



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

9:30 am & 11:45 am

Christmas & New Year’s Day

10:00 am; 12 noon

Confessions Saturdays:

After 11:45am Mass.

Or by appointment.

Contact Fr. Frank Wright

201-567-0450 Ext 225/231

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

S.M.A. Museum

Open Monday-Sunday from

9:00am –5:00pm

Sunday Collection: \$1,062

Thank you for your support.

Please remember to support

your local parishes.

Administration:

Fr Ranees A. Rayappan,

Provincial Superior

Fr Frank Wright,

House Superior

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Masses for the week of JULY 2, 2023 – JULY 8, 2023

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv. & Dec. Benefactors of the SMA	
Sun. July 2	10:00	Special Intentions of the Datung Alindahaw Prayer Group	Josie Martinez
	12:00	Benedict & Anthony Walsh+	Breda Walsh
Mon. July 3	9:30	Thomas Lee (Birthday) Liv.	Juliana and Joseph Family
	11:45	Intentions of Godwin D’Souza	
Tue. July 4	9:30	Lilia R. Tocker+	Friend
	11:45	Holy Souls	Victoria Costa
Wed. July 5	9:30	Hugh O’Donnell+	
	11:45	Maria & Julian Gomez+	Guinto Family
Thurs. July 6	9:30	Edythe and John Sheehy+	
	11:45	Robert Doonan+	Susan Doonan-Murphy
Fri. July 7	9:30	Special Intentions Neill & Forgrave Families	
	11:45	Rose Peltier+ & Larry Peltier+	Michelle Supper
Sat. July 8	9:30	Felisa Ballen+	
	11:45	Dava & Mark Gjini+	Son

Today’s Readings:

First Reading 2 Kings 4:8-11. 14-16

The prophet Elisha receives hospitality and repays it with the promise of new life.

Second Reading Romans 6:3-4. 8-11

By baptism, we come to share in the divine life of Christ.

Gospel Matthew 10:37-42

To be worthy of Christ, we must take up our cross and follow him.

The SMA Community is sending well wishes to Quentin Kennedy. May he be blessed with good health and a quick recovery.

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time Reflection

The Gospel passage this morning is full of women seeking wholeness—the daughter of Jairus and the woman with a flow of blood. These are situations we can relate to, because we are overly familiar with illness and our own fragility. I find the image of the woman with a flow of blood to be most compelling. Her affliction has to do with blood, and that's taboo for the Hebrew people: She is thus cut off from the people of Israel and is ritually impure. She is desperate, not only because of her illness, but because she has spent years paying doctors out of pocket. If there is a change in her life, it must take place at multiple levels—physical, social, and economic.

In our reflection, we can take this episode in several directions: we can talk about the way that illness and those who are ill are segregated in our society. AIDS, COVID 19, Cancer all come to mind. We can talk about the social cost of illness, about all the marriages that don't survive a chronic sickness. We can talk about the crumbling of our finances in the face of exorbitant doctor and hospital bills. These are all realities that stare us in the face on a daily basis.

I want to try another angle. I want us to put ourselves in the sandals of the woman with the flow of blood. Her emotions are those of fear and depression, of being caught up in a downward spiral of disintegration. This is not a soap opera; this is not a pious tale; this is life! She's holding on by her fingernails.

I suspect that she has questions on the tip of her tongue: why is this happening to me? What did I do to deserve this? Has God forgotten all about me? My brothers and sisters, being chronically ill is not for the fainthearted. It's very easy to lose courage. It's very easy to lose faith, faith at least in the sense of trusting in God, faith in its existential sense of flesh and blood creatures who can become ill and die. The picture I'm painting, the questions I'm asking, are the ones at stake here in this story of the woman. They're the questions of the midnight hour.

At the start, I described the women as seeking wholeness. The woman who touched Jesus's cloak was looking for healing on various levels, and I think that's what we must do as well. We do all we can to cooperate with health professionals, but the anthropological vision of much of contemporary medicine, with its emphasis on the body as an organic machine, is not that of our Catholic tradition. For us, we are wonderfully made in God's likeness as body, mind, and spirit, and we find healing in many ways. ... Practically speaking, I suggest we have to school ourselves in the practice of letting go of our fear and allowing ourselves to be filled with the peace and trust of God. And much of this work can be done through prayer—our own and that of others--and through the sacraments.

By Fr Frank Wright, SMA



God Bless America!

Come and celebrate with us...

Community Cookout after 11:45am Mass