

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: \$1,249

Thank you for your support.

Please remember to support

your local parishes.

Administration:

Fr Ranees A. Rayappan,
Provincial Superior

Fr Frank Wright,
House Superior

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Masses for the week of May 22, 2022 – May 28, 2022

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of the SMA	
Sun. May 22	10:00	Thomas & Jessica Lee Family (Liv.)	Thomas & Jessica Lee Family
	12:00	Lindsay Angela Rubio & Christopher Rubio (Liv.)	Linda Rubio
Mon. May 23	9:30	Rev. Raymond C. Plourde+	
	11:45	Jack Kenny+	Mae Kenny
Tue. May 24	9:30	Michael R. Desrochers+	
	11:45	Henryk Michalowski+	Richard & Lydia
Wed. May 25	9:30	Liv. & Dec. Members of the Desrochers Family	
	11:45	Souls in Purgatory	Victoria Ann Costa
Thurs. May 26	9:30	Liv. & Dec. Members of the Paradis Family	
	11:45	Nieva Alcazaren+	Family
Fri. May 27	9:30	Rev. Raymond C. Plourde+	
	11:45	Mary Radio+	Gerald & Marie Nigro
Sat. May 28	9:30	Michael R. Desrochers+	
	11:45	Maria R. Valdes+	Friend

Today's Readings:

First Reading Acts 15:1-2. 22-29

The leaders of the early Church allow themselves to be guided by the Holy Spirit in their decisions.

Second Reading Apocalypse 21:10-14. 22-23

John's revelation is of the Church as the new Jerusalem, a walled and gated city, but these are not built to exclude sinners or those we consider unworthy or outsiders. The temple is the body of Christ himself.

Gospel John 14:23-29

At the Last Supper Jesus speaks words of inexpressible comfort. He promises that the Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Spirit, will find a home in us as individuals and as a community when we learn to keep his word.

6th Easter Reflection

The Gospel of John is not the easiest of the Gospels to read, not by a long shot. It's full of mystical suggestiveness—all kinds of language about Jesus remaining in the Father, and you and I remaining in Jesus. Oftentimes, we don't quite know what to do with this kind of language. If we let our imaginations run with the text, this Gospel is also full of mystical power—a power that gives us the freedom of the sons and daughters of God.

In the passage we heard this morning, there are a couple of themes at work: first, there is the talk about loving Jesus and keeping his word. This kind of love is not mere affection, a vague liking for Jesus, you know, nice to have him around. No, this kind of love indicates a total identification with him. We listen as he listens; we see as he sees; we talk as he talks; we act as he acts. If we do that, we won't have any difficulty in keeping his word. It will flow out of itself, and at the same time, his love will flow out from us.

Jesus then goes on to talk about the coming of the Paraclete. Here we have the second theme. This talk about the Holy Spirit is not a change of topic, not really. This coming reality is not only a guiding force; it is also a liberating force. It is a power that emboldens us to take risks in loving. (This risk-taking is a theme I shall return to in the next couple of Sundays.) The Holy Spirit urges us to heed the letter of the Law of Christ, but it goes far beyond that. It dares us to take into ourselves the spirit of those commandments, that word, of which the Gospel speaks, AND to act on it.

Can we love those that hate us? Can we love those who are doing their best to work against our interests and against our welfare? Can we love those who find themselves on the other side of the many divides—political, economic, and cultural—that run like cracks across the parched earth of our nation and world?

The Spirit, whose coming at Pentecost we celebrate in two weeks' time, is not a tame spirit. It is not the spirit of the status-quo, in whatever sense we want to interpret that phrase. It is not an accident that it is likened to a mighty wind that can uproot trees, lift houses off their foundations, and set people afire. Somebody wondered once why ushers in church didn't issue people with seat belts and life preservers. Not as far-fetched as one would suppose, were we to hand ourselves over to this Spirit! Stay tuned for more Spirit-talk in the weeks ahead.

By Fr Frank Wright, SMA