



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 Saturdays:

After 11:45am Mass.

Or by appointment.

Contact Fr. Frank Wright

201-567-0450 Ext 225/231

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: \$962

Thank you for your support.

Please remember to support
your local parishes.

Administration:

Fr Ranees A. Rayappan,
Provincial Superior

Fr Frank Wright,
House Superior

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Masses for the week of NOVEMBER 27, 2022 – DECEMBER 3, 2022

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of the SMA	
Sun. Nov. 27	10:00	Thomas & Jessica Lee Family (Liv.)	Thomas & Jessica Lee Family
	12:00	Maureen Hamill+	Sister
Mon. Nov. 28	9:30	Josefina Martinez in Thanksgiving (Liv.)	
	11:45	Michael Peltier+ In Thanksgiving	Michelle Supper
Tue. Nov. 29	9:30	Pruzinsky/Maher Families+	Pruzinsky Family
	11:45	John McKay+	Friend
Wed. Nov. 30	9:30	Thomas Matthew Elliott+	
	11:45	Leticia Ricafrente Lawler+	John Lawler
Thurs. Dec. 1	9:30	Tom Brunetto+	Vincent Pruzinsky
	11:45	Mauricia Bontuyan+	Family
Fri. Dec. 2	9:30	Special Intentions Neill & Forgrave Families	
	11:45	Souls in Purgatory	Victoria Ann Costa
Sat. Dec. 3	9:30	Douglas Edward Elliott+	
	11:45	Gina Luppino (Liv.) Birthday	Victoria Ann Costa

Today's Readings:

First Reading Isaiah 2:1-5

The prophet Isaiah speaks of the pilgrims climbing up to Jerusalem and finding peace. We are called to make our home in Christ and in his kingdom where there will be peace, justice and joy. The Church shows us the way.

Second Reading Romans 13:11-14

In a stark warning, St Paul calls us to amend our lives and return to the way of the Lord.

Gospel Matthew 24:37-44

Jesus warns against complacency and summons us to focus on Christ and his life.

ADVENT 1 REFLECTION

There is a sense of urgency in the readings today. “Now is the hour for you to wake from sleep.” ... All the readings for this first Sunday of Advent insist on that “now.” Well, now IS the time to make a choice. The collect, or opening prayer, asks that we be given “the resolve to RUN forth to meet our Christ.” Seize the moment!

The first reading from the Book of Isaiah was written during a time when King Ahaz of Judea had to seize the moment and make a decision. The armies of Israel and Syria were poised to lay siege outside the walls of Jerusalem. Which way was Ahaz supposed to jump?

You and I, we’ve got a NOW to wrestle with as well. Similar decisions face all of us in this day and age. I’m not being dramatic here. I’m just telling it like it is. Face it: we are asked to make decisions about finances, about our health, about the government of our country—the list goes on and on. ... And perhaps the most important decision we’re asked to make is whether we’re going to put our trust in Jesus and the Good News of our salvation?

The urgency I’m talking about is not the same thing as haste; in fact, if the challenges facing us are serious, then haste is the last thing we need. Things are urgent, because NOW is the time that something great is happening: God has chosen this moment to act by becoming one of us. In a liturgical sense, and in a down-to-earth sense, the future of humankind is in the balance. You may not believe me when I say it, but we’re not that different from King Ahan. This Advent is the beginning of the rest of our lives, and WE have to decide which way to jump.

Last week I spoke about the need to think through the implications of saying that Jesus is Lord. Think it through carefully, and don’t cut corners. This willingness to reflect is particularly incumbent upon us in Advent, as we prepare for the birth of our Lord. The story of the Babe in the manger is not a bedtime story for our children. To say that Christ came as a little child says something very important about who we think God is, something that the members of non-Christian faiths do not possess.

People often say that Advent is a period of waiting, waiting for the child in the manger, waiting for the shepherds to make an appearance, waiting for the star that led the wise men. It is not an idle waiting; instead, it is a waiting period that we put to good use, by reflecting on who we are as citizens of the earth, as creatures made in the image and likeness of God, as members of the Body of Christ.

By Fr Frank Wright, SMA

MASS INTENTION BOOK: The 2023 book for announced Masses is open.

NOTICE.- Each Saturday of Advent, we are offering an Advent Reflection at 11:15am prior to the 11:45am Mass.

SMA Founder’s Day Mass honoring our founder **Venerable Bishop Melchior de Brèsillac**, will take place on **Thursday, December 8th** (Feast of the Immaculate Conception) at **11:45am**.