



Society of African Missions

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



Administration:

Fr Ranees A. Rayappan,
 Provincial Superior

Fr Dermot Roache,
 House Superior

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:

\$895.00

Thank you for your support.

Please remember to support your
 local Parishes.

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Masses for the week of JANUARY 26—FEBRUARY 1, 2020

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of SMA	
Sun. Jan. 26	10:00	Martha Paladino Special Intentions	
	12:00	Edmund J. Wilson+	Mary Fischbach
Mon. Jan. 27	9:30	Desiree Ascrate Sullivan (Liv.)	Erlinda Cortez
	11:45	Ruth Kane+	Marilyn Parvis
Tue. Jan. 28	9:30	Juliana & Joseph Lee (Liv.)	Thomas & Jessica Lee Family
	11:45	Amy Palmares+	Emanuel & Elinda Palmares
Wed. Jan. 29	9:30	John Hamill+	Daughter
	11:45	Christine Sarner (Liv.)	Victoria Costa
Thurs. Jan. 30	9:30	Maria R. Valdes+	Friend
	11:45	Amy Palmares+	Emanuel & Elinda Palmares
Fri. Jan. 31	9:30	Anthony Cortez (Liv.)	Erlinda Cortez
	11:45	Thomas Micklas+	Rosemarie & Stephanie Micklas
Sat. Feb. 1	9:30	Special Intentions Neill & Forgrave Families	
	11:45	Special Intentions Stoever & Mongiello Families	

Today's Readings

First Reading Isaiah 8:23 – 9:3

Isaiah looks forward to a day when the people that have walked in darkness will have seen a great light.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 1:10-13. 17

Paul appeals for reconciliation between the divided groups in Corinth.

Gospel Matthew 4:12-23

Jesus fulfils the prophecy of Isaiah and begins his public ministry by calling his first disciples to follow him in proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom.

In His light we see light...

A few years ago, during what I prefer to describe as the peak of the “Pentecostal Madness” one parlance common to those who had merely changed their church for another was: “I have now seen the light, all these while, I have been living in darkness.” Unfortunately, a close look at most of such people definitely reveals that their entire lives were still shrouded in darkness and the shadows of themselves. The twist about their lives is that, “they have seen the light” not necessarily because they have changed their lives or been “inwardly transformed” by it (Rom 12, 2-3), but because they have changed their “business environments, orientations and strategies.” The only light that has the full potentials to chase away humanity’s shadow is the Great Light which is the good news and Christ whose, “light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.” (John 1, 5), the same light which the Magi needed in order to find their way (Mt 2, 1-12), and this is the same light that shone on Saul, and he was never the same, but became transformed to Paul (Acts 9, 3). This Light is “Christ who lives in me” (Gal 2, 20), in you, and in the good news.

Isaiah declared: “The people that lived in darkness have seen a great light; on those who live in the land of deep shadow a light has shown.” The light which is God himself is capable of achieving so many impossible feats in the life of any child of God who humbles himself as the land of Zebulun and Naphtali did. The Great Light breaks the yoke that weighs us down, shows us the way and clears all doubts and fears in our heart, so that we can join the Psalmist in echoing: “The Lord is my light and my salvation whom shall I fear?” (Ps 27, 1).

Paul teaches us that the good news is the light that illumines and prepares the soul for baptism. Before one is baptized, one or one’s parents are properly catechized using the illuminating light of the good news. In other words, through this, Paul draws our attention to the very essence of the good news which is, casting off the shadows of darkness and ignorance and thus, preparing us for baptism.

The presence of Christ made a great difference in the life of the people of Capernaum as well as those of neighboring towns of Zebulun and Naphtali. He brought light into their hearts and region. His light was strongly felt because it brought healing and deliverance. He proved to be their “balm of Gilead” (Jer. 8, 22). What we must learn from this is that as replicas of the Great Light, our presence too must be felt and dispel the darkness in people’s lives. The good news we bear in us must alleviate people’s problems; draw them closer to Christ our Great Light so as to diminish their shadows. The Challenge for us is to turn our entire focus to the Great Light, Jesus Christ who says: “I am the light of the world, the man who follows me will not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.” (Jh 8, 12). Wherever there is this Great Light darkness ceases to hold sway, quarrels disappear, despair, fears, anger, greed, betrayal, lying, cheating, lust, and all other vices melt away. Wherever the light of the good news and Christ shines, “the people who lived in darkness see a Great Light.” Therefore, if we follow and come closer to the Great Light, Jesus Christ, we become light ourselves and no shadows would be found around us anymore because, “in His light we see light” (Ps. 36,9)!

Fr Anthony Korir, SMA

SAVE THESE DATES...

Saturdays, **February 15 & March 14, 2020**

GOD’S MERCY IS HERE!

Please join us for a powerful holy hour of praise and worship

SMA Chapel — **8PM**