

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: \$1,367
Thank you for your support.
Please remember to support
your local parishes.

Administration:

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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Masses for the week of May 15, 2022 – May 21, 2022

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of the SMA	
Sun. May 15	10:00	Gerarda Mauro+ Geraldina Rose+	Susan & Bob Iacullo
	12:00	Millie Sutter+	Carl & Ellen Sutter
Mon. May 16	9:30	Frayda Ascrate (Liv.)	Erly Cortez
	11:45	Thanksgiving	Rosanne
Tue. May 17	9:30	Michael R. Desrochers+	
	11:45	Virgil, Laura & Helen Costa+	Victoria Ann Costa
Wed. May 18	9:30	Jonas Tolentino+	Erly Cortez
	11:45	Dioscoro Jastiva (Liv.)	Erly Cortez
Thurs. May 19	9:30	Liv. & Dec. Members of the Desrochers Family	
	11:45	Virgina Ong+	Rosanne
Fri. May 20	9:30	Liv. & Dec. Members of the Paradis Family	
	11:45	Ann Peltier Broaddus+ James Kurpiel+	Michelle Supper
Sat. May 21	9:30	Emma Tietjen+	Family
	11:45	Catherine M. Hamill+	Friend

Today's Readings:

First Reading Acts 14:21-27

The first Christians were badly treated, but Paul and Barnabas lifted their spirits. We all go through many hardships, they said, on our way to glory.

Second Reading Apocalypse 21:1-5

There is to be no more suffering in God's new creation. Heaven will no longer be remote when God comes to dwell among humankind.

Gospel John 13:31-35

Jesus helped his disciples to understand true glory. Selfless love was to be their rule of life.

5th Easter Reflection

MAKING ALL THINGS NEW

The second reading--the one sandwiched in between the Acts of the Apostles on one hand and the Gospel of John on the other--is from the Book of Revelation, the last book of the New Testament. It is regarded as the most difficult book in the Bible for a person to read and understand. For that reason, we might feel justified in giving it a wide berth, pretending we don't see it there. And that would be a shame!

Imagine yourself standing on the roof of your house (or apartment building) and proclaiming this text to the entire neighborhood. "Then I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth. ... I also saw the holy city, a New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God. ... Behold, I make all things new." What a text! What passion! What exultation! I mean, you could win an Oscar for reciting that text.

Now I know that a lot of our separated brethren like to use this book to describe the end of the world, the disaster that awaits us all when Christ comes in his glory. They make it into the Christian equivalent of a horror movie. Nowadays, reputable Biblical scholars have no patience with that kind of scenario. Instead, they take seriously the time and place of the book's creation; i.e. that the book is spoken to a minority community of Christians, addressed to a people who are never at ease in their society. They note that the book contains a sharp critique of the ideology behind Rome's empire. It is very much about the present, not Armageddon.

And it is in their present time and our present time that God is proclaiming that he will make all things new. For the people of the first century, this was perhaps very difficult to believe, just as it may be hard for us to believe it in our day and age. Can we sink any lower? But remember this—we are part of the new creation in Christ Jesus and are to comport ourselves as God's adopted sons and daughters.

Although it may be hard for us to imagine God at work among us, even though the world we live in seems impervious to any possible salvific outcome that anyone, including God, might bring about, we are assured that we are living in the new reality of Christ's resurrection, enroute to the full manifestation of God's plan for us, for all humanity, and for all creation. God is making all things new! Do not lose heart!

By Fr Frank Wright, SMA