



# Society of African Missions

## “The Mission”

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. 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: \$1,552**  
Thank you for your support.  
Please remember to support  
your local parishes.

### Administration:

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

## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

### Masses for the week of March 13, 2022 – March 19, 2022

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
<b>Sun.-Sat.</b>	<b>8:00</b>	<b>Liv &amp; Dec Benefactors of the SMA</b>	
Sun. March 13	10:00	Cutro & Clemente Families	Maria & Ron Cutro
	12:00	Benedict Walsh+	Breda Walsh
Mon. March 14	9:30	Muriel Gawlik+	
	11:45	Andrej Mikulak+	Family
Tue. March 15	9:30	James McGoldrick+	
	11:45	Mary Sozio+	Susan & Bob Iacullo
Wed. March 16	9:30	Happy Birthday Karen T. Forgrave (Liv.)	
	11:45	Fr Eamon Treanor+	Friend
Thurs. March 17	9:30	Happy St Patrick’s Day	Mary Quinn & Family
	11:45	Martin Cooley+	Michael Murphy
Fri. March 18	9:30	Dec. Members of the Guiney Family	
	11:45	Mary & Bill Fox	
Sat. March 19	9:30	Giuseppi & Carmela Saliturno+	Enrico & Filomena Family
	11:45	Rean Quito, Bobby Lara (Liv.)	Linda Rubio

### **Today’s Readings:** *First Reading* Genesis 15:5-12. 17-18

*God offers the promise of a future full of hope to Abram, who shows himself to be a person of faith.*

**Second Reading** *Philippians 3:17 – 4:1* We are called to remain faithful in our following of Christ.

**Gospel** *Luke 9:28-36* On the mountain, Jesus is revealed to his disciples in his glory.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS.** There will be Stations of the Cross in the Chapel each Friday during Lent at 7:30 pm

**LENTEN REFLECTION.** There will be short Lenten presentations/reflections on the Saturdays during Lent at 11:15 am before the 11:45 am mass. Mass as usual at 11:45 am.

**CONFESSIONS.** Starting on the first Saturday of Lent, there will be confessions every Saturday afternoon from 4-5 pm.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent Homily

I think that the title of this homily should be “promises, promises”, Why? Because of the readings from Genesis and Luke. Now, I know that most of the time, when we say “promises, promises”, it’s a shorthand to say that the promise just made isn’t worth the paper it’s printed on. In the context of these readings, however, I think we have to resist our cynical reflex and take the promise at face value. And try, at the least, to display a more optimistic attitude. Maybe one that’s powered by hope!

What about the readings? God promised Abraham descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky, as well as a land that he could call his own. In Luke’s Gospel, Jesus is on his way to Jerusalem to be crucified, and God grants to his disciples a vision of Jesus in his glory, witnessed to by Moses and Elijah—the Law and the prophets. . . . In the reading from Genesis, Abraham believed what God told him, and it was credited to him as righteousness, but, and note this, in the Gospel, the disciples were confused. They were still trying to grasp the implications of what they had seen.

We should perhaps focus our attention on those poor disciples. Remember that, at first, they didn’t believe Jesus about the coming crucifixion (Get thee behind me Satan), and second, believing in the transfiguration must have been particularly hard after the events of Good Friday. At that point, the resurrection was a “not-yet” event. In terms of what was and what wasn’t true and real, the disciples didn’t have an easy time of it.

In a sense, you and I are also in the not-yet segment of our own lives. We haven’t hit the resurrection-part of it yet. I don’t have to spell out to you the worries that beset us, the disappointments we experience, the stone walls we come face to face with, the illegibility of our everyday lives; i.e. our inability to make sense of what’s happening to us. Reading today’s scriptures in this context sounds a lot like “promises, promises.” Salvation? You’ve got to be kidding.

Nevertheless, Lent challenges us to take God’s promises seriously. The promise of the Transfiguration is victory, victory over death, victory over all the broken conditions of the world, victory over the apparent futility and meaninglessness of life. And yes, we do this in the face of everything that’s going on around us, but like the disciples, WE are invited to interpret the promises of God in the shadow of the cross. Where some folks see disaster, we see the Paschal Mystery—the passion, death and resurrection of the Savior, that great turning point in human history. And it is a vision worth holding on to.

By Fr. Frank Wright, SMA

**MEMORIAL DONATION.-** The Altar Bread and Wine are donated this week in memory of Mrs. Lokou Marie Esse by Rich Kane.