



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: 1,214.

Thank you for your support.

Come Lord Jesus



3rd Week of Advent Masses for the week of Dec. 18-23

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of SMA	
Sun. Dec. 17	10:00	Evelyn Rubio & Joan Pat+	Linda Rubio
	12:00	Annie Hammill+	Catherine
Mon. Dec. 18	9:30	Terry Tietjen+	Friends
	11:45	Theresa Tietjen+	Family
Tue. Dec. 19	9:30	Rose & Anthony D'Ermes+	Robert J. Latino
	11:45	Meliam Gonzales (Liv) Thanksgiving	Mely & Ben Ramirez
Wed. Dec. 20	9:30	Ott Family+	Barbara & Joe Mulheren
	11:45	Sung Choi Fam (Liv) Mariana Cho (Liv)	Mariana Cho
Thurs. Dec. 21	9:30	Emma G. Haggerty+	Bob & Kathy Jaeger
	11:45	Thomas & Mary Grealish+	Winnie Grealish
Fri. Dec. 22	9:30	Maziarz Family+	Barbara & Joe Mulheren
	11:45	Carmela & Giuseppe+ Salituro	Enrico & Filomena Salituro
Sat. Dec. 16	9:30	Special Inten. Neill, Forgrave Fam.	
	11:45	Special Inten. Stoever, Lukchis Fam.	

Today's Readings

First Reading Isaiah 61:1-2. 10-11

The prophet speaks in the person of Christ, the anointed one of the Spirit. Later Jesus applies this verse to himself.

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Paul prays that the whole of our being, spirit, soul and body, may be healed and saved.

Gospel John 1:6-8. 19-28

John the Baptist testifies to the divinity of Christ, describing himself as the one who makes way for "the Lord".



DANCE LESSONS

The ballroom and line dance lessons take place every Tuesday from 7:30pm to 9:30pm in the hall. Admission is \$5.

We hope you are all filled with the spirit of peace and joy that the season represents. And we hope you have a:

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Gospel Teaching

In sacred history the role of the intermediary is generally positive. Abraham and Moses are shown as interceding on behalf of the people. The prophets classically act as middle men, delivering God's message to the people, and speaking on behalf of the people to God. In Exodus, God institutes the Aaronic priesthood to act as a permanent body of intermediaries, and the liturgy itself is a way of mediating God's holiness. These two great roles, the prophetic and the priestly, are brought together in John the Baptist. He behaves as one of the classical prophets. That is why he is asked if he is Elijah, or "the Prophet". But he is also one of the last generations of the Aaronic priesthood, his father being Zechariah, a priest, and the priesthood being hereditary. So John is a complex figure, with a complex message.

One of the reasons his message is complex is because he is announcing someone who is both yet another intermediary, and who is also the other party, so to speak, in the relationship. Christ is both fully human, so he can be our intermediary, and he is fully divine, the one who receives the intercession. John speaks about these two aspects of Jesus symbolically. Jesus' humanity is represented by the sandal-strap that John speaks of. Jesus fully takes on our humanity, right down to the soles of his feet. But he also stands among them as one "unknown to you". This stands for the complete otherness of his divinity
(The Living Word)

There will be a meeting of the Board immediately after the Christmas service,' announced Reverend Morris.

After the close of the service, the group gathered at the back of church for the announced meeting. However, this Christmas there was a stranger in their midst. He was a visitor who had never attended their church before.

'My friend,' asked Reverend Morris, 'did you understand that this is a meeting of the Board?'

'Oh, yes,' came the rejoinder from the visitor, 'and after that sermon, I'm about as bored as you can get.'

Just kidding We are not having a board meeting and we hope you are not boarded with our homilies

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE:

Saturday Dec. 23rd. Simbang Gabi Mass beginning at 5 PM with fellowship afterwards.

Sunday Dec. 24 **8:00, 10:00 and 12 noon Mass** Christmas Eve. Mass at **8:00 PM** with fellowship afterwards.

Monday 25th **8:00, 10:00 and 12 noon Mass.**

MEMORIAL DONATION: The Altar Bread, Wine and Sanctuary Candle this week, are offered in memory of **MaryLou gamble** by Babe & Joe LoBianco. Altar Candles in memory of **Sr. Trinity** by Ann.

CHRISTMAS ALTAR DECORATION.- If you like to make a donation in memory of a loved one or in honor of someone special, please use the envelope located at the back of the chapel.

Simbang Gabi Celebration, Saturday, December 23, 2017 at 5 pm here at the Mission Chapel.

ST. FRANCIS GIFT SHOP—BAKE & CHRISTMAS SALE - DEC. 1,2 & 3 AND DEC. 7, 8, 9, 10
FROM 10AM—3PM (253 Knickerbocker Rd. Tenafly, NJ 201-568-0478)
BRING YOUR CHILDREN TO VIEW THE BETHLEHEM ROOM. Bargain Prices!