



# Society of African Missions

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



## 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:

**\$1,125.00**

Thank you for your support.

Please remember to support your  
local Parishes.

### **Administration:**

**Fr Ranees A. Rayappan,**  
Provincial Superior

**Fr Dermot Roache,**  
House Superior

## FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### Masses for the week of FEBRUARY 9—FEBRUARY 15, 2020

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
<b>Sun.-Sat.</b>	<b>8:00</b>	<b>Liv &amp; Dec Benefactors of the SMA</b>	
Sun. Feb. 9	10:00	Ramon Ambulo+	Rosanne Ambulo
	12:00	Gino Pico+	Sister & Nephew
Mon. Feb. 10	9:30	Assuero & Laura Passarelli+	Enrico & Filomena Saliturno
	11:45	Ruth Kane+	Marilyn Parvis
Tue. Feb. 11	9:30	Robert Murphy+ Robert McDermott+	Susan Murphy
	11:45	Rose & Joseph Abitante+	
Wed. Feb. 12	9:30	Mamerto Ambrocio+	Ben & Mely Ramirez
	11:45	Virgil & Laura Costa	Victoria Costa
Thurs. Feb. 13	9:30	Krizelle & Kristen Barsatan (Liv.)	Edna
	11:45	Special Intentions of Richard Kane (Liv.)	
Fri. Feb. 14	9:30	Catherine Moseley	Susan Murphy
	11:45	Jack Kenny+	Mae Kenny & Family
Sat. Feb. 15	9:30	Vincent Murphy+	Michael Murphy
	11:45	Eileen Neary+	Neary Family

## Today's Readings

### **First Reading - Isaiah 58:7-10**

*God will hear your prayer, and your light will shine, when you consider the needs of the lowly.*

### **Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 2:1-5**

*For Paul, proclaiming Christ and witnessing to the power of the Spirit are the essence of his testimony.*

### **Gospel - Matthew 5:13-16**

*Good works, done in the name of Christ, are to be unashamedly put on display for all to see.*

## **Your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.**

Last week, in our celebration of the Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple, we proclaimed, along with Simeon, that Jesus is the Light for all the Nations.

Today's Gospel ended with Jesus telling us we should be the light to shine before others, before all the nations.

Light to be the light is a recurrent theme in the Bible. It is always referred as "the way God's people should live," reflecting God's light (live), being a witness of the presence of God among us.

The first reading today is taken from the Third Book of Isaiah. The Jewish people had just returned from the exile. Everything was almost destroyed, and as always, the poor were the ones who endured the worst. Their civil and religious leaders were asking the community for a day of fasting, mortification and humiliation to achieve divine favor.

Then the prophet, sent by God, speaks, and questions. What God wants, in fasting, in mortification, is not to close oneself, to "your own flesh." This reveals the causes of the situation: the lack of identification with one who suffers; not feeling personally affected by the hunger, nudity or poverty of others, considering these facts as cold news or sociological data.

But the prophet says that when someone goes hungry it is you who pass them by; when you ignore your neighbor, you ignore yourself. If all this is done: breaking bread with the hungry, housing the poor, dressing the naked, there will be justice. And, if there is justice, there is the glory of God. There is no better fast than this to win the favor of God.

In today's Gospel, Jesus says to us, you are salt, you are light.

In the light we know that there is a whole theology since creation... But it was also used religiously and applied to Jerusalem, the city of light, because it was the city of the Temple, of the presence of God. That is why "you cannot hide a city" - it makes no doubt about these symbolisms of Jerusalem, Zion, and the Alliance communities. The Christian, then, who lives the beatitudes cannot live this as an exclusively personal experience. It is an interpellation to testify to those radical options of following Jesus, of the strength of the gospel.

Feed the hungry, cloth the naked, welcome the stranger (immigrants), visit the ill, redeem the one in prison, console the lonely, bring in the outcast, be a voice of the voiceless, bring life where there is death, and love your neighbor as Jesus loves you. These is the salt and the light of which Jesus is talking.

As the Prophet Isaiah said: "Share your bread with the hungry, shelter the oppressed and the homeless; clothe the naked when you see them, and do not turn your back on your own.

Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your wound shall quickly be healed; your vindication shall go before you, and the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard."

Every Christian is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world ... even if we have not reached that life of holiness.

### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

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**

**APRIL 26, 2020**

**SMA LUNCHEON**

After the 12 O'clock Mass. Mission Hall 23 Bliss Ave. Tenafly, NJ 07670

**\$25 per person**