



Society of African Missions

“The Mission”

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



Mass Schedule

Sundays

10:00 am; 12 noon

Weekdays & Holy Days

11:45 am

Christmas & New Year’s Day

10:00 am; 12 noon

Confessions

By appointment. Contact

Fr Frank Wright

201-567-0450 Ext 225

Bereavement & Visit to the

Sick

Contact Fr. Frank Wight

201-450-6586

Perpetual Mass Association

Office open Monday-Friday
from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm

S.M.A. Vocation Office

Fr Dermot Roache, SMA

Director

201-256-0450 Ext. 253

Fr. Eliecer Sandoval, SMA

551-449-4357

Sunday Collection: \$1,454

Thank you for your support.

Please remember to support
your local parishes.

Administration:

Fr Ranees A. Rayappan,
Provincial Superior

Fr Frank Wright,
House Superior

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Masses for the week of October 3, 2021 – OCTOBER 9, 2021

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of the SMA	
Sun. Oct. 10	10:00	Mary & Al Pruzinsky+	Family
	12:00	Laura & Virgil Costa+	Victoria Costa
Mon. Oct. 11	9:30	Mary & Al Pruzinsky+	Family
	11:45	Gerarda Mauro+	Susan & Bob Iacullo
Tue. Oct. 12	9:30	Beth Kelly Patterson+	Mary Ann Pruzinsky
	11:45	Naciansimo Bontuyan+	Family
Wed. Oct. 13	9:30	Francisco & Meghan Renee - Birthday	Josie Martinez
	11:45	Christie Jose - Birthday	Jose Tom
Thurs. Oct. 14	9:30	Michael R. Desrochers+	
	11:45	Mary Jean Quinn+	Lisa McCarthy
Fri. Oct. 15	9:30	Mariana Cho - Birthday (Liv.)	Sung Choi Family
	11:45	Maureen Portmann+ Birthday/Peltier Family+	Michelle Supper
Sat. Oct. 16	9:30	Florentino Kintanar+ - Birthday	Fe Vela
	11:45	Billy Hickey+	Family

Today’s Readings:

First Reading *Wisdom 7:7-11*

Prayer leads to wisdom, which is far more important than all created things.

Second Reading *Hebrews 4:12-13*

No created thing is hidden from God.

Gospel *Mark 10:17-30*

Those who leave everything to follow Jesus will receive far more than they gave up in the first place.

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time Reflection

Take a good look at the second reading, from the book of Wisdom. It's all about the Word of God. The reading uses all kinds of imagery to convey what the Word of God is, how it acts, how it affects us, how it is alive.

People have a lot of funny ideas about what the Word is supposed to do. Preachers of all stripes and denominations go to great lengths in the Bible to find a line that will prove whatever point they're trying to make. We call this proof-texting. It's actually a very shallow way to make use of Sacred Scripture, because it assumes that God's Word is like a school textbook, full of all kinds of factual information about the world; for example, how many days did it take for God to make the world we live in. In the Catholic tradition, we think that God's Word does much more than that.

The fact is that the Word of God is ALIVE. As the reading itself says, it helps us "to discern reflections and thoughts of the heart." The Word is active and enters into us, sometimes like a gentle breeze of comfort and sometimes like a sharp sword. It sparks the imagination so that we can begin to see new possibilities in our lives. It calls us back to our true selves—the selves that were created by God in his image and likeness. The Word of God can transform us if we let it.

One way we can take advantage of the gift of God's Word is by praying with Scripture: read a passage; and then read it a second and a third time. Let it resound within you. Let it raise echoes from other parts of Scripture and echoes in your own life experience. Take time with it. Let it mold you within. Let it seep into your unconscious so that, sleeping or waking, it permeates your being.

If you want to explore this theme further, investigate the tradition of *Lectio Divina*, a method of prayer that has been used for hundreds of years in the monastic tradition. There are many texts published at present, because *Lectio Divina* is very trendy. Some are better than others. A reliable guide is Fr. Michael Casey's *Sacred Reading: A Guide to Lectio Divina*, which is available on Amazon for \$11.39. Fr. Casey is from the Benedictine tradition and holds firm to the origins of the practice.

By Fr Frank Wright, SMA

CONDOLONCES: The SMA Community is saddened by the death of:

- 1) **Mary Elizabeth "Liz" Kennedy.** She passed away on September 23, 2021 and laid to rest on September 27, 2021. Liz was a long-term faithful supporter of the SMA. We extend our condolences to her husband, Quentin Kennedy, and family.
- 2) **James "Jimmy: Joseph Neary.** He passed away on October 1, 2021 and laid to rest October 9, 2021. Jimmy was a friend and long-time supporter of the SMA. For many years, he was a daily reader in our 9:30am Mass. We extend our condolences to his daughter, Una Neary and family.

May they Rest In Peace