



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: \$1058

Thank you for your support.

Please remember to support

your local parishes.

Administration:

Fr Ranees A. Rayappan,
 Provincial Superior

Fr Frank Wright,
 House Superior

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

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

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of the SMA	
Sun. April 2	10:00	Benedict & Anthony Walsh+	Breda Walsh
	12:00	Allan Austria & Bob Lara (Liv.)	
Mon. April 3	9:30	Rita & Florentino Kintanar+	Fe Vela
	11:45	Mary M. O’Connell+	O’Connell Family
Tue. April 4	9:30	Lilia R. Tocker+	Friend
	11:45	Alejandro & Maria Ramirez-de-Arellano+	Friend
Wed. April 5	9:30	Special Intentions Neill & Forgrave Families	
	11:45	Virgil & Laura Costa+	Victoria Costa
Holy Thursday	7:00pm Mass of the Lord’s Supper		
April 6			
Good Friday	3:00pm The Celebration of the Passion of the Lord 7:00pm Stations of the Cross		
April 7			
Holy Saturday	8:15pm Easter Vigil		
April 8			

Today’s Readings:

First Reading Isaiah 50:4-7

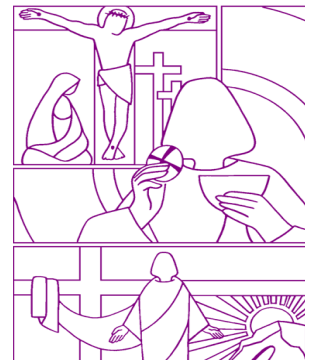
Trust in God enables us to be eloquent in our witness.

Second Reading Philippians 2:6-11

Humility allows God our Father to achieve his plan for us.

Gospel Matthew 26:14 – 27:66

The faithfulness and trust of Jesus are not in vain.



PLEASE NOTE: No Stations of the Cross at the Franciscan Sisters Convent.

PALM SUNDAY HOMILY

This is not what the disciples expected. Things have gotten out of hand. The disciples enter Jerusalem with trumpets blaring and brass bands on Palm Sunday, and by Thursday evening, it has become very clear that events have outpaced them and can't be fixed. This week is about Jesus the crucified, and we have a choice: we can either go into hiding, as did the disciples, or we can walk along the Via Dolorosa with Jesus, as he carries his cross. We can stand at the foot of the cross in a waiting game with death.

I make the point each year that the churches are full on Good Friday and often empty out for the Easter Vigil. Easter Sunday sees them fill up again, because, in many cases, folks have forgotten what happened two days before. Well, why do they fill to bursting on Friday? The easiest answer is that the betrayal that happened to Jesus happens to people all over the world. As extreme examples, we can cite the numerous murders of Christians in Nigeria by so-called extremists. If you place yourself in a situation like that, a situation not unknown to our SMA missionaries in Nigeria, you might well ask yourself how it is possible to keep moving forward.

We can plan our lives, and I'm sure that the disciples had great plans for what they were going to do with Jesus as their leader, but things did not turn out the way they had envisioned, or, if truth be told, as we have envisioned our own lives. When betrayal, tragedy, ill health, and death itself happen, we experience our own depths, a certain level of vulnerability. We experience a stunned confusion, and we don't know where we are anymore. It looks like Death has won the victory.

Last week, in my reflection on the back side of the bulletin, I said that we must journey on in hope—not an illusory hope for pie in the sky at a later date, but a plenitude (fancy word for fullness) of hope in the present, for the world and our lives to be redeemable.

Regarding Holy Week, there comes a point when we can only communicate our deepest feelings through imagery and ritual. Words sufficient to the occasion fail us. This week, through the celebration of the Easter Triduum, we shall have the opportunity to express what we cannot articulate. But just remember, shining through the events of Good Friday, we can see Easter morning bursting through the backdrop, because you and I, we know the end of the story. And remember, when we start shouting hallelujah on Easter Sunday, it is always in the context of the previous Friday.

By Fr Frank Wright, SMA

Holy Week Schedule

Monday—Wednesday: 9:30 and 11:45 Daily Masses

EASTER TRIDUUM

Holy Thursday—Mass of the Lord's Supper 7pm

Good Friday—The Celebration of the Passion of the Lord 3pm

Friday Evening—Stations of the Cross 7pm

Holy Saturday—The Easter Vigil 8:15pm

Easter Sunday—Masses: 10am and 12 Noon