



Society of African Missions

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



Administration:

Fr Ranees A. Rayappan,
Provincial Superior
Fr Dermot Roache,
House Superior

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. Dermot Roache
201-567-0450 Ext. 212

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

African Art Museum

Open daily. Contact:
Fr. James McConnell
201-567-0450 Ext. 242
Fr. Michael Bova
201-567-0450 Ext. 207

Sunday Collections: \$1,010.00

Thank you for your support.

THANK YOU

To everyone who made
the Karaoke Night a great
event, especially the
SMA Choir.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Masses for the week of DECEMBER 8—DECEMBER 14, 2019

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of SMA	
Sun. Dec. 8	10:00	Special Intentions Fr Gustavo Buccilli	
	12:00	SMA Foundation Day	
Mon. Dec. 9	9:30	Irene Iannone+ (20th Anniv.)	Diane/Mike Bruno
	11:45	Teresa Michalowska+	Richard & Lydia
Tue. Dec. 10	9:30	Salvatore Di Paolo+	Martha Di Paolo
	11:45	Special Intentions Fr Michael Moran	
Wed. Dec. 11	9:30	Thomas P. Dougherty+	Kathleen Jaeger
	11:45	Virgil and Laura Costa+	Victoria Ann Costa
Thurs. Dec. 12	9:30	John Loughlin+	Ann Marie Loughlin
	11:45	Janina Mojak+	Richard & Lydia
Fri. Dec. 13	9:30	Lucy Buongiorno+	
	11:45	Robert H. Jaeger+	Kathleen Jaeger
Sat. Dec. 14	9:30	Vincent Murphy+	Michael Murphy
	11:45	John & Doris Neville+ (Wedding Anniversary)	Neville Family

Today's Readings

First Reading Isaiah 11:1-10

The spirit of the Lord will rest on the offspring of Jesse, and he will judge the wretched with integrity.

Second Reading Romans 15:4-9

Christ came to bring salvation to all, pagans as well as Jews.

Gospel Matthew 3:1-12

John the Baptist calls us to prepare the way for the Lord through baptism and repentance.

REFLECTION

On this second week of Advent we are given the person of St. John the Baptist to reflect on. What a gift he is! Jesus stated that, "Among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist." That is quite a statement coming from our Lord and Savior Jesus Himself.

One can ask the question of what made John so great? Two things come to the forefront; the first has to do with his calling and second has to do with his tremendous humility. Regarding his calling, The Canticle of Zechariah, which all of us who pray the Liturgy of the Hours are familiar with, provides some insight. John was great because he was the transition from the Old Testament prophets to the New Testament. He was the bridge that prepared for the new life to come. He was to prepare the way for Jesus calling us to repent of our sins and thus his unique mission makes him great.

However, it is his gift of humility that may be the most inspirational and helpful to us in our own lives. When asked who he was he replied, "I am a voice who cries out in the desert make straight the path of the Lord." John even acknowledged that he was not worthy to strap the sandals of Jesus. He was praised and followed by many but he continuously said of Jesus, "I must decrease he must increase." He knew his role, and his place in the history of salvation. His mission was to point everyone to the Savior of the world. John the Baptist created quite a stir in Israel and he could have taken his praise and perhaps even become a king but his humility kept him focused on Jesus and his mission even to the point of his cruel death.

True humility in our own lives is not about self-deprecating humor or saying that we are not worthy or always deflecting compliments. It is more a true realization that everyone does matter. It is a realization that Jesus the Christ resides in the homeless person on the street and needs to be treated as such. It is not seeking the praise of others but acknowledging it gracefully when it naturally comes. It involves having an attitude of gratitude to God for the good things that come in our lives and a focus on serving others. When we think of humility in these terms then we too point to Jesus and not to us because to advance in our spiritual lives we must also say, I must decrease and Jesus must increase.

Fr Michael Bova, SMA

MASS INTENTION BOOK

The book for announced Mass is open.

SYMPATHY: Mrs. Mary Laird, our long time friend , passed away November 28. May She Rest In Peace.

SAVE THESE DATES...

Saturday, December 14 at 8pm
God's Mercy is Here!

Please join us for a powerful holy hour of
praise and worship.

SMA Chapel

**December 9, SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY. Masses 8:00, 9:30 and 11:45 am**

SIMBANG GABI SA MISSION

DECEMBER 21, Holy Mass at 5:00pm

Please join us. Fellowship after Mass—SMA Hall

The Knights of Columbus Council #1345 of Bergenfield/Dumont

New Year's Eve Party - December 31st from 8PM-1AM we will be hosting our New Year's Eve party with **LIVE ENTERTAINMENT** provided by **The R&B Show** to ring in the new year playing all your favorites from classic selections to today's top hits. Only \$95 per person includes passed hot hors d'oeuvres, buffet dinner with choice of 8 different entrees, assorted dessert bar, coffee, tea, open bar, and a midnight champagne toast. Watch the ball drop with us on the big screen in our dining room this year! **RSVP REQUIRED** by calling or texting Ken A. at 516-220-9333 or emailing KofC1345Reservations@gmail.com. **ADVANCE PAYMENT** required. Make check payable to Twin-Boro Columbian Club and mail to Ken Armellino, 60 Dance Blvd, Dumont, NJ 07628. **EARLY PAY EXTENDED. PAY BY 12/5 and pay only \$85 per person.**