



# Society of African Missions

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



## 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: \$1,271

Thank you for your support.

Please remember to support  
your local parishes.

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

**NOTE:** Saturday, April

10, **8:00pm** Holy Hour.

Sunday, April 11—Divine  
Mercy Sunday **3:00pm** –  
Adoration, confessions,  
chaplet and praise.

## Administration:

**Fr Ranees A. Rayappan,**  
Provincial Superior

**Fr Dermot Roache,**  
House Superior

## PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Masses for the week of March 28, 2021 - April 3, 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 28	10:00	Stefania Michalowska+	Richard & Lydia
	12:00	Maria Gva Paas+ Virgie Boy Pass	Linda Rubio
Mon. March 28	9:30	George Henry Hutchinson+	Charmeuri Hutchinson
	11:45	Maria R. Valdes+	Friend
Tue. March 30	9:30	Lauren N. Forgrave — Happy Birthday	
	11:45	John Miller+	Diane & Mike Bruno
Wed. March 31	9:30	Vincent Pruzinsky (Liv.)	Family
	11:45	Antonio Fernandez+	Daughters
<b>HOLY THURSDAY</b>		<b>8pm Mass</b>	
<b>April 1</b>			
<b>GOOD FRIDAY</b>		<b>11:45am Stations of the Cross - 3pm Passion of the Lord</b>	
<b>April 2</b>			
<b>HOLY SATURDAY</b>		<b>8pm Vigil Mass</b>	
<b>April 3</b>			

## Today's Readings:

**First Reading** *Isaiah 50:4-7*

*The Lord does not cover his face against insult and spittle.*

**Second Reading** *Philippians 2:6-11*

*God raised him high, so that every tongue should proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord.*

**Gospel** *Mark 14:1 – 15:47*

*Mark tells the story of the passion and death of Jesus Christ.*

# “My God, my God, why have you deserted me?”

## **Illustration**

*It is said that the quality of a country's civilisation may be measured by its treatment of its needy people and minorities. Such treatment is expressed through its laws but also in the general attitudes and behaviour of the population. Sometimes the laws are harsh and discriminatory, yet the people are welcoming and compassionate, but more often the two reflect each other. When we ask who are the people in need and who the minorities are, the reply might surprise us. To begin with there are those who are suffering physically as well as mentally. What sort of health services does a country have? How available are they to all inhabitants? How does the country treat immigrants, refugees or ethnic minorities? Does it welcome them or keep them as second-class citizens? Then there are groups that may not immediately spring to mind but equally lack power and position. How do the courts of justice and the prison system work? What about the treatment of religious minorities and LGBT people? What concern is shown for those who are elderly or the unborn, for children and women? The latter cannot be said to be a minority, but both the laws of a land and historical customs can sometimes fail to treat them as people with equal rights and dignity. So how many countries can truly be described as civilised by these criteria? And what changes need to be implemented to encourage them in the right direction?*

## **Gospel Teaching**

*The accounts of the passion of Jesus in all four Gospels tell the same story but with subtle differences. The differences in Mark's account are perhaps less noticeable in comparison with the accounts in the other Gospels than in comparison with the rest of his own Gospel. In Mark's Gospel, Jesus is a man of action. He is on the move, teaching and preaching, healing and feeding the multitudes. But once Judas has handed Jesus over, once he has betrayed him, the man of action disappears and we are faced with someone who is on the receiving end of others' words and actions, most of which are hostile and violent.*

*In Mark, Jesus only speaks three times after his betrayal. The first two occasions are to state the truth of his identity in the face of questions from the high priests and then Pontius Pilate. Finally there are the words on the cross: “My God, my God, why have you deserted me?” Was Jesus quoting a psalm or was he expressing the utter extremity of his experience of abandonment? We need to remember that Mark was writing for an audience that was experiencing its own torture and persecution. Was he trying to reassure them that Jesus himself had passed this way before them, letting go of everything that might have seemed to alleviate his distress? What do we learn for our benefit today?*

The Living Word

## **NOTE FROM THE KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS**

### **DEAL OR NO DEAL 50/50 RAFFLE - ONLY 200 TICKETS AVAILABLE!**

St. John's Council #1345 along with the Columbiettes is hosting a Deal or no Deal 50/50 Raffle drawing April 25th at 2PM, with a grand prize possible of \$5,000. **Only 200 tickets** are being sold at \$50 each. **WINNER NEED NOT BE PRESENT** (drawing will be livestreamed). If you are not familiar with how these raffles work, the tickets are drawn one at a time to eliminate people, with periodic consolation prizes given. When there are only 2 tickets left, it is Deal or No Deal time. The two finalists then have the option to agree to split the single final prize evenly, or if they do not agree, a single grand prize winner will be chosen. **If you are interested in tickets, please call, text, or email Grand Knight Ken Armellino at 516-220-9333 or [KofC1345reservations@gmail.com](mailto:KofC1345reservations@gmail.com) and we will arrange to get you a ticket.**