



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: \$1,328
Thank you for your support.

Please remember to support
your local parishes.

Administration:

Fr Ranees A. Rayappan,
Provincial Superior
Fr Frank Wright,
House Superior

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Masses for the week of February 6, 2022 – February 12, 2022

| Date | Time | Intention | Requested by: |
|------------------|-------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Sun.-Sat. | 8:00 | Liv & Dec Benefactors of the SMA | |
| Sun. Feb. 6 | 10:00 | Spec. Int. Stoever & Mongiello Families | |
| | 12:00 | Guillermina Victorino+ Luis Martinez+ | Josie Martinez |
| Mon. Feb. 7 | 9:30 | Mary Tietjen+ | Family |
| | 11:45 | Gilberto Guinto (Liv.) | Family |
| Tue. Feb 8 | 9:30 | Michael R. Desrochers+ | |
| | 11:45 | Roberta Wilson+ | Mary Fischbach |
| Wed. Feb. 9 | 9:30 | Sung Choi Family & Mariana Cho (Liv.) | Sung Choi Family & Mariana Cho |
| | 11:45 | William Maher+ | Breda Walsh |
| Thurs. Feb. 10 | 9:30 | Assoero & Laura Passarelli+ | Enrico & Filomena Family |
| | 11:45 | Robert Murphy+ Robert McDermott+ | Sue Murphy |
| Fri. Feb. 11 | 9:30 | Joseph Choi+ | Sung Choi Family & Mariana Cho |
| | 11:45 | Rufina Albamento+ Marilyn Roy Benedito+ | Linda Rubio |
| Sat. Feb. 12 | 9:30 | Ellen Elliott+ | |
| | 11:45 | Edward Eustace+ | Mary Ann Hart |

Today’s Readings:

First Reading *Isaiah 6:1-8*

A vision of God’s holiness and glory left the prophet Isaiah feeling wretchedly unclean. Nevertheless, Isaiah became God’s messenger.

Second Reading *1 Corinthians 15:1-11*

Paul, to whom the resurrected Jesus appeared, also felt unworthy. By God’s grace, he changed from persecuting the Church to becoming an apostle.

Gospel *Luke 5:1-11*

Peter was another who felt unfit to be in the company of Jesus. Assured of God’s favour, he was sent out to become a fisher of people.

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time Reflection

A lot of priests this weekend are going to make use of this Gospel passage to tell people ... to urge people ... to command people--to get up and do something. It won't really matter what, just get up and do SOMETHING! ... In this Gospel, we have the first apostles being called by Jesus, and when Jesus invites them to come and follow him, they do just that. They get up out of the boat and leave their nets behind them. ... So, why can't you people sitting in the pews do the same?

In a sense, these fictional priests would not be misinterpreting the Gospel. All four Gospels, if you read them carefully, are full of words like "immediately", "thereupon", "afterwards." When people hear Jesus speak, they feel something inside them that calls to them to believe AND to get up and do something. This might take place on the shores of the Sea of Galilee, or on the road to Emmaus after the resurrection. There is an urgency in Jesus' call. ... OK, I'm with them so far, but I am, quite frankly, disturbed by this kind of easy, knee-jerk interpretation. The fact is, as a practical response, it leaves much to be desired.

I have some practical questions about this passage. What happened to the nets and the boats? ... What did Zebedee have to say about his sons? ... What did Peter's wife have to say about this? (After all, we know that he had one, because Jesus went one day and healed his mother-in-law.) If we are to respond to the Gospel as did the first people who heard it, then the situation calls for something practical.

Well, let's let the Gospel of Luke interpret itself. There's another passage from Luke, which talks about a man who wants to build a tower (Luke 14: 28.) First, he sits down and figures out how much it is going to cost. ... Makes sense. If we are going to preach the Good News, then WE have to think about the tools WE need to do it. What will be effective? Are people ready to listen? Can we engage in a real discussion with them so that we listen to them, and they listen to us?

If we really want to be bearers of the Good News, then we need to be attentive to people and the world. We need to engage our social imagination to figure out what will make sense. We've got to take people where we find them and not where we think they ought to be. The Good News is supposed to be exactly that, and we've got to figure out how to communicate it. That's our call, and I think that's what Jesus was doing in the boat.

By Fr. Frank Wright, SMA

CONDOLENCES.- The SMA Fathers send our sympathy to Evelyn Rooney in the passing of her dear son, Dr. John Edward Rooney, who died suddenly a few days ago.

May He Rest in Peace



NOTICE.- Join St. John's Council for a Mass for the sick on Friday evening, February 11th, 2022 at 7:30 pm here at the Mission.