



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: \$1,274

Thank you for your support.

Please remember to support your
 local Parishes.

**Stations of the Cross:
 Fridays during Lent at
 7:30pm**

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Masses for the week of MARCH 8—MARCH 14, 2020

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of the SMA	
Sun. March 8	10:00	John Paladino+	Martha Paladino
	12:00	Teresa Michalowska+	Richard & Lydia
Mon. March 9	9:30	Laura & Assoero Passarelli+	Enrico & Filomena Saliturno
	11:45	Cola F. Story+	Neary Family
Tue. March 10	9:30	Bridget McGowan+	G. McGowan
	11:45	Adeline Fantozzi+	Mary Fischbach
Wed. March 11	9:30	Marko Gjini (Liv.)	
	11:45	Dorothy Stimpfel+	Breda & Benny Walsh
Thurs. March 12	9:30	Oresti Gjini+ (Liv.)	
	11:45	Kathleen Cunnion+	Angela Hickey
Fri. March 13	9:30	Fr Daniel Lynch, SMA+	Hanna & Mary Lee
	11:45	Mildred & George Zweisdak+	Rosemarie & Stephanie Micklas
Sat. March 14	9:30	Gjin Gjini (Liv.)	
	11:45	Josephine Loughlin+	Angela Hickey & Family

Today's Readings

First Reading Genesis 12:1-4

Abraham is called by the Lord to leave his home and travel to a new land where he and his descendants will be blessed.

Second Reading 2 Timothy 1:8-10

St Paul had to bear hardships for the sake of the Gospel, relying on the power of God, and invites us to be willing to do the same.

Gospel Matthew 17:1-9

Jesus is transfigured in heavenly glory, along with the prophets Moses and Elijah.

APRIL 26, 2020

SMA LUNCHEON

\$25 per person

After the 12 O'clock Mass. Mission Hall 23 Bliss Ave. Tenafly, NJ 07670

Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, “Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.”

Whatever Peter or we may have been thinking, that is, there is only one thing that is needful: to listen to him, the beloved One. By the transfiguration the Apostles encounter the glory of the Lord and their faith was reinforced. Unless we truly encounter Jesus, we cannot speak about Him to people. My formation in the Society of African Missions (SMA) helped me to be a good listener of God’s Word.

It took 9 years and each year was crucial in my encounter with the Lord. I am a happy missionary today and I thank all my formators who helped me throughout my formation process. I want share with you this process that made me who I am.

The Society of African Missions started recruiting Africans since 1983.

Philosophy

After my initial contacts with the vocation director I was invited to visit some SMA missions. I met SMA missionaries and I asked questions. They were kind, simple and open. I was much touched by their dedication to the cause of the Gospel. After a year of discernment, I was informed by the leader of the SMA’s in Togo that I was accepted for training in the SMA with a three years philosophy at Abidjan in Ivory Coast.

During these years I lived at the SMA House of formation. There I undertook studies to familiarize myself with the life and mission of the community I want to join for life.

International Spiritual Year (ISY)

After Philosophy I was promoted to the ISY programme at Centre Brésillac, Calavi in the Benin Republic. Named after the SMA Founder (Bishop Melchior de Marion Brésillac) the ISY was opportunity for me to 1.-deepen my personal relationship with Jesus Christ 2.-to reflect on and develop my vocation 3.-to get a greater understanding of the Society’s mission and history and 4.-to prepare for my first missionary commitment

Pastoral Year Experience in the Parish

At the end of the ISY I was admitted as temporary member of the Society of African Missions for a one-year period. During that year I was assigned to an experienced SMA priest in Nigeria to observe the work of a missionary priest in his parish. I was also given tasks to do in the parish. It was an opportunity for a ‘hands-on’ experience of missionary life.



Theology Studies

At the end of the Pastoral Year Experience, I asked to be permitted to renew my temporary membership. Those responsible for the formation deemed me fit to renew my membership for a further year. (The renewal of yearly commitments takes place until one reaches his final year of Theology when he asks to be admitted as a permanent member of the Society).

After my pastoral year experience, I was assigned to SMA house of studies in Nairobi, Kenya for 4 years theology. I attended classes at Tangaza, a constituent College of the University of East Africa.

The house of studies in Nairobi has an international flavor with SMA students from all over Africa as well as those from Ireland, India and Poland.

Towards the end of my theological studies I decided to make a life commitment to the SMA and requested membership in the Society and ordination as a deacon. When all the necessary assessments have been done – by the SMA Formation House staff and my Superior and Council the application is forwarded to the SMA Superior General and Council for consideration. I was accepted for permanent membership. I took a Promise to remain in the SMA for life and to accept the tasks entrusted to him by my Superiors.

The following year I returned to my country for the priestly ordination. After my holiday with family and friends I left my own and took up my first appointment.

Fr Julien Esse, SMA Vocations Director

Saturday, **March 14**, 2020 — SMA Chapel — **8PM**
Please join us for a holy hour of praise and worship.

Irish Night - Saturday March 21 7PM-11PM. St. John’s Council #1345
RSVP REQUIRED by calling or texting Ken A. at 516-220-9333
or emailing KofC1345Reservations@gmail.com. \$35 per person