



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: \$1,084

Thank you for your support.

Please remember to support
your local parishes.

Administration:

Fr Ranees A. Rayappan,
Provincial Superior

Fr Frank Wright,
House Superior

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Masses for the week of November 28, 2021 – December 4, 2021

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of the SMA	
Sun. Nov. 28	10:00	Special Intentions Josefina Martinez (Liv.)	
	12:00	Maria R. Valdes+	Friend
Mon. Nov. 29	9:30	Mary Laird+	Friend
	11:45	Jake Otterstedt+	Ciotti Family
Tue. Nov. 30	9:30	John McKay+	Friend
	11:45	Leticia Ricafrente Lawler+	John Lawler
Wed. Dec. 1	9:30	Todd Alsberge (Liv.)	Maryann Pruzinsky
	11:45	Giuseppe & Carmela Saliturno+	Enrico & Filomena Saliturno
Thurs. Dec. 2	9:30	Mauricia Bontuyan+	Family
	11:45	Abitante & Falotico Families+	
Fri. Dec. 3	9:30	Special Intentions Neill & Forgrave Families	
	11:45	Special Intentions Stoever, Mongiello & Lukchis Families	
Sat. Dec. 4	9:30	Special Intentions Neill & Forgrave Families	
	11:45	Dijohn Rubio (Liv.)	Linda Rubio

Today's Readings:

First Reading *Jeremiah 33:14-16*

The prophet looks forward to a time when honesty and integrity will flourish.

Second Reading *1 Thessalonians 3:12 – 4:2*

Paul urges the Christian community to live the life that God wants.

Gospel *Luke 21:25-28. 34-36*

Jesus tells his disciples that despite the world's troubles and turmoil, liberation is close at hand.

Fr. Frank's Corner 1 Advent 2021

Something great is going to take place. That's what the readings are about on this, the first Sunday of Advent. Although, in this Advent season, we are going to be focused on a little speck on the earth, where Jesus was born, on Bethlehem, the least of the cities of the tribe of Ephraim, notice that the stage for the incarnation is not one small little town, unknown to the kings of the earth, but rather the stage extends to the four corners of the earth, to the heights and depths of God's creation, to the Universe itself.

One of the Latin hymns that is sung during the Advent season is entitled "Creator of the Stars of Night." When I was working in Butte, MT about ten years ago, I had one of our local artists, Mary Creech, execute a giant banner/painting with the stars splashed onto the blue heavens. It looked like what we can see through the Hubbell telescope. And then I hung it from the balcony in St. John the Evangelist Church, just to remind us that the intimacy that we long for on Christmas Eve, when Mary gives birth to Jesus, takes place on the world stage.

Try walking out under the stars at night and looking up. If you know any of the constellations, pick them out. If you're smart enough to know the difference between a planet and a star among the heavenly lights, name them. And then remind yourself that all this, which your eyes gaze upon, is the venue and the locus of the incarnation.

It is good for us to hold in tandem these two extremes—the stable in Bethlehem and the unimaginably vast starlit sky shining above our snow-covered earth—because we have recently been made aware, in the midst of the COVID crisis, that we live in one world, and that we inhabit one earth, and that what happens in one place will shortly reproduce itself in another, and eventually everywhere.

Advent is a time to stop for a moment and consider our own place on this blue, earthly home of ours and in the Universe. We want to step back and take not only the long view in time, but also the wide view in space, of our life and its meaning in the larger scheme of things. These moments of reflection are what a friend of mine, who used to be an editor for National Public Radio, called "aha" moments, or maybe even "driveway moments." You know, that point in time, when you reach home and you have a moment or two to yourself, while you sit in the car, to catch your breath, before you head for the lights shining in your house windows.

And when we take advantage of those moments to let the world in all its mystery and complexity sink into us, it is at that moment that we can place the minutiae of our lives, and Jesus's birth in Bethlehem, in the context of God's plan for our salvation.

By Fr Frank Wright, SMA