



Society of African Missions

23 Bliss Avenue
 Tenafly, NJ 07670
 Phone: 201-567-0450
 Visit our website
www.smafathers.org



Mass Schedule

Sundays

8:00 am; 10:00 am; 12 noon

Weekdays & Holy Days

8:00 am; 9:30 am; 11:45 am

Christmas & New Year's Day

8:00 am; 10:00 am; 12 noon

Confessions

Saturdays 4:30 pm to 5:00 pm

Bereavement & Visit to the Sick

Contact Fr. Anbu Kumar

201-567-0450 Ext 204

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Rosary

Every Wednesday at 11:00 am

Followed by Mass, Adoration

and Benediction at 5:30 pm

The Little Way of St. Therese of Lisieux

2nd Sundays after 12 pm Mass

Bible Reflection Group

Thursdays: 7:30 pm in the hall

Perpetual Mass Association

Office open Monday-Friday

from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

S.M.A. Vocation Office

Theresa Hicks, Lay Associates

201-496-8394

Fr. Julien Esse, SMA Priesthood

201- 894-8611

SUNDAY COLLECTION: \$1,488.

Thank you for your support.

Local and Provincial superior:

Fr. Michael Moran, SMA.

If you invite one of our priests out to perform a sacramental function please make sure he is informed. 201-567-0450 x 218

19th week in Ordinary time

Masses for the week of Aug. 13-19th

ASSUMPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY AUG. 15

DATE	TIME	INTENTION	Requested by:
Sun. to. Sat	8:00	Liv. And Dec. Benefactors of SMA	
Sun. Aug. 13	10:00	Pricing Vladay+ & Edmund Jet+	Linda Rubio
	12:00	Gino Pico+	Sister and Nephew
Mon. Aug. 14	9:30	George Conroy+	Barbara and Joe Mulheren
	11:45	Margaret Mary Gibney+	Breda & Benny Walsh
Tues. Aug. 15	9:30	Nuala Henry+	Walsh Family
	11:45	Douglas Collins+	Mae Kenny
Wed. Aug. 16	9:30	Angela McCabe (Liv)	Sister, Catherine
	11:45	Special Intention	Veronica McDonagh
Thur. Aug. 17	9:30	M. J. Mulheren+	Barbara and Joe Mulheren
	11:45	Luisa G. Fajota (Liv)	
Fri. Aug. 18	9:30	Eileen Neary+	Veronica Lee
	11:45	Joseph Jeen & Ancy George (Spec. Int.)	Ancy George
Sat. Aug. 19	9:30	Lena Sophia Youm (Liv)	Mom
	11:45	Bill Rypkema+	Vincent Pruzinsky

Today's Readings

First Reading 1 Kings 19:9. 11-13 After storm and earthquake, the voice of the Lord is heard in the breeze.

Second Reading Romans 9:1-5 Paul is distressed in spirit for his sisters and brothers of Israel.

Gospel Matthew 14:22-33 A storm at sea reveals the Lord of the storm.

Announcements:

Raffle tickets for the drawing on Dec. 2nd are now available. The ticket costs \$5 and 1st prize is \$2,200 gift certificate from Liberty Travel and second prize is an iphone 7plus. So if you are looking to travel take a chance. Contact Ms. Paladino if you want more information.

August 15th is a Holyday of obligation. Mass schedule is the same week day schedule

Last week in the Gospel, Peter and the 2 other apostles heard the Voice of God coming from a cloud, telling them to LISTEN to Jesus! The need to listen seems to be a lifetime's work!

This week, in both the 1st and 3rd Readings, the main characters have need to listen, as they are told what to do. Elijah, hiding in fear for his life in a cave on Mount Horeb, is asked by the Lord why he is hiding there and is then **told to leave his cave and come outside** because the Lord will be passing by. Outside, Elijah is assaulted by the noise and chaos of a very wild storm, an earthquake, and a raging fire but he, listening to it all as directed, only experiences God's "passing by" in a tiny whispering sound. And as he hides his face, then, he hears God telling him what his next mission is to be, a mission filled with marvelous deeds.

In this week's Gospel, Jesus **"made the apostles get into a boat and precede Him to the other side, while He dismissed the crowds"**. Then He Himself goes up the mountain to pray, alone. After the miracle of the multiplication of bread and fish, the apostles would naturally want to join the noisy crowd on the move to make Jesus their King forever, so Jesus sends them instead away from that noise, and He Himself dismisses the hope-filled crowd. Rather than enjoying the jubilation of proclaiming Jesus their King, therefore, the apostles experience the fear of being tossed about helplessly on the sea by a fierce and frightening storm.

When Peter hears Jesus calling over the storm, telling him to "Come", his faith in Jesus allows him to step out of that boat onto the watery depths--and the turbulent waters become strong as ROCK for him also! We know why Peter sank when he took his eyes off Jesus, because we have all had similar experiences. We call out for help, Jesus says "Come" and we, all of us just ordinary people, find that we are capable of extraordinary things-- as long as Jesus is our strength and Focus. When we focus on ourselves or on our own marvelous accomplishments, we begin the sinking process. It is our faith in God, in Jesus, that gives us the wisdom, the understanding, the "rock" strength to be able to do extraordinary things, or (most often) just to do ordinary things extraordinarily well.

These stories of Elijah and of the rescue on the sea are depicted in beautiful art pictures by Fr Sieger Koder, a German priest artist who knew the fear and sufferings of imprisonment during WWII. (Check out his art on the board outside chapel and on the internet.) In the background of his "rescue" painting are the frightened apostles and the turbulent water, in the foreground are three beautiful muscular arms and hands, the one belonging to a strong God-Carpenter reaching down to save, the other two belonging to a strong "foolish" fisherman reaching up from the depths of water and clinging to that other arm. The fitting title of the picture is "Stronghold". . . . So what is faith? It can be listening for and depending on, the presence of God, of Jesus, our Stronghold in all of life. Through listening, we learn what it is we ought to do.

August 15 Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

In 1950, Pius XII defined and proclaimed the doctrine of the assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. He had previously consulted all the bishops of the world, along with their clergy and people, about the matter, and they were overwhelmingly positive. There seemed to be a great desire for the teaching to be made official. Christians had celebrated this feast for many centuries, but the teaching had never been officially proclaimed. There are many reasons why the proclamation of the dogma was so popular. If we look at the history of the twentieth century at that time, we can get some idea of why this was the case.

Apart from the two world wars, the first half of the century also saw countless deaths at the hands of political regimes trying to impose their ideologies on whole continents. Killing on an industrial scale, the use of nuclear weapons and genocide all make up the dark history of those years. It must have seemed as if human life, and the human body, had been reduced to mere fodder for political and military violence. The assumption of Mary was a reaffirmation of all that is good, gracious and hopeful. As Pius XII put it elsewhere, Mary, "resplendent in glory in body and soul, reigns in heaven with her son". Her presence in heaven, body and soul, is a great sign of God's goodness overcoming death and destruction.

All the great events of our redemption point to one important fact. When God saves us, God saves everything that makes us human. Our soul, our body, our emotions, our intelligence, are all redeemed and destined for eternal life with God and each other. It is precisely by becoming incarnate that Jesus begins his saving work in his mother's womb. It is by really dying on the cross that he defeats death. It is by really rising, body and soul from the tomb, that he prepares the way for our own resurrection. Mary's assumption into heaven is the pledge and image of what our own resurrection will be, the perfect reintegration of our body and soul, which were dissolved at our death. Mary's intercession for us before God helps us along the way of salvation.

If we look at the sacraments we see that they are too are physical realities, transfigured by God's overflowing goodness. Bread, wine, water, oil, gestures, are all taken up in God's redeeming love and made channels of God's grace. Sacramentals, like salt, wax and incense, are physical things too, which help mediate God's love. So it is by living an active sacramental life in the living body that is the Church that we are saved, and our redemption starts even in this life. God's love and goodness is always greater than the destruction that human beings can bring about. The resurrection of Jesus, and Mary's assumption, show this to us, and fill us with joy and gladness.