



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: \$2,255.00

Thank you for your support.

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Masses for the week of APRIL 08—APRIL 14, 2018

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of SMA	
Sun. APR. 08	10:00	Conrad Bing Felix+ & Perla Roque+	Linda Rubio
	12:00	Ann Quilling+ & Tony Viheart+	Linda Rubio
Mon. APR. 09	9:30	Thomas & Jessica Lee Family (Living)	Thomas & Jessica Lee Family
	11:45	Mary M O'Connell+	John O'Connell
Tue. APR. 10	9:30	John V & Helen Breen Moore+	
	11:45	Carmelo Gonzales+	Ben & Mely Ramirez
Wed. APR. 11	9:30	John V. Moore, Jr+	
	11:45	Laura & Virgil Costa+	Victoria Ann Costa
Thurs. APR. 12	9:30	Rose Iacullo+ (Birthday)	Susan & Bob Iacullo
	11:45	Mary McConville	Mae & Jack Kenny
Fri. APR. 13	9:30	Spec. Int. Virgie Imperial (Living)	Erlinda Cortez
	11:45	Fr. Tom Hamill (Living)	Sister Catherine
Sat. APR. 14	9:30	Rev. Jerome Bracken, CP (Living)	Friends
	11:45	Jacinta Carlos+	Julie Torres

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

WORKS OF MERCY

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|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Feed the hungry | Instruct the ignorant |
| Give drinks to the thirsty | Counsel the doubtful |
| Clothe the naked | Admonish the sinner |
| Shelter the homeless | Comfort the afflicted |
| Visit the sick | Bear wrongs patiently |
| Visit those in prison | Forgive injuries willingly |
| Bury the dead | Pray for the living and the dead |

Today's Readings

First Reading Acts 4:32-35

For a moment the Church is perfect on earth as it is in heaven. Yet it is in the imperfections of the Church that the Lord manifests his mercy and his power.

Second Reading 1 John 5:1-6

Victory for Christians is always a victory over ourselves before we may presume to win others by faith.

Gospel John 20:19-31

Peter speaks to the apostles and to the Church, but Thomas speaks for the apostles, because he speaks from his own struggle to believe.

Gospel Teaching

Today is Divine Mercy Sunday. Yet the Gospel reading about the appearance of Our Lord to St Thomas can lead us to focus more on the apostle's doubt. "Doubting Thomas", we often call him. We tend to think of Thomas as a rationalist, who carefully weighs evidence. But is this the real basis of his doubt? Perhaps Thomas doesn't in fact doubt that Christ could rise from the dead; but he can't believe that he would. He had seen miracles aplenty carried out by this man. Most specifically, he had seen Lazarus raised from the dead, as we are told in this same Gospel. Thomas also seems to be the one who recognises that Jesus is truly God. In all the ambiguous, twisty, winding ways that the divinity of Christ is hinted at in the Gospels, there is this one resounding proclamation – "My Lord and my God!" – and it's made by none other than St Thomas.

Some think that Thomas attains to this belief because he has met the risen Christ. His belief certainly is strengthened by this encounter, but perhaps Thomas' problem with Christ rising from the dead is precisely because he believes that he is God. Why would Jesus return to them? Why would he come back to people who have let him down? Why would he return to a world that not only rejected him but put him to death? To believe that Jesus is risen is to believe that he has forgiven us. Thomas doubts the resurrection, because he doubts God's mercy. To accept mercy requires trust, which is why it is so hard to forgive by human powers. So often in families it is this lack of trust that forgiveness is real that prevents reconciliation. Thomas finally understands that God is too great to be merciless, and that God is the measure of God's own mercy.

Application

How do you convince someone that they are forgiven, when you are not sure yourself that you have really forgiven them? It's very easy for old hurts and grievances to lurk under the surface, even after many years. Old wounds suddenly come to mind, as fresh as the day we received them. Jesus prays to the Father, "that the love with which you loved me may be in them, and so that I may be in them". That is the way. We are called to love with the love of the Father which is within us. We are called to forgive with the mercy which God has shown us, and which is within us.

Such love and such mercy is always more than can be generated by human power. Mercy is a divine presence, a divine power that can be found in prayer. So to truly forgive and to truly accept forgiveness requires prayer. Praying for our enemies is not an aspect of forgiveness; it is the fundamental way to forgive.

-The Living Word

THANK YOU...

We would like to thank all those who donated for the flowers in memory of: Bill Kane, Al and Mary Pruzinsky, Mary and Jim Higgins, Annie Murphy, Gerard Patrick Lee from the Lee Family, and the following families: The Nearys, Keane, Chavez, Rooney, Ramirez, Bonacci, Ambulo, Janniger, Boutillier, Fleming, Jaeger, Murphy, Eustace, Turro, Buonomo, and everyone who donated anonymously.

Also those who arranged and prepared the Chapel for the Easter celebration; the ones who participated in the liturgies: Readers, servers, singers and the choir. Thank you also to those who brought goodies for everyone to enjoy on Easter Vigil. Many thanks to all of you who always show us your love and support to our work here at the Mission and abroad. God bless you all always!

Communion Lunch. April 22, 2018 after the 12 Noon Mass.

Tickets available.