



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

Please remember to support
your local parishes.

Administration:

Fr Ranees A. Rayappan,
Provincial Superior

Fr Frank Wright,
House Superior

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Masses for the week of January 2, 2022 – January 8, 2022

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of the SMA	
Sun. Jan. 2	10:00	Joseph Elliott+	
	12:00	Soledad Rivera+	Fe Vela
Mon. Jan. 3	9:30	Special Intentions Stoever & Mongiello Families	
	11:45	Carey Joyce+	Michael Murphy
Tue. Jan. 4	9:30	Catherine McQueeney Elliott+	
	11:45	Lilia R. Tocker+	Friend
Wed. Jan. 5	9:30	Special intentions for all children	
	11:45	Peter Hickey+	Martha Paladino
Thurs. Jan. 6	9:30	Matthew Elliott+	
	11:45	Sr. Anne Hamill (Liv.)	Sister
Fri. Jan. 7	9:30	Special Intentions Neill & Forgrave Families	
	11:45	Nancy Wilson+	Mary Fischbach
Sat. Jan. 8	9:30	Ellen Elliott+	
	11:45	Galileo Quijano+	Rosanne

Today's Readings:

First Reading Isaiah 60:1-6

Isaiah offers a promise of light, of tenderness and of abundance.

Second Reading Ephesians 3:2-3. 5-6

God's grace is shown to Paul so that he may give it to others.

Gospel Matthew 2:1-12

In hope the wise men follow the star that leads to the light of Christ.

REFLECTION FOR THE NEW YEAR

Each year I compile a list of all the wonderful things that I'm going to accomplish in the new year, all the wonderful ways that I'm going to change. What I will read, what I will learn, what skills I will acquire. And I let myself brainstorm about all the wonderful ways that I can contribute to the welfare of the world we live in. I set goals for myself. I set deadlines for myself. I let my imagination stretch in all directions. ... Well, there's no harm in dreaming. Fortunately, I misplace the list, or accidentally delete it from my computer, around the middle of February.

There is no harm in laying out a possible future for oneself. It gives purpose to our lives. It charts a way forward. Let us admit from the get-go that at times it's difficult to conceive of where we shall be next year, or by September, or by April, or by next month, and sometimes by next week. However, in my humble opinion, it's much better to engage in concrete planning rather than allow oneself to be possessed by a dread of the unknown, or worse, to adopt a laissez-faire attitude and say what will happen will happen. Be proactive!

The other side of the coin says, however, that there's something to be said for leaving oneself open to the possibility of the unexpected in life. In one year's time, we don't know where we shall be, or what we shall be doing. When the SMA sends missionaries out to the mission stations, we often teach them a parody of the song "Tonight, tonight" from West Side Story. Instead of the usual words, the song begins "Surprise, surprise." We don't know what will transpire on the mission, but in almost all cases, it's worthwhile to see what the possibilities of a new situation might be, as daunting as it may appear.

The possibilities (not the catastrophes of our lives) are where the Holy Spirit comes in. The sonnet by Gerard Manley Hopkins SJ (1844-1899), which begins "The world is charged with the grandeur of God", ends with the famous lines "Oh, morning at the brown brink eastward springs—because the Holy Ghost over the bent World broods, with warm breast and with ah! bright wings. We are always under God's care, no matter what happens. It is the Spirit that makes us alive to the possibilities of our lives.

By Fr. Frank Wright, SMA

THANK YOU.- A special thank you to all those who donated for our Christmas flowers and to those who sent Christmas cards, messages and goodies.

May the Lord continue to bless you all.