



# Society of African Missions

23 Bliss Avenue  
 Tenafly, NJ 07670  
 Phone: 201-567-0450  
 Visit our website  
[www.smafathers.org](http://www.smafathers.org)



### Administration:

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

### Mass Schedule

Sundays  
 10:00 am; 12 noon  
Weekdays & Holy Days  
 11:45 am  
Christmas & New Year's Day  
 10:00 am; 12 noon

### Confessions

By appointment. Contact  
 Fr Dermot Roache 201-567-0450 Ext 212

### Bereavement & Visit to the Sick

Contact Fr. Dermot Roache  
 201-567-0450 Ext. 212

### Perpetual Mass Association

Office open Monday-Friday  
 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

### S.M.A. Vocation Office

Fr. Eliecer Sandoval, SMA  
 551-449-4357

### Sunday Collection: \$887

Thank you for your support.

Please remember to support  
 your local parishes.

## FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

### Masses for the week of March 21, 2021 - March 27, 2021

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
<b>Sun.-Sat.</b>	<b>8:00</b>	<b>Liv &amp; Dec Benefactors of the SMA</b>	
Sun. March 21	10:00	Catherine M. Hamill+	Friend
	12:00	Eugeniusz Kaminski+	Lorraine Chiorazzi
Mon. March 22	9:30	Fr. Seraphim Michalenko, MIC+	
	11:45	Maria Elizabeth Tietjen+	Family
Tue. March 23	9:30	Lauren Widner+	Martha DiPaolo
	11:45	Maureen McDonald+	Friend
Wed. March 24	9:30	Carlito Rapada+ Eva Camba+	
	11:45	Laura & Virgil Costa+	Victoria Costa
Thurs. March 25	9:30	Fe Tolentino+	Erlinda Cortez
	11:45	Catherine M. Hamill+	Friend
Fri. March 26	9:30	Fr. John Robinson+	Friend
	11:45	Rose Peltier BD+ Joyce Supper+	Michelle Supper
Sat. March 27	9:30	Ferdi Unciano, Myrna Domingo (Healing)	
	11:45	Fr. Tom Hamill+	Sister

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

There will be Stations  
 of the Cross in the  
 Chapel each Friday  
 during Lent at 7:30pm

### Today's Readings:

#### *First Reading Jeremiah 31:31-34*

*Jeremiah reminds us of the Lord's "new covenant" with his people.*

#### *Second Reading Hebrews 5:7-9*

*Christ submits humbly to suffering and, having been made perfect, becomes the source of our salvation.*

#### *Gospel John 12:20-33*

*Jesus prays to God his Father that his "hour" will be for the glory of God.*

## **“But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour.”**

### **Illustration**

*Macmillan Cancer Support is a UK charity offering health care, information and support to people with cancer. One of their suggestions is that young parents who will not recover from cancer might think about leaving a “memory box” so that their children will remember them and know how much they loved them in the years to come.*

*This memory box can hold things that are special to the one who has died and might include photos, some favourite music, letters or a recorded message. These objects and messages can help remind their children and loved ones of happy times they spent together and offer them some comfort. Such a memory box would be, to echo words used in the first reading today, a way of writing the name of the departed one on the hearts of those left behind. Quite often such memory boxes will also offer hope for the future of the beloved children and a vision of what their parent would like their lives to be.*

### **Gospel Teaching**

*In today’s Gospel, we could say that Jesus is also offering a type of “memory box” to his disciples. Firstly, as with someone who is leaving their family behind, we see Jesus’ human struggle to leave those he has grown to love. Secondly, we are offered a glimpse of Jesus’ hopes for his disciples’ future and the hope that, when he is glorified, he will once again draw all his disciples to himself.*

*Jesus is sharing the reality of his impending death with his disciples, and in doing so explains it in a way that will make sense to them. He tells them that “unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain”. But if it dies, “it yields a rich harvest”. Jesus is that grain of wheat, that small, single grain from which the kingdom of God is to grow on earth. Jesus has to die in order for the Father’s kingdom of peace, love and justice to flourish. This dying is not easy and Jesus tells us that his “soul is troubled”. Letting go costs Jesus, just as it costs us in our daily lives. Yet, with the Father’s word of love written on his heart, Jesus finds the courage to say, “it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour”. Jesus is given the grace to see that his sacrifice is worthwhile. He is able to stretch out his arms on the cross, thereby revealing the love that the Father has for each one of us – a love so great that he gives up his only Son that we might be healed and have life to the full.*

*What might this say to us as followers of Christ? There are two elements in this Gospel story which are part of all our lives: love and sacrifice. This same word of the Father’s love is written on our hearts too. It is written in his great generosity in sacrificing his only Son for each one of us. As we know, when we love someone, it is easier to sacrifice something of ourselves for them. We might ask ourselves: are we to make sacrifices only for those whom we love? Is that what Jesus did? Or are we called to do as he did and to offer our love to all who need it? This can be a real sacrifice which, if we offer it, will trouble our souls. It will involve a great effort but will glorify the Father. It is loving as Christ did.*

The Living Word

**NOTE.-** Mass intentions still available. The 9:30am Mass intentions are being honored in private by our Priests.

**Please Note:** There will not be outdoor Stations of the Cross on Good Friday at the Missionary Franciscan Sisters property in Tenafly. Concerns over the Covid-19 Virus still make it necessary to ask people **NOT** to come on our land even to pray at this time. We are sorry, but must protect the Sisters and others. Thank you. Sr. Pat Coyle and Sr. Veronica Weygand.

**CONDOLENCES.-** The SMA Fathers send our sympathy to the Buonomo Family in the passing of Florence Buonomo. May She Rest in Peace.