



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: \$1,240
Thank you for your support.

Please remember to support
your local parishes.

Administration:

Fr Ranees A. Rayappan,
Provincial Superior
Fr Frank Wright,
House Superior

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Masses for the week of February 20, 2022 – February 26, 2022

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of the SMA	
Sun. Feb. 20	10:00	Daniel Jose+	Flor & Lito Bautista
	12:00	Jim Higgins+	Diane & Mike Bruno
Mon. Feb. 21	9:30	Bill Moran+ Anniversary	Jinnie Moran
	11:45	Louise Paluccitand+ Joseph McNulty+	Lucita & Richard Lipuma
Tue. Feb. 22	9:30	Michael R. Desrochers+	
	11:45	Catherine M. Hamill+	Friend
Wed. Feb. 23	9:30	Susan McKay+	
	11:45	Dorothy Stimpfel+	Breda Walsh
Thurs. Feb. 24	9:30	John McKay+	
	11:45	Norman Tavares+	Breda Walsh
Fri. Feb. 25	9:30	Jessica Lee (Liv.) Birthday	Thomas & Jessica Lee Family
	11:45	Robert Murphy+	Sue Murphy
Sat. Feb. 26	9:30	John & Edythe Sheehy+	
	11:45	Holy Souls in Purgatory	Victoria Ann Costa

Today’s Readings:

First Reading 1 Samuel 26:2. 7-9. 12-13. 22-23

Though the king set out with an army to kill him, David refrained from harming Saul, even when the opportunity presented itself.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 15:45-49

Human beings have bodies. Yet a physical being may become spiritually minded and bear the image of Christ.

Gospel Luke 6:27-38

Those who are truly God’s children resemble their heavenly Father in showing indiscriminate kindness, even towards their worst enemies.

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time Reflection

The second reading, which we heard this morning, is from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians. The letter seems to lose itself in all this talk about the natural man and the spiritual man, uneasily placed between the old Adam and the new Adam (Jesus Christ.) ... When I read things like that, my eyes begin to glaze over, and I'm tempted to skip ahead to something more interesting. At a certain point, too much talk like that, and it all looks like gobbledygook. Who cares?

However, if we take our time with this reading, we might see that it actually has a lot to say about the way we see ourselves. What do I mean here? For some of the people of Paul's time, they thought they were spirits that had come down to earth. The natural person was inferior to the spiritual person; in fact, you didn't really have to worry too much about the natural person (unless you were going to die), because it/he/she doesn't really count in the long run. For some folks, this translated into the idea that our bodies could do whatever they wished (Don't let your imagination run away with you here!), because the spiritual being was unaffected by what our bodies did. ... Paul would have none of this; he sticks very closely to the account of creation in Genesis, to the idea that we are created by God as his creatures, enlivened by the breath of his Spirit.

Here is a question to ponder: are we then two separate beings trapped inside one person? Is there a good "me" and a bad "me", one synonymous with this physical body, and a spiritual one that yearns to break free of this earthly existence? The answer is "no." Or perhaps I should write it "NO." The idea is contrary to what we Christians say about the world and about ourselves; namely, we are made in the image and likeness of God—every last bit of us, both what we call material or physical and what we call spiritual. The relationship between the two is akin to the image that the poet W.B. Yeats gives us when he asks, "How can you tell the dancer from the dance?"

Our task as "enfleshed spirit" is to grow into our full stature as human beings. How do we do this? Well, by responding to God's initiative, by being the kindest, most compassionate human being that we can become, by being fully alive in Christ. As Christians, it means that we grow into active members of the Body of Christ. ... Granted, there's a long road ahead of us, and we shall not see our journey's end, our complete transformation, until Jesus, the new Adam, comes again in his glory and all the dead in Christ will rise. But neither should we lose heart on that account.

By Fr. Frank Wright, SMA