



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

9:30 am & 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: \$1,120.00

Thank you for your support.

Please remember to support
your local parishes.

Administration:

Fr Ranees A. Rayappan,
Provincial Superior

Fr Frank Wright,
House Superior

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Masses for the week of DECEMBER 11, 2022 – DECEMBER 17, 2022

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of the SMA	
Sun. Dec. 11	10:00	Benedict Walsh+	Breda Walsh
	12:00	Maureen Higgins+ (20th Anniv.)	Diane & Mike Bruno
Mon. Dec. 12	9:30	Francis Elliott+	
	11:45	Frank Traina+ & Theresa Delaney+	Sue Murphy
Tue. Dec. 13	9:30	Michael R. Desrochers+	
	11:45	Laura & Virgil Costa+	Victoria Ann Costa
Wed. Dec. 14	9:30	Gertrude Burns Elliott+	
	11:45	John & Dorris Neville+ & Elise Coch+	Neville Family
Thurs. Dec. 15	9:30	Terry Hurley+	Pruzinsky Family
	11:45	Edward Broderick+	Family
Fri. Dec. 16	9:30	Thomas Kearney+	Vincent Pruzinsky
	11:45	Maureen Portmann+ Peltier Family+	Michelle Supper
Sat. Dec. 17	9:30	Augustine Elliott, I+	
	11:45	Annie Hamill+	Daughter

Today's Readings: *First Reading Isaiah 35:1-6. 10*

Desolate, dry places will be transformed into paradise. Creation's praise joins human praise, recognising God's marvellous works. We daily need to renew our faltering faith.

Second Reading James 5:7-10

James emphasises patience, explaining that we must wait patiently just as a farmer waits for seeds to grow.

Gospel Matthew 11:2-11

Jesus wants to assure both John and his disciples that he is the Messiah. He also reminds them that his power is displayed in humble acts of service rather than spectacular displays of political power.

3rd Advent Reflection

There is an acronym that people in Church circles find themselves using quite often. Whenever they're unsure about what to do in a given situation, they say WWJD, or what would Jesus do? This is actually very pertinent to today's Gospel reading.

Take a good look at John the Baptist in today's Gospel. He's in prison in Jerusalem, and he is quite frankly puzzled. He's been preaching about the coming Messiah; however, when Jesus comes on the scene, John doesn't quite know what to make of him. Is Jesus the kind of Messiah that John thought he (John) was proclaiming? ... Probably not! Where is his army? Where are his paratroopers? How is he going to throw out the Romans?

The Jews of Jesus' time were waiting for a Messiah who could fix the political situation. They wanted things to be the way they were before the Romans invaded their country. And if this Messiah could humiliate the Romans before showing them to the door, all well and good.

Jesus is interesting, because he refuses to fit into the role assigned to him by the people of his society. Advent is interesting, because it challenges us to think about what God is like. ... How do the Scriptures portray him? In Bethlehem, he is the little child who has just been born and is laid in a manger. His parents are in the stable, because there was no room for them at the inn. As a child, he is vulnerable; as the child of poor parents, he is marginalized, another poor Jew from Galilee.

Our God is a God of surprises, and we find him--Emmanuel, God with us--alongside all the vulnerable, marginalized people in this world of ours. As we approach Christmas, let us put our trust in the God who gives sight to the blind and hearing to the deaf, freedom to captives, and Good News to the poor. And when in doubt, do as Jesus would do.

By Fr Frank Wright, SMA

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

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