



# 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

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: \$909

Thank you for your support.

Please remember to support

your local parishes.

#### **Administration:**

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

**Fr Frank Wright,**  
 House Superior

## THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

### Masses for the week of APRIL 23, 2023 – APRIL 29, 2023

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
<b>Sun.-Sat.</b>	<b>8:00</b>	<b>Liv &amp; Dec Benefactors of the SMA</b>	
Sun. April 23	10:00	Virginia Malik+	Abbadessa Family
	12:00	Lauren Widner+	Martha DiPaolo
Mon. April 24	9:30	Holy Souls in Purgatory	Louise Coull
	11:45	Bea & Michael Hanley+	Michael Murphy
Tue. April 25	9:30	Ela Michalowska+	Richard & Lydia
	11:45	Antonio & Angelica Fernandez+	Daughters
Wed. April 26	9:30	William Colon+	Diane Colon
	11:45	Jack Kenny+	Mae Kenny & Family
Thurs. April 27	9:30	Bia Hwang (Liv.)	Juliahna Park
	11:45	Virginia Monroy+	Richard & Lydia
Fri. April 28	9:30	Father Stephen CFR	Caron
	11:45	Rory Dahill+	Parents-Kevin & Eileen Dahill
Sat. April 29	9:30	Maria R. Valdes+	Friend
	11:45	Billy Hickey+	Family

### **Today's Readings:**

#### **First Reading** Acts 2:14. 22-33

*The humanity of Christ was raised to fulfil the deepest longings of Israel.*

#### **Second Reading** 1 Peter 1:17-21

*Only the gifts of God are truly free, but the redemption is also the gift of a human being. This is why it was fitting that the Lord should pay a price for that redemption.*

#### **Gospel** Luke 24:13-35

*The Church is a conversation, as we share our faith. Sometimes we fail to allow the Lord into that conversation.*

## THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER REFLECTION

The journey of the two men on the way to the village of Emmaus is more than just another post-resurrection appearance of the risen Christ; in fact, in all the instances, in which Jesus appears in the midst of the disciples, there is always something more going on in the telling.

Today on the road, there is a re-alignment of the thinking of the two travelers. Take a good look at them. They have left the confusion, unpredictability, and danger of Jerusalem behind them. After what happened on Good Friday, nothing made sense. Things were not supposed to turn out this way, if Jesus's entry in triumph into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday was anything to go by. The early disciples had mapped out quite a different ending in their minds.

Take a good look at the way the conversation on the road unfolds. The stranger on the road takes the two men step by step through the Scriptures and points out how the Jewish tradition had always foreseen what had happened to Jesus on Good Friday. You know, we do the same thing during the readings at the Easter Vigil: we pass from Creation, through Abraham, Moses, and Ezekiel, until we come, as the final step and the end of the story, to Jesus.

So, what happens when they reach Emmaus? The two men invite the stranger to come and share the evening meal with them. Don't gloss over this detail, because this is a story of people offering hospitality to a stranger. Anything that happened along the road and anything that will happen at the supper table takes place in this context.

It is the stranger who pronounces the blessing over the bread and breaks it. I find this very strange: wherever I've been in my twenty years in Africa, it's always the householder who pronounces the blessing, even if the priest is there. Very strange indeed. In effect, the guest here has become the host.

The stranger blesses the bread and breaks it, and the eyes of the dinner guests are opened. It is the Lord! And Jesus vanishes! Emmaus is all about the recognition of Jesus. It is about when and how they, and we, recognize him. How do we recognize Jesus, when he has vanished from our sight? ... The answer from the Catechism of the Catholic Church stands us in good stead here: Jesus is present in the Word we share, the ministers who unite us with Christ and the Church Universal, the assembly of the faithful, gathered as the Body of Christ, and most importantly in the bread we break.

By Fr Frank Wright, SMA