



# Society of African Missions

## “The Mission”

23 Bliss Avenue  
Tenafly, NJ 07670  
Phone: 201-567-0450  
Visit our website  
[www.smafathers.org](http://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: \$1,125**

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

### Administration:

**Fr Ranees A. Rayappan,**  
Provincial Superior

**Fr Frank Wright,**  
House Superior

## THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

### Masses for the week of May 29, 2022 – JUNE 4, 2022

| Date             | Time        | Intention                                       | Requested by:  |
|------------------|-------------|---|----------------|
| <b>Sun.-Sat.</b> | <b>8:00</b> | <b>Liv &amp; Dec Benefactors of the SMA</b>     |                |
| Sun. May 29      | 10:00       | Gregoria Dalman+                                | Rosanne        |
|                  | 12:00       | Fred Ibe+ Adel Nicdao+                          | Linda Rubio    |
| Mon. May 30      | 9:30        | Michael R. Desrochers+                          |                |
|                  | 11:45       | Ruth Kane+                                      | Rich & Marilyn |
| Tue. May 31      | 9:30        | Augustine Elliott+                              |                |
|                  | 11:45       | Crescencia Martinez+ Death Anniversary          | Josie Martinez |
| Wed. June 1      | 9:30        | Michael R. Desrochers+                          |                |
|                  | 11:45       | Sally Rivera+                                   | Prayer Group   |
| Thurs. June 2    | 9:30        | John & Edythe Sheehy+                           |                |
|                  | 11:45       | John & Annie Hamill+                            | Daughter       |
| Fri. June 3      | 9:30        | Special Intentions Neill & Forgrave Families    |                |
|                  | 11:45       | Special Intentions Stoever & Mongiello Families |                |
| Sat. June 4      | 9:30        | Gertrude Burns Elliott+                         |                |
|                  | 11:45       | Lilia R. Tocker+                                | Friend         |

### **Today’s Readings:**

#### ***First Reading Acts 1:1-11***

*Following a formal dedication of the book to his patron, Theophilus, Luke tells the story of Jesus’ ascension.*

#### ***Second Reading Ephesians 1:17-23***

*This concentrates on what faced Jesus after his ascension – to sit at the right hand of God.*

#### ***Gospel Luke 24:46-53***

*After Jesus’ ascension, the disciples are overjoyed, even though he has departed. They spend their time praising God in the Temple.*

## ASCENSION REFLECTION AND HOMILY

What shall we do with this feast? Picture yourself there on the hill outside Jerusalem, standing with your mouth wide open as Jesus ascends from in front of you. What are you supposed to do now? Now I know that the angels or heavenly beings or whoever they are, have told us not to leave Jerusalem until the Holy Spirit shows up, but that means that we're in a kind of in-between time. ... Maybe just sit around, twiddling our thumbs. Not very exciting! We might be tempted to do our own levitation act and follow Jesus up into the sky. That, however, might be jumping the gun!

Let's stick with this idea of the in-between time. Why? Because, even when the Holy Spirit puts in an appearance in the upper room at Pentecost, we'll still be in an in-between time. Because of the resurrection, we have left behind us the old creation, but we still haven't achieved the full flowering of the new creation. Pentecost, which we celebrate next Sunday, is a turning point, I'll grant you, but we harbor the hope that we're headed for something better, not of this world as we know it.

What we need is an in-between ethic. How do we interact in this new reality--with the world, with our families, workmates, and neighbors, with the family of nations? I could tell you that we just have to be nice to each other, but that wouldn't be the full story at all: being nice to one another in the new reality is a matter of taking risks.

If you reach out to those members of your family whom you haven't spoken to in a long while, that is taking a risk. You may be rebuffed. If you try to maintain cordial relations with the people at work, no matter how shallow, scheming, and insensitive they may be, that is also taking a risk. And if you try to reach out to Vladimir Putin, suggesting that he lay aside all the flimsy excuses he trots forth for killing people, believe me, that is taking a risk.

Taking risks is an art form. It involves paying attention to life minute by minute. In some cases, it involves looking for what some have called the "teachable" moment. You know what I mean? That split second in time, when you think that someone might be willing to actually listen to what you have to say. It involves being a diplomat, in the good sense of the word.

Ascension time, that in-between moment we find ourselves in, is a good time to redouble our efforts to live creatively in the split second.

By Fr Frank Wright, SMA

### MEMORIAL DONATION

The Altar Wine and Bread this week is donated by Marilyn & Rich in memory of Ruth Kane.

