



Society of African Missions

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



Local Superior:

Fr. Anbu Kumar, SMA

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

Mass Schedule

Sundays

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

Weekdays & Holy Days

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

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

Fr. Julien Esse, SMA
 201- 894-8611

Sunday Collection: \$715.00

Thank you for your support.

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Masses for the week of FEB 25—MAR 3, 2018

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of SMA	
Sun. Feb. 25	10:00	Robert Murphy+	Susan Murphy
	12:00	Thomas Summa+	Maria & Louis Morelli
Mon. Feb. 26	9:30	Jessica Lee -Birthday (Living)	Thomas & Jessica Lee Family
	11:45	Lorraine Logerfo (Living)	Caron
Tue. Feb. 27	9:30	Mary E. Martins (Living)	Sister
	11:45	Lena Sophia Youm	Mom
Wed. Feb. 28	9:30	Deceased members of Duggan Fam.	The Family
	11:45	Leticia Ricafrente Lawler	John Lawler
Thurs. Mar. 1	9:30	Dec. Mem. Fr. Guiney & McCarthy Families	
	11:45	Lorraine Logerfo (Living)	Caron
Fri. Mar. 2	9:30	Special Int. Neil & Forgrave Families	
	11:45	Ann Kurpiel+ & Annie Kurpiel Birthday (Living)	Michelle Supper
Sat. Mar. 3	9:30	Peter Quinn+	Mary Quinn & Family
	11:45	Special Int. Neil & Forgrave Families	

Today's Readings

First Reading Genesis 22:1-2. 9-13. 15-18

Abraham's faith is tested. God showers blessings on him.

Second Reading Romans 8:31-34

God our Father has given us all that is most precious by sending his Son. We stand acquitted – God is on our side.

Gospel Mark 9:2-10

At the transfiguration, the identity of Jesus is revealed. But the meaning of his identity is something the disciples still struggle to grasp.

Ballroom and Line Dance!
 Every Tuesday at 7:30pm
 SMA Hall. Admission \$5

Stations of the Cross
every Friday
@ 7:00PM

“God put Abraham to the test” (Genesis 22:1)

At the season of Lent, we have this passage from Genesis at our first reading, because this passage is repeated in the New Testament that God’s son is being allowed to die at the Cross, whereby Jesus trusted his heavenly father and obeyed His commands like Abraham. Did you ever ask these questions that, “How could God do such a thing to Abraham? How could Abraham accept it without a fight? How could Isaac, let himself be tied up and placed on the altar of sacrifice? These are some of the questions that we Christians ask in perfectly good faith. Most of us don’t have the faith that we see in Abraham and that is why he is called “our father in faith” because of his complete dedication to doing whatever God asks of him. Abraham’s relationship with God is of perfect trust, based on deep faith.

As St. James says in his letter, “Happy is the person who remains faithful under trials, because when he succeeds in passing such a test, he will receive as his reward the life which God has promised to those who love him” (James 1: 12). This scripture passage is very true with Abraham and the most important lesson we learn from the first reading is, how great the faithfulness of Abraham was. When he was called by God to go to the land of Moriah, he did not know why, but he trusted in God and obeyed. Because of that, not only the life of his son was spared but also God promised Abraham that “I will bless you abundantly and make your descendants as countless as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore”. It was all because Abraham obeyed God’s command.

The story of the transfiguration is right in the center of Mark’s gospel. At the heart of our Christian believing is this deep awareness that Jesus is born for us, that Jesus dies for us and that Jesus has indeed been raised to life for us. The transfiguration of Jesus comes at an important moment in the life of Jesus and it is one of those moments that these three disciples came to realize the nature and the true identity of Jesus. When we realize that the words “Listen to him” are directed to each one of us, we must take very seriously the implications of such a command from God. This surely must mean that we too are expected to “visit” this mountain of the Transfiguration, where we can be “illuminated” by the sure knowledge that, when all is said and done, the most important thing that we can do in this life is to “die,” as Jesus did, because we need to love and care for others.

Abraham’s story has a happy ending. Even if it did not, the point would be the same: by faith, Abraham accepted God’s will, submitted to this tremendous test, and showed his total devotion to God. So, too, Jesus was “handed over” for us all, and his glorious resurrection confirmed the glory of his sacrifice. Seek to do the will of God in all things, believe that Christ died and was raised from the dead for us and see in the Transfiguration of Christ that we also can be transfigured by our complete belief in Him. Let us give all to the Lord and receive from the Lord whatever He gives us.

Fr. Anbu Kumar

MARCH 10: 11:45am SMA Chapel Mass in Honor of St. Patrick— Sponsored by: The Bergen County Council of Irish Associations.

MARCH 11: 5:30pm -10:30pm — SMA HALL— Karaoke and entertainment— Free Admission—Sponsored by: Knights of Columbus— Madonna Council 520

MARCH 28: “Soup and Bread Supper” at 6:30pm “The Mission” Prayer, Repentance and Almsgiving

SMA CHAPEL CAMPAIGN

Your help is essential in achieving this goal! **ANY DONATION IS WELCOME TO HELP US.**

Envelopes available outside on the board.