



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:

Thank you for your support.

Vocations are born in the family and the faith of the family So let's do it.



PRAY!!!!

28th week in Ordinary time

Masses for the week of Oct. 15-21

	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of SMA	
Sun. Oct 15	10:00	Doug Collins+	Martha DiPaolo
	12:00	Mildred Buonomo+	Florence Buonomo
Mon. Oct. 16	9:30	Maureen Campo+	James Cogan
	11:45	Colleen Looby+	Emma Looby
Tue. Oct 17	9:30	Billy Hickey+	Family
	11:45	Maureen Portmann+ 72nd birthday	Michelle Supper
Wed. Oct. 18	9:30	Eileen Neary+	Veronica Lee
	11:45	Pat & May Fahy+	Veronica McDonagh
Thurs. Oct 19	9:30	Dympna Oshee (Liv) spec. Int.	Timothy Keohane & Family
	11:45	Victor Bontuyan+	Family
Fri. Oct. 20	9:30	Franciszek Maziarz+	Barbara & Joe Mulheren
	11:45	Stella & Mary Abitante	
Sat. Oct. 21	9:30	Doris Keohane+	Timothy Keohane & Family
	11:45	Susan Biagioni+	A. Tyburska

Today's Readings

First Reading Isaiah 25:6-10 The prophet recounts what God has done for us, inviting us to God's banquet and causing us to rejoice.

Second Reading Philippians 4:12-14. 19-20 In the hardships of his life St Paul knows that God gives him strength.

Gospel Matthew 22:1-14

The wedding feast is ready and we have been invited to it.

Molly and Peter have been married for almost 48 years and have raised a brood of 12 children and are blessed with 23 grandchildren.

When asked the secret for staying together all that time, Molly replies, 'Many years ago we made a promise to each other: the first one to pack up and leave has to take all the kids.'

Illustration

It is hard to imagine that anyone receiving an invitation to a royal wedding would refuse to go. When Prince William married Catherine Middleton in 2011 guests naturally included their own families, members of other royal families, religious and political leaders; but, breaking with precedent, half the guests were friends from their childhood and university days, as well as representatives of charities they supported, celebrities and some people who would never have expected an invitation. As everyone present at dinner was deemed “equally important” to the couple, the tables were a mix of royals, family members and friends.

Only fifteen of the two thousand invitees declined, most of them through ill health. The Crown Prince and Princess of Japan could not come because their country had been hit by earthquake and tsunami. And the Prince of Liechtenstein was attending the beatification of John Paul II, which clashed with the wedding.

Gospel Teaching

In today’s Gospel Jesus presents a strange story about a royal wedding. Servants delivered personal invitations to the wedding of a king’s son, but no one turned up. When the banquet was ready the king sent more servants to tell them to come. But they made limp excuses, beat up the servants and killed them. Then the story becomes really bizarre. The furious king despatched troops to burn down the town where these murderers lived. After that, by which time the food on the table must have been stone cold, he sent another lot of servants out into the streets to fetch in anyone at all, good and bad alike, until the hall was filled with guests.

The theme is the familiar one of the failure of God’s chosen people to respond to what God expected of them, and their replacement by others who did. It is a peculiar story, but those who first heard it would know some things we may not. They would know that the first servants sent out were the prophets Moses, Elijah, Elisha and others, whose message was ignored. The second lot of servants were more prophets, like Isaiah, who, in the first reading, talked about God preparing a banquet of rich food and fine wines for all people. The prophets made heartfelt appeals for men and women to repent and accept God’s invitation to enter the kingdom of God, but they were scorned, ill-treated and some of them were killed. The sending of the troops to burn up the city while the food was on the table refers to the tragedy of AD 70: the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans and the massacre of its inhabitants, which Jesus warned would happen because of their rejection of God’s kingdom. The first readers of St Matthew’s Gospel would have had vivid memories of it.

After that, the servants went out along the roads and invited anyone they could find, good and bad alike; people who would never have expected an invitation. These Gentiles responded to their invitation with joy, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

Application

These last servants who travelled the roads to bring in guests were the apostles and missionaries of the Church. The king told his servants to “go”, the same word used later in Matthew’s Gospel when Jesus tells the apostles to “go” and make disciples of all nations. They travelled beyond Jerusalem into Gentile lands, to Europe, Asia, Africa and eventually America and Australia. And they are still going out, these missionaries, priests, sisters and laypeople, suffering hardships as Paul, in the second reading, told us he did, inviting men and women into the kingdom of God. And all of us in different ways are part of that mission of spreading the Gospel.

The beauty of this parable is that it presents the kingdom of God as a wedding banquet, highly desirable and attractive. Moreover, the Lord freely invites us to be his guests. We do not have to be worthy; we couldn’t be worthy of God’s invitation. God invites both the good and the bad. God wants us all to be there. But why was an unfortunate man thrown out for not wearing a wedding garment? At baptism a white garment is put on. We are clothed in Christ. It is a salutary reminder that we are called to grow into the likeness of Christ we have put on, and live the Gospel life. (The Living Word)

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. Tickets to the “Winter Wonderland” gala are \$75 per person.

KofC are promoting roses for Life after all the masses today. Please lend them your ears and give them a few bucks.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS: Sanctuary Candles, Altar Candles, Bread and Wine this week have been donated in memory of **Maria R. Valdes RamirezDe Arellano** at the request of Helen A. John-Kelly.