



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 Dermot Roache 201-567-0450 Ext 212

Bereavement & Visit to the Sick

Contact Fr. Dermot Roache
201-567-0450 Ext. 212

Perpetual Mass Association

Office open Monday-Friday
from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

S.M.A. Vocation Office

Fr. Eliecer Sandoval, SMA
551-449-4357

Thank you for your support.

Please remember to support
your local parishes.

Administration:

Fr Ranees A. Rayappan,
Provincial Superior

Fr Dermot Roache,
House Superior

SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

Masses for the week of June 6, 2021 – June 12, 2021

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of the SMA	
Sun. June 6	10:00	Sung Choi Family and Mariana Cho	Mariana Cho
	12:00	Roberto J. Jaeger+	Kathleen Jaeger
Mon. June 7	9:30	Thomas & Jessica Lee Family (Liv.)	Jessica & Thomas Lee
	11:45	Gjina Flora (Liv.)	
Tue. June 8	9:30	Lynn Rogers (Liv.)	Vinny, MaryAnn & Friends
	11:45	JoAnn Di Paolo+	Martha Di Paolo
Wed. June 9	9:30	Margaret McKean (Liv.)	Breda Walsh
	11:45	Souls in Purgatory	Victoria Costa
Thurs. June 10	9:30	Judy Kelly+	Mary Ann Pruzinsky
	11:45	Soul of Adah Haris+	Beatrice D’Souza
Fri. June 11	9:30	Fr Joseph Bordonaro (Liv.)	Friend
	11:45	Theresa Gilleran+	
Sat. June 12	9:30	Pradaig Maye+	Breda Walsh
	11:45	Mary & Joseph Falotico+	

Today’s Readings:

First Reading Exodus 24:3-8

The importance of blood, shed for the good of others. Israelites give this gift to God from their own flocks and herds – an offering of life to God, the Lord of life.

Second Reading Hebrews 9:11-15

Unlike the multiple sacrifices in the past, the sacrifice of Jesus is a once-and-for-all sacrifice.

Gospel Mark 14:12-16. 22-26

Mark’s account of the Last Supper and the institution of Eucharist: an action whereby Jesus’ gift of himself is made available in every age.

“This is my body... This is my blood.”

Illustration

“I’ll believe it when I see it” is a phrase frequently used in the context of people changing their patterns of behaviour. How often have you heard it in a discussion about how someone who is known to be of distinctly dodgy character has turned over a new leaf (to use another well-known and well-worn proverbial saying)? Of course, the implication is that there is little chance of the person in question ever changing. In the ancient world, when reading and writing were reserved to a very small and well-educated group of scribes, visual signs and symbols were used more often than written statements. Very often the sacrificing of animals accompanied a formal agreement between traders. One example was when an animal was slaughtered and the carcass cut in two, with the halves of the animal laid on the ground. Then the parties to the agreement would walk together between the halves of the animal, effectively stating wordlessly, “May I end my days like this animal if I do not keep my half of the bargain.”

Passover was, of course, the great Jewish feast commemorating – and spiritually renewing – the freeing of the Israelites from Egypt, their crossing of the Red Sea and their forty-year journey through the desert, and year after year this was commemorated. Today’s Gospel takes us to Mark’s account of Jesus giving Passover a whole new meaning on the night before he died.

Gospel Teaching

There are three Passover celebrations in the Gospel of John, but only one in each of the other three Gospels, Matthew, Mark and Luke. In these three, Jesus celebrates Passover on the night before he dies. It is important for us to realise that the way the ancient Jews marked out days was from sunset to sunset, so the Last Supper technically took place on the same day as Jesus’ death. At this meal, begun after sunset, Jesus does two remarkable things which are quite plausible in his own language. He takes bread – an essential ingredient of Passover – and he says, “This is my body.” Then he takes a cup of wine, saying, “This is my blood... which is to be poured out...” We are used to these words, echoed at every Mass, but, to Jesus’ disciples, these were unusual words for Passover. What we might miss, though, is that Jesus’ disciples do not sound surprised in the least.

In Aramaic, Jesus’ own language, similar to Hebrew, the verb “to say” is also the verb “to do”. We’ve actually heard this many times from the beginning of the book of Genesis. God said, “Let there be light”, and there was light. This continues throughout the creation narrative. When God says, “let there be...” it must happen. So, when Jesus says, “This is my body... This is my blood,” he means it in reality. In Aramaic, there is no such thing as a figure of speech.

The Living Word

CELEBRATE WITH US!

HONOR A LOVED ONE BY SPONSORING A TREE

For more information, please call (201) 567-0450