



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
 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: \$785

Thank you for your support.

Please remember to support
 your local parishes.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Masses for the week of March 14, 2021 - March 20, 2021

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of the SMA	
Sun. March 14	10:00	Mary Jean Quinn+	Lisa McCarthy
	12:00	Edmund Jastrzembski+	Lorraine Chiorazzi
Mon. March 15	9:30	Mary Sozio+	Susan & Bob Iacullo
	11:45	Rosalba V. de Moreno+	Flor & Lito Bautista
Tue. March 16	9:30	Fr. Seraphim Michalenko, MIC+	
	11:45	Robert J. Jaeger+	Kathleen Jaeger
Wed. March 17	9:30	Karen T Forgrave Happy Birthday	
	11:45	Jack Kenny+	Mae Kenny & Family
Thurs. March 18	9:30	Andrej Mikulak+	Family
	11:45	Fr. Eamon Treanor+	Friend
Fri. March 19	9:30	Guiseppe & Carmela Saliturno+	Enrico & Filomena Saliturno
	11:45	Fr. Henry Sharp+	Rich Kane
Sat. March 20	9:30	Thomas & Jessica Lee Family (Liv.)	Thomas & Jessica Lee
	11:45	Abitante & Falotico Families+	

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 2 Chronicles 36:14-16. 19-23

Israel's sinfulness brings destruction on Jerusalem and years of exile; the Lord's intervention, though Persian king Cyrus, brings an end to exile and offers the possibility of homecoming.

Second Reading Ephesians 4:2-10

We are God's "work of art"; though marred by sin, we are restored as a new creation through God's loving goodness, shown in Christ.

Gospel John 3:14-21

Jesus, hanging lifeless on a cross, is the supreme sign that he came into our world out of love and in order to save us.

“God loved us with so much love.”

Illustration

It was midway through Lent and an elderly man slipped into the confessional box. He humbly confessed his sins, but after he had left the confessional, he somehow gave the impression that there was something more he needed to say. “Is there anything else?” the priest gently enquired. “As a matter of fact,” the man replied, “there is. You see, I normally have a tot of whisky before I go to bed. This Lent I decided I’d give up the drink till Easter Sunday. And I’ve kept that promise right up to now.” “Well, that’s a wonderful effort,” said the priest. “Tomorrow is Laetare Sunday, and that means we’re already halfway through Lent; it’ll soon be Easter. You must be very pleased.” “I don’t know, Father,” came the reply. “You see, if I go without the drink much longer, I’m afraid I might lose my taste for the stuff altogether.”

Whatever we think about that, our reason for rejoicing today is not that we have made it to the halfway mark of Lent, but rather that today we hear readings that bring us the most incredible news we could ever hear. It’s as though the Church is asking us to raise our eyes and look to the future; to think of the extraordinary events that we’ll soon be celebrating, events that form the climax of the Church’s liturgical year, the suffering, death and glorious resurrection of our beloved Lord.

Gospel Teaching

In the Gospel Jesus refers to an ancient story that would be well known to his Jewish audience. It tells how the people of Israel, while trudging through the desert on their way to the Promised Land, were beset by poisonous snakes that caused many deaths. Moses was inspired to fashion a snake in bronze and set it on a standard, promising that whoever looked up at it with faith would be healed. Today Jesus declares that he himself, the “Son of Man”, must be lifted up just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert. As Christians, it’s hard for us to hear those words without our thoughts immediately switching to Calvary and to the cross of crucifixion. Upon it there hangs not a lifeless symbol, like the bronze snake, but the living, tortured body of God’s only Son, and there is a divine promise that whoever looks towards him in faith will enjoy eternal life.

The scene on Calvary speaks eloquently of how much God loves us. In the simple yet powerful words of John, the Gospel writer, “God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son.” Calvary is the supreme proof that our God is a God of love, a God who in the person of God’s Son came into this world not to condemn but to save. What Jesus came to save us from is sin. Sin – it’s such a tiny word, but, like an infinitesimally small virus, it represents a hidden enemy which is capable of causing catastrophic damage and, in the end, can leave us skulking forever in the dark instead of living in the joy of the light.

The Living Word

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

CONDOLENCES.- The SMA Fathers send our sympathy to the Quinn Family in the passing of Carmel Quinn. She died peacefully in her home surrounded by family on March 6, 2021. May She Rest in Peace.