



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 9:30am to 3:00pm

S.M.A. Vocation Office

Fr Dermot Roache, SMA
Director

201-256-0450 Ext. 253

Fr. Eliecer Sandoval, SMA
551-449-4357

S.M.A. Museum

Open Monday-Sunday from
9:00am –5:00pm

Sunday Collection: \$1,096.00

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-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Masses for the week of AUGUST 28, 2022 – SEPTEMBER 3, 2022

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of the SMA	
Sun. Aug. 28	10:00	John & Joseph Tolentino (Liv.)	Erly Cortez
	12:00	Linda Bishop+ Birthday	Rich & Marilyn
Mon. Aug. 29	9:30	Augustine Elliott II+	
	11:45	Maria R. Valdes+	Friend
Tue. Aug. 30	9:30	Special Intentions Alonso Family	
	11:45	Gloria Lopez+	Martha Paladino
Wed. Aug. 31	9:30	Catherine McQueeney Elliott+	
	11:45	Marissa Tomboc+	Josie Martinez
Thurs. Sept. 1	9:30	Elena Jucar+	Luz M. DiMacali
	11:45	Eric Sarner (Liv.) Birthday	Victoria Ann Costa
Fri. Sept. 2	9:30	Joseph Elliott+	
	11:45	Sheamus Feeney+ Kevin Sherry+	Mary Quinn & Family
Sat. Sept. 3	9:30	Special Intentions Neill & Forgrave Families	
	11:45	Sean McCabe+	Sister-In-Law

Today's Readings:

First Reading Ecclesiasticus 3:17-20. 28-29

Greatness and humility should walk together.

Second Reading Hebrews 12:18-19. 22-24

We are called to a heavenly kingdom, not an earthly one.

Gospel Luke 14:1. 7-14

We are blessed if we are prepared to look after the needs of those who are unable to repay us.



22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Reflection

The Gospel of Luke is full of descriptions of eating and drinking. In fact, his Gospel is so full of people getting together to share a meal that there must be some DEEPER meaning in the fact that people sit down at the table together. Seeing its importance in Luke, perhaps we should be asking ourselves what meals mean to us, what we expect of the host, and what we expect of the guests.

I will be quite frank with you: I don't like the picture Jesus paints of the guests jockeying for position at a feast. There's something about this squabbling over who gets precedence that sets my teeth on edge. It's ugly. There's a lot of game playing going on. I'm sure prestige and money are tied up with it somehow. It's not what meals are meant to be.

Jesus himself took a very dim view of what was happening. He starts off his comments by urging his listeners to avoid being shamed when they are asked to take a lower seat. ... I suppose we could say that Jesus is advising us to lie down and play dead, or at least play humble, so the host will ask us to go up higher. It's an argument from self-interest. ... It's not his last word on the subject, but I'll get to Jesus' last word in a moment.

The virtue of humility is lurking somewhere in the background of this story. ... You know, humility is a very misunderstood virtue. Contrary to the popular imagination, it doesn't mean that we should pretend to be like the proverbial worm, slithering through the compost. "Oh, I'm so undeserving of praise that I can't do anything well." ... Take that with a grain of salt.

Real humility is about being honest with yourself and with God. If you do something well, don't brush off compliments with your right hand, while you're reaching out for them with your left. A simple "Thank you for saying that" will suffice in most social situations. Real humility is your right hand FORGETTING what your left hand is doing. Real humility befits a person who is transparent, and in whom there is no guile.

Let's get back to Jesus's last word on what he saw at the Pharisee's house: don't use your meals to score points. Real hospitality is about offering the best you have in the hope that it may be pleasing to your guest. Like Jesus's own invitations in the Gospels, our invitations should be extended without any hope of getting our own back. And what I'm saying extends beyond the table to embrace everything we do in life. Look at it this way: what we do here on earth is getting in some practice before we sit down at the messianic banquet in the kingdom of God.

By Fr Frank Wright, SMA