



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: \$1,411.00

Thank you for your support.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Masses for the week of May 19 – May 25, 2019

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of SMA	
Sun. May 19	10:00	Maro Family (Mother/Father)	Rosa Ortaglia & Family
	12:00	Nancy Osborn+	Flynn Family
Mon. May 20	9:30	Nieva Alcazaren+	Daughter
	11:45	Julian Gomez+ & Purificacion Guinto+	Guinto Family
Tue. May 21	9:30	Catherine Hamill+	Friend
	11:45	Margaret Halpin+	Mr / Mrs. Emil Morin
Wed. May 22	9:30	Edward T. Mullins+	Kathleen Jaeger
	11:45	Sister. Maria Cote+	Sisters Agnes & Helene
Thurs. May 23	9:30	Louis Vierno+	
	11:45	Rolando Dumlaio+	Angela Hickey
Fri. May 24	9:30	Leticia Ricafrente Lawlor+	Lawlor Family
	11:45	James Kurpiel+ & Michael Peltier+	Michelle Supper
Sat. May 25	9:30	Henry Michalowski+	Richard & Lydia
	11:45	Feliciano Guinto+	Guinto Family

Today's Readings

First Reading Acts 14:21-27

Paul and Barnabas journey through Lystra and Iconium on their way to Antioch. As they do, they encourage all they meet to persevere in the faith, even in the face of hardship.

Second Reading Apocalypse 21:1-5

A new Jerusalem appears where God lives among humans. God will wipe away the tears from every eye and there will be no more death.

Gospel John 13:31-35

A new commandment given by Jesus, to love one another as he has loved us, will identify us as true disciples.

FLORES DE MAYO FESTIVAL

7 days—Rosary and
Novena to Mother Mary

Begins May 19, 2019, after
12 Noon Mass. Monday to
Friday at 7pm.

Ends with Procession at
4:00pm following by Mass
on MAY 25, 2019.

All are welcome!

“Love one another as I have loved you”

Illustration

There's a scene in the film Scott of the Antarctic when the people trying to be the first to reach the South Pole are facing increasingly unsurmountable difficulties. One, Captain Oates, has been finding the travel on foot increasingly painful and he knows he is slowing progress dramatically. One evening, while in their tent, Oates makes an announcement to the rest of the group which is a masterpiece of understatement: "I'm just going out and I may be some time." Of course, he will not return. He knows that and the others in the tent know that too.

There is something mysterious, poignant, even troubling when someone who is part of a gathered assembly is not present. In John's Gospel, the account of the appearance of the risen Christ in the room where the disciples are gathered is marked by the statement that Thomas was not present. We may be prompted to ask, "Why not?" The Gospel writer gives us no clue, so we must guess. Was the atmosphere in the room too oppressive for Thomas? Were those in the room afraid that Thomas was betraying them and their location in order to save his own skin? We just don't know. The setting in today's Gospel is that same room and, to begin with, the focus is on Judas.

Gospel Teaching

Today's Gospel begins with a summary statement: "When Judas had gone..." Four words which are so poignant. We know exactly what Judas is going to do, even though it is not spelled out for us: he goes to complete the process whereby he will betray Jesus to the authorities. The next time Jesus and Judas will meet is when Judas leads the guards sent by the chief priests and the Pharisees to the place where he knew Jesus would be. In four words, our Gospel passage for today reminds us of the role Judas will play in this narrative.

Those same four words also prompt us to recall what has already happened in the room that Judas has just left. There, after the meal was concluded, Jesus scandalised Peter by wanting to wash the feet of all present. In the ancient world washing the feet of another was a task for the lowliest of slaves. That's why Peter is so scandalised at Jesus' behaviour: his Lord wants to degrade himself totally by washing the feet of sinners. Judas was one of those whose feet were washed by Jesus.

As if that were not enough, Jesus then announces that one of them will betray him: the one to whom he will give the piece of bread that he shall dip in the cup. This has clear Eucharistic implications. When he gives Judas the piece of bread, he says, "What you are going to do, do quickly." Judas goes out – into the dark. Judas leaves the light of Christ to go into the dark of Jesus' enemies. But Jesus has just demonstrated his total love for every human being who ever did exist or ever will exist. His double outreach to Judas makes it plain that no one is excluded from Jesus' love.

Application

Jesus' actions are powerful, but they need some explanation. It comes in two forms. First, he says, "Now has the Son of Man been glorified, and in him God has been glorified." This statement means that in Jesus' actions we see the work of God. The Son of Man, in demonstrating such all-embracing and all-powerful love, is the manifestation and the reality of the very love of God. The ultimate expression and reality of God's love is when the Son of Man, who came not to condemn the world but so that through him the world might be saved, will make his ultimate, total and infinite act of love when he is lifted up on the cross. There is no possible fuller expression of God's love than this.

The story does not end there, however. Jesus issues a commandment – for his disciples to love one another as he has loved us. But how can love be commanded? If love is only seen as emotional, then it cannot be commanded, but God's love is God's total commitment. When we love as Jesus has loved us – by total commitment to any and all children of God – we make God's love visible. We show ourselves to be Jesus' representatives on earth – his disciples.