



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: \$958.00

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 IN ORDINARY TIME

Masses for the week of JANUARY 22, 2023 – JANUARY 28, 2023

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of the SMA	
Sun. Jan. 22	10:00	John Sullivan+	Michelle Sullivan
	12:00	Holy Souls+	Victoria Costa
Mon. Jan. 23	9:30	Memory of Mariana Cho+	Juliana & Joseph Family
	11:45	Monique Kim (Liv.)	Juliahna Park
Tue. Jan. 24	9:30	Memory of Joseph Choi & Mariana Cho+	Juliana & Joseph Family
	11:45	Christine Sarner (Living)	Victoria Costa
Wed. Jan. 25	9:30	Fr Gus Back (Liv.)	Juliahna Park
	11:45	Ann Vailen Quilling+& Felicitas Garcia	
Thurs. Jan. 26	9:30	In Thanksgiving to St. Anthony	
	11:45	Dafrosa Lim (Liv.)	Juliahna Park
Fri. Jan. 27	9:30	Memory of Joseph Choi+	Juliana & Joseph Family
	11:45	Gasiano Youn (liv.)	Juliahna Park
Sat. Jan. 28	9:30	Juliana & Joseph Lee (Living)	Juliana & Joseph Family
	11:45	Memory of Mariana Cho+	Juliana & Joseph Family

Today’s Readings:

First Reading Isaiah 8:23 – 9:3

People who once suffered invasion and war will one day be blessed with the joy of true light and liberty.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 1:10-13. 17

Paul appeals for unity among the followers of the Lord.

Gospel Matthew 4:12-23

Jesus begins his mission in Galilee with the light of his teaching and his healing power.

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

THE CALL OF JESUS

I don't know how or why those disciples we heard tell of this morning were able to make a snap decision to up-oars, leave the boat, and follow Jesus. The reason I say this is that I expect people to take time with their decisions. If a couple came to me for marriage preparation and told me that they had met only last week and that this week they had decided to get married, I would endeavor to get them to take their time. Maybe a year or two! If a priesthood candidate came to me for counseling and said that he just decided last week to become a priest, even though he hadn't darkened a church door in the last ten years, I'd probably tell him to get a life.

What excuse can we find for the disciples? I suppose we don't know what the acting coaches and film directors call "the back story." You know what I mean? --The history of the character that the actor can try to inculcate in him or herself to inform the way that he takes on the role; for example, I was born on the wrong side of the tracks, and that's why I'm so ambitious. Who knows? Maybe the disciples had been building up to this point for a long time, and we just didn't know it. Maybe there had been a thirst in their lives for something meaningful. Maybe there had been a sudden recognition of life-value in what they had seen and heard.

I think what is important here is that we take the call of Jesus to follow him seriously. If the disciples were willing to leave everything they were familiar with and follow this man with nothing more than a local reputation, then WE ought to examine the evidence and take note of our own feelings and gut response. As 21st century Catholic Christians, why do we react the way we do to the Good News?

I'm talking about a process of conversion here. I'm talking about building a mature foundation, so that when the storms of life appear on the horizon and buffet our marriage or our vocation, there's a history, our own back story, to fall back on. We can cast ourselves in the role of Job in the Old Testament. You remember Job? His family was wiped out along with all his livestock, and in spite of these calamities, he was able to say, "I know that my redeemer liveth."

The response of faith may be an overnight sensation, or a Monday morning by the sea of Galilee sensation, but the ability to take refuge in God, to withstand the challenges in our life requires a willingness to ask oneself why we would choose to be disciples in the first place.

By Fr Frank Wright, SMA

HOLY HOUR - SATURDAY: January 28, 2023 at 8pm