONCERN FOOD PANTRY.

#### Annual Thanksgiving Food Collection

Special request for: HOLIDAY FOODS, such as cranberry sauce and other fixings, and also: Canned fruits and vegetables, pasta and breakfast cereals.

Thank you!

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7<sup>th</sup>

#### SMA ADVENT REFLECTION

9am—12 noon. Fr Michael Bova