



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

Christmas & New Year's Day

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

Fr. Julien Esse, SMA

551-449-4357

Sunday Collections: \$1,900.00

Easter: \$2,967.00

Thank you for your support.

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Masses for the week of April 28 – May 4, 2019

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of SMA	
Sun. Apr. 28	10:00	Billy Hickey+	Family
	12:00	Mary Doris Perla, Rex Tony Viheart+	Erlinda P. Rubio
Mon. Apr. 29	9:30	Maria Valdes+	Friend
	11:45	John P. Farrington+	John O'Connell
Tue. Apr. 30	9:30	George Coleman+	James Neary
	11:45	James E. Cronin+	John O'Connell
Wed. May 1	9:30	Joseph Abitante+	
	11:45	Maureen Hamill+	Sister
Thurs. May 2	9:30	JoAnn DiPaolo+	Martha DiPaolo
	11:45	Leticia Ricafrente Lawlor+	Lawlor Family
Fri. May 3	9:30	Bill Moran+ Wedding Anniversary	Jinnie Moran
	11:45	Special Intentions Neill and Forgrave Families	
Sat. May 4	9:30	Special Intentions Neill and Forgrave Families	
	11:45	Special Intentions Stoever and Lukchis Families	

Today's Readings

First Reading Acts 5:12-16

The numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily.

Second Reading Apocalypse 1:9-13. 17-19

John's vision of the risen Lord: the Living One, who was dead and is now to live for ever.

Gospel John 20:19-31

Thomas was not with the disciples the first time the risen Lord appeared; eight days later, he sees, he touches and he believes.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

WORKS OF MERCY

CORPORAL

- Feed the hungry
- Give drinks to the thirsty
- Clothe the naked
- Shelter the homeless
- Visit the sick
- Visit those in prison
- Bury the dead

SPIRITUAL

- Instruct the ignorant
- Counsel the doubtful
- Admonish the sinner
- Comfort the afflicted
- Bear wrongs patiently
- Forgive injuries
- Pray for the living and the dead

“Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.”

Illustration.- In these days of the rapid expansion of social media, how do we know what and who to believe? Stories are published with the purpose of influencing public opinion and affecting the outcome of political decision-making. National elections have been won and lost through such interventions. The course of world history may well be affected for generations to come. It has even been given a name: “fake news”. What was once considered to be a lie or an untruth is now simply a strategic tool with no morality or guilt attached to it. Just because something appears on an Internet feed, or the TV news, or in a newspaper, doesn’t make it true. We have to discern very carefully before we decide who and what to believe, and before we act on it.

Gospel Teaching.- In the first days after the crucifixion of Jesus, the disciples were very slow to believe. They had seen the gruesome reality of the death of Jesus. They had buried him with their own hands and now the only visible evidence they had was an empty tomb. So when individuals came and announced that they had seen the Lord and that he was alive, they were understandably sceptical. Thomas was not to be convinced even by the verbal assurances of his companions. He had to see and to touch the wounds of the risen Christ before he would believe; and then Jesus said to him: “You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.”

The problem Thomas had is still a problem for the people of successive generations. How are they to see and touch the wounds of the risen Lord? The apostle John gives his testimony in the readings we hear today. He has a vision of the risen Lord in glory who tells him to write down all that he sees of present happenings and of things that are still to come. In the book of the Apocalypse, or Revelation, he is able to interpret the present persecutions and reassure the suffering communities that their faith in Jesus is not in vain. Jesus is with them and their wounds are his wounds. In his Gospel, John gives his reason for writing down the signs that Jesus worked: that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name. Our faith today, then, depends on the testimony of these first eyewitnesses who became faith witnesses.

In the Acts of the Apostles, we hear the testimony of that early community. People experienced the power of the risen Lord through the witness of life of Peter and his companions. They believed that Jesus was alive and active in and through them. Even the shadow of Peter brought healing, and the numbers of those who believed in the Lord increased steadily. The community experienced the presence of Jesus risen from the dead in the life and teaching of the apostles. They wrote down their experience of faith as the New Testament – so that their children and their children’s children might also believe and, believing, find life.

Application.- Today we are the recipients of two thousand years of faith-filled witness in the life of the Church. We, too, believe not just because we have been told. We have seen the difference that faith makes in people’s lives, in our own lives. We touch the wounds of Jesus as we respond with compassion to the needs of the world around us. We believe that whatsoever we do to the least of our brothers and sisters, we do for Christ. We believe that he reveals himself to us in the love that we receive from others and the love that we are able to give to others.

We are not in the business of spreading “fake news” in order to influence people and build a world for those who are rich and powerful. For us, the message of the Gospel is good news. Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. He continues to live and love, to bring healing and peace through the lives of his faithful disciples. Jesus so identifies with our broken humanity that the wounds of those who suffer today are his wounds. Whenever we reach out in compassion and kindness to touch and heal those wounds, our faith comes to life, so that we can pray with Thomas: “My Lord and my God!”

The Living Word

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way with our Holy Week and Easter ceremonies and celebrations. God bless you all!

Easter Flowers were donated in memory of: Jose & Blanca Chavez, Lilia & Felipe Viego, Annie Murphy, Nicholas Turro, Rosario & Ramon Ambulo, Benita, Severo, & Marina Maduramente, Lena & Richard Averso, Patrick & Irene Fleming, Edna Otter, Marianna McCarthy, Jack Kenny, living and deceased members of the Bonacci Family, Isabel, Manolito, and Buenaventura Manuez, Robert Murphy, the Eustace Clan, Lucy & Andy Cutro, Ernie & Jeanette Clemente, Jilma, Judith, Raquel, and Jesus Ortega and the Ortega Parra Family, Mary & Bernie Brogan, Toni & Tom Powers, Reynaldo & Victorio Gatal, Zaida Abanilla, Grandma Elisa and Grandpa Jesus, Cresencia and Luis Martinez, Guillerma Victorino, Corazon Castillo and Ilyong Salazar, John Joe, Anastasia Walsh and all deceased Family and Friends, Thomas & Margaret Mallon and all deceased Family and Friends, Sal Blasco, Margaret Connolly and the Jaeger, Rooney, Murphy, Cutro, Mule, Averso and Flynn Families.