



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: \$1,869

Easter \$2,863

Thank you for your support.

Please remember to support

your local parishes.



Administration:

Fr Ranees A. Rayappan,
Provincial Superior

Fr Frank Wright,
House Superior

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Masses for the week of APRIL 16, 2023 – APRIL 22, 2023

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of the SMA	
Sun. April 16	10:00	Dominick Francisco+ Mary Ann Ibanez+	
	12:00	Dec. Members of Padaloy & Andaya Families	
Mon. April 17	9:30	Liv. & Dec. Members of the Desrochers Family	
	11:45	Christine Brown+ & Maria Andrews+	Susan Doonan Murphy
Tue. April 18	9:30	Liv. & Dec. Members of the Paradis Family	
	11:45	Helen Costa+	Victoria Costa
Wed. April 19	9:30	Michael R. Desrochers+	
	11:45	John P. Farrington+	O’Connell Family
Thurs. April 20	9:30	Gustavo Moreno+	Family
	11:45	Ann & Peter Murphy+	Michael Murphy
Fri. April 21	9:30	Catherine M. Hamill+	Friend
	11:45	Holy Souls	Victoria Costa
Sat. April 22	9:30	Thomas & Jessica Lee (Liv.)	Juliana & Joseph Family
	11:45	Jan Michalowski+	Richard & Lydia

Today’s Readings:

First Reading Acts of the Apostles 2:42-47

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles.

Second Reading 1 Peter 1:3-9

God the Father, in his great mercy, has given us a new birth as his sons and daughters, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead.

Gospel John 20:19-31

Jesus said to the disciples, “Peace be with you,” and showed them his hands and his side.

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER REFLECTION

Traditionally the second Sunday of Easter is called Low Sunday. A strange name perhaps, but liturgically speaking it makes sense. We've been hollering and whooping it up for a week now with alleluias and feasts, and now we have to take a short rest, because we still have six weeks to go until Pentecost.

The reading from the Gospel of John that we heard is full of events that lend themselves easily to reflection. Jesus makes an appearance on the first day of the week; i.e. Easter Sunday, in the upper room among the fear-crazed disciples. Don't forget that this is a community in crisis. And he tells them to receive his Spirit. From now on, it is the Spirit that will accompany the community. Please note that this change implies a change in how they see and relate to Jesus.

The sequence of events with Thomas, called the Twin, is very interesting. He refuses to give credence to what the disciples are telling him. I hope I don't shock you if I tell you that, "I don't blame him." If one is going to make a commitment to someone, then the evidence backing one's choice had better be substantial. ... Well, Thomas was lucky. He got to see Jesus one week later, and he immediately made his act of faith, "My Lord and my God."

One of the hymns that we sang for the Vigil and for the masses on Easter Sunday describes this so well. "O Sons and Daughters of the Lord." You remember it, I'm sure. Every time we get to the part about Thomas, I have a hard time not breaking down in tears, because the image is so powerful. From suspicion and unbelief to faith! Fortunately, for the sake of the music, I resist the urge.

However, note that Jesus also says, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." And that refers to the rest of us down through the centuries. We listen to the stories told in Church about Jesus; we come to know him through our prayer life; we come to receive him in the sacrament of the breaking of the bread. For us, all these things stand in for touching his hands and his feet, but they are just as effective.

The Easter season is an opportunity to join the newly baptized in the period of Mystagogia, to reflect on the strength we receive from Jesus in the Body of Christ, and at the same time to ponder and work out the implications of what it means to be one of his disciples.

By Fr Frank Wright, SMA

**The SMA Fathers wish you all a blessed and holy
Easter season!**

NOTE: Thank you to all those who donated for the Easter flowers for special intentions and in memory of your loved ones. Big thanks to all of you who always support us in our missionary work here at the Mission and especially in Africa. May the Risen Lord bless you all!