



Society of African Missions

“The Mission”

23 Bliss Avenue
Tenafly, NJ 07670
Phone: 201-567-0450
Visit our website
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 Frank Wright

201-567-0450 Ext 225

Bereavement & Visit to the

Sick

Contact Fr. Frank Wight

201-450-6586

Perpetual Mass Association

Office open Monday-Friday
from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm

S.M.A. Vocation Office

Fr Dermot Roache, SMA

Director

201-256-0450 Ext. 253

Fr. Eliecer Sandoval, SMA

551-449-4357

Sunday Collection: \$1,082

Thank you for your support.

Please remember to support
your local parishes.

Administration:

Fr Ranees A. Rayappan,
Provincial Superior

Fr Frank Wright,
House Superior

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Masses for the week of October 31, 2021 – November 6, 2021

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of the SMA	
Sun. Oct. 31	10:00	Beatrice & Stephen McLaughlin+	Bernadette & John McCabe
	12:00	Salvatore Di Paolo+	Martha Di Paolo
Mon. Nov. 1	9:30	Matthew Elliott+	
	11:45	Stefania & Jan Michalowski+	Richard & Lydia
Tue. Nov. 2	9:30	All Deceased Family Members	Enrico & Filomena Saliturno
	11:45	Deceased Members of Sarner Family	Victoria Costa
Wed. Nov. 3	9:30	Thomas Matthew Elliott+	
	11:45	Joseph Abitante+	
Thurs. Nov. 4	9:30	Joseph Lee (Liv.)	Mariana Cho
	11:45	Joseph Falotico+	
Fri. Nov. 5	9:30	Sadie Paladino+	
	11:45	Spec. Int. of Neill & Forgrave Families	
Sat. Nov. 6	9:30	Spec. Int. of Neill & Forgrave Families	
	11:45	Spec. Int. of Stoever & Mongiello Families	

Today's Readings:

First Reading Deuteronomy 6:2-6

The call to love God with all we are is to be written on our hearts.

Second Reading Hebrews 7:23-28

Christ is the high priest who delivers the people from their sins.

Gospel Mark 12:28-34

The greatest commandment is love.

ALL SOULS

INTENTIONS

The lists with the names of our deceased loved ones will be placed in the main altar for the whole month of November. Please bring the All Souls intentions as soon as possible.

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time Reflection

The first reading for this weekend is from the Torah, the first five books of the Hebrew Scriptures, and specifically it is from Deuteronomy, a Greek word that means “the second law.” Now it may surprise you to hear that there was a second law in the Bible; however, the Jewish people knew that laws had to be rewritten sometimes to deal with new situations and new understandings. In the Book of Deuteronomy, there were significant changes in the laws governing slavery compared to earlier statutes.

Why would the people be so anxious to be given a law code to begin with? I mean, most of the time, we’d like to be able to do without laws and regulations, statutes and decrees. Most of the time we want to just get on with our lives and not complicate them with the minutiae of legal systems. (At least until we need to make use of them ourselves!)

Maybe it will help us to understand the Law Codes in the Old Testament if we remember that the Jewish people see themselves as called, as chosen, as the chosen people. They wanted to be told how to live their lives in accordance with a higher state of holiness. How could they be God’s people, if they didn’t organize themselves to live as God’s people?

We Catholics are familiar with this idea. We call it “vocation”, what we are called to be. And for us, it not only comes to us as the people of God (Vatican II), but it also comes to us as individuals, so that we feel that we have a vocation to the married state, to the religious life, to the priesthood, or the single state. We feel we have a vocation to teaching, to serving the public, to the health professions, or making our world a safer place to live in.

We are chosen by God for our vocation, and yes, it may change over time. It represents a kind of special humility or humble specialness. And if we aspire to this special state, which we refer to as a vocation, then we know that we have to live worthily in that state. Yes, there are some laws that we have to live by, if we want to live as God’s people.

One way to do this is to delve deeply into the Scriptures, to immerse ourselves in the Word of God. Another way is to pay attention to how the Church of today deals with the new challenges that beset this world of ours. Instead of referring to today’s interpretation as the Second Law, perhaps we can just admit that following God in our integrity is always a new adventure.

By Fr Frank Wright, SMA