



# 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 9:30am to 3:00pm

### S.M.A. Vocation Office

Fr Dermot Roache, SMA  
Director

201-256-0450 Ext. 253

Fr. Eliecer Sandoval, SMA  
551-449-4357

### S.M.A. Museum

Open Monday-Sunday from  
9:00am –5:00pm

### Sunday Collection: \$1,134

Thank you for your support.  
Please remember to support  
your local parishes.

### Administration:

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

**Fr Frank Wright,**  
House Superior

## FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### Masses for the week of JULY 3, 2022 – JULY 9, 2022

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
<b>Sun.-Sat.</b>	<b>8:00</b>	<b>Liv &amp; Dec Benefactors of the SMA</b>	
Sun. July 3	10:00	Anna Broderick+	Family
	12:00	Benedict Walsh+	Breda Walsh
Mon. July 4	9:30	Thomas Lee - Birthday (Liv.)	Thomas & Jessica Lee Family
	11:45	Lilia R. Tocker+	Friend
Tue. July 5	9:30	Albert & Helen Fleckenstein+	
	11:45	Marissa Tomboc+	Rosanne
Wed. July 6	9:30	Deceased Members of the McCarthy Family	
	11:45	Robert Doonan+	Sue Murphy
Thurs. July 7	9:30	John & Edythe Sheehy	
	11:45	Ann Marie Loughlin+	Rosanne
Fri. July 8	9:30	Deceased Members of the Guiney Family	
	11:45	Gloria Lopez+	Rosanne
Sat. July 9	9:30	Elaine Balmes (Liv.) Ethel Deblock (Liv.)	Erly Cortez
	11:45	Ann Marie Loughlin+	Diane & Mike Bruno

## Today's Readings:

### **First Reading** Isaiah 66:10-14

*The human city is only at peace when it is also the city of God.*

### **Second Reading** Galatians 6:14-18

*The Christian way of transformation is through the cross. This is how we are to be reborn.*

### **Gospel** Luke 10:1-12. 17-20

*The mission of Christians is never a case of going where we want to go, but of going where we are called to go.*

## 14th Sunday Reflection

The Gospel passage looks like a straightforward recounting of Jesus sending out his disciples, but look closer, and you will see that it is really a blueprint for the carrying out of mission. Jesus specifies that he wants disciples to go out two by two: mission is not an activity for the lone hero, even though you may be called on to be heroic.

Jesus also specifies that the villages the disciples are sent to are the same villages that HE will visit later. There's a plan to his project. Evangelizing, in its' main lines is not a haphazard affair. Very often, we may have to act on the spur of the moment, strike while the iron is hot, or seize the teachable moment, but this takes place in a context of careful planning.

I want to jump to the second half of the Gospel passage. Why? Because I find myself a little resistant to the idea of shaking the dust off my feet as a testimony against the people in the town. These points in the Scriptures that engender or incite resistance in us are often those points when we have to ask some more questions of the text.

I doubt I have enough energy, or perhaps enough anger inside me, to engage in that kind of aggressive behavior. On the surface, we might think that Jesus was suggesting we ask for a firestorm from heaven, the like of which we saw (or didn't see) last week with the Samaritans. Well, if Jesus didn't let his disciples call down fire and brimstone, I doubt he's going to let us do likewise, no matter how satisfying it would in the face of the people's rejection.

In coming up with a meaning for his words, I think we have to dispose of some other images. When missionaries go someplace, those who have not yet heard the Good News (our target audience) do not, I repeat, do not immediately fall to their knees in gratitude. If they did, it would be very suspicious. What the disciples were hoping to find, and what those of us on the foreign missions (missio ad extra) hope to find, is a community of people who are open to new ideas, and, at the same time, a community that is open to dialogue. I could put it another way—a community that held serious ideas about the world we live in and our place in it.

I remember a missionary priest back in Chad who told me that he preferred to talk to a serious pagan, a follower of an African traditional religion, rather than to someone who had the veneer of Western education. The pagan entered into serious dialogue, whereas the new man was at best indifferent to whatever point he was trying to make. He just wasn't concerned about the kinds of questions that the priest would raise.

Pope Francis has termed the kind of meeting I am describing here as an "encounter." An encounter is a meeting of people who listen attentively to each other, who respect each other's sincerity, who are in it for the long haul. A disciple of Jesus Christ is not made overnight, and this statement applies after baptism as well as before.

By Fr Frank Wright, SMA

The SMA Community wish you all a safe and happy Independence Day!  
God Bless America.