



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 9:30am 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: \$1,116

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

Administration:

Fr Ranees A. Rayappan,
 Provincial Superior

Fr Frank Wright,
 House Superior

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Masses for the week of JULY 24, 2022 – JULY 30, 2022

| Date | Time | Intention | Requested by: |
|------------------|-------------|---|--------------------------|
| Sun.-Sat. | 8:00 | Liv & Dec Benefactors of the SMA | |
| Sun. July 24 | 10:00 | Ralph Iacullo+ | Susan & Bob Iacullo |
| | 12:00 | Virgil & Laura Costa+ | Victoria Ann Costa |
| Mon. July 25 | 9:30 | Mary Laird+ | |
| | 11:45 | Jack Kenny+ | Mae Kenny |
| Tue. July 26 | 9:30 | Felix Labay+ & Theodora Ferrer+ | Linda Rubio |
| | 11:45 | Felix Labay+ | Rosanne |
| Wed. July 27 | 9:30 | Jackie D’Angelo+ | |
| | 11:45 | John & Edythe Sheehy+ | |
| Thurs. July 28 | 9:30 | Dorothy Albert+ | |
| | 11:45 | Virgil & Laura Costa+ | Victoria Ann Costa |
| Fri. July 29 | 9:30 | Happy Birthday Katie G Neill (Liv.) | |
| | 11:45 | Maria R. Valdes+ | Friend |
| Sat. July 30 | 9:30 | Enrico Jr & Ana Salituro+ | Enrico & Filomena Family |
| | 11:45 | Robert Doonan & Lenore Breau+ | Sue Murphy |

Today’s Readings:

First Reading Genesis 18:20-32 *Abraham, the friend of God, asks God to have mercy on a sinful city.*

Second Reading Colossians 2:12-14

Paul assures us that God’s forgiveness of sin is total and absolute.

Gospel Luke 11:1-13

Jesus teaches those who follow him to call God “Father” and invites them into his own life of prayer.

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time Reflection

BREAD AND LOCKED DOORS

In the Gospel passage, the story about the man who knocks at the door at midnight, asking for three loaves of bread, occurs immediately after Jesus' teaching his disciples how to pray. It's a kind of commentary on what he has just taught them.

On the surface, it's a strange kind of commentary. I wonder why Jesus felt it necessary to frame the Lord's Prayer in this way? What kind of image did his disciples have of the God who created us and maintains us in being? Well, at this remove in time, I'm not in a position to answer that question. The past is indeed a foreign country. However, I can assure you that in our own time and place, Jesus' commentary is VERY relevant. Why? Many people, maybe even ourselves, walk around with an image of a God who is potentially violent, vindictive, spiteful, domineering in the bad sense of the word. ... If we take the Scriptures seriously, that's not what our God is like at all.

A lot of folks think that if they multiply their prayers, telling God what they think God wants to hear, they might just possibly escape the celestial sharpshooter in the sky (You know him?) who is looking for a chance to take us out. They make God so ugly and complicated!

In reality, when you stand before our merciful God and voice (or whisper) the Lord's Prayer, you should be at your simplest and most honest: tell him what you want; tell him what you need; and don't complicate matters. If we do that, we are already at our own ground zero, at our most authentic.

God responds to our prayer. His response is an invitation to trust him. ... In spite of what's written on the one-dollar bill, "In God we trust.", most of us would rather trust in ourselves. "Just let me do it, and I'll be fine." We only call on God, when we're on our last legs, down to our last dollar, and out of solutions. This go-it-alone stance is not trust.

God's house is not a locked door. Money troubles, health challenges, roadblocks in personal relationships—you name it—just keep it simple and trust Him.

By Fr Frank Wright, SMA