



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

Confessions Saturdays:

After 11:45am Mass.

Or by appointment.

Contact Fr. James McConnell

201-567-0450 Ext. 242

Bereavement & Visit to the Sick

Contact Fr. James McConnell

201-567-0450 Ext. 242

Perpetual Mass Association

Office open Monday-Friday
from 9:30am to 3:00pm

S.M.A. Vocation Office

Fr Dermot Roache, SMA
Director

201-567-0450 Ext. 253

S.M.A. Museum

Open Monday-Sunday from
9:00am –5:00pm

Contact Fr. James McConnell

201-567-0450 Ext. 242

Sunday Collection: \$1,180

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

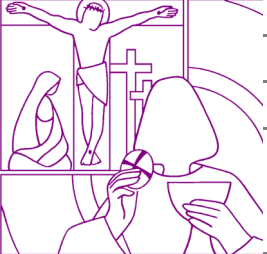

Administration:

Fr Ranees A. Rayappan,
Provincial Superior

Fr James McConnell,
House Superior

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Masses for the week of MARCH 24, 2024 – MARCH 30, 2024

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv. & Dec. Benefactors of the SMA	
Sun. March 24	10:00	Young Kim+& Eva Del Rosario+	
	12:00	John & Mary Roache (Liv.)	
Mon. March 25	9:30	Michale R. Desrochers+	
	11:45	Catherine M. Hamill+	Friend
Tue. March 26	9:30	Fr. John Robinson+	Friend
	11:45	Stefania Michalowska+	Richard & Lydia
Wed. March 27	9:30	Rev. Raymond C. Plourde+	
	11:45	Fr. Tom Hamill+	Sister
Thurs. March 28		Holy Thursday	
	7pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper	
Fri. March 29		Good Friday	
	3:00pm	The Celebration of the Passion of the Lord	
	7:30pm	Stations of the Cross	
Sat. March 30		Holy Saturday	
	8pm	The Easter Vigil	

STATIONS OF THE CROSS:
Every Friday during Lent at
7:30pm

CONFESSIONS :
Every Saturday afternoon during
Lent from **4-5pm**

Today's Readings: *First reading* Isaiah 50:4-7
The true disciple doesn't abandon God despite opposition and so, in turn, is not abandoned by God.

Second reading Philipians 2:6-11
Jesus did not exploit his equality with God.

Gospel Mark 14:1-15:47
An unnamed woman ignores convention and anoints Jesus' feet with expensive perfume and her tears.

“She has done what she could.”

Illustration

It's Palm Sunday. People knew that Jesus understood the hardship and injustice they experienced from their Roman overlords and from the rigid legalism and contempt of the Temple authorities. As he entered Jerusalem, the city of David, they called him the “son of David” who was “blessed in the name of the Lord”.

The scribes and Pharisees were unhappy to see Jesus. Scared lest his popularity spark an uprising against the Romans, they worried that people might reject their own authority. They also resented his condemnation of their behaviour:

The scribes and Pharisees saw Jesus on Palm Sunday and plotted his death.

Simon invited Jesus to his home as a topic of conversation between himself and his guests. He didn't care that Jesus was hot, tired, dusty and deserved respect. The unnamed woman, seeing their bad manners, grabbed her best perfume with which to anoint Jesus. She hadn't expected to burst into tears, hadn't thought to carry a towel, and so she dried his feet with her hair. She didn't care what others might say. Jesus understood and accepted her: that was all that mattered.

Gospel reading

Today's Gospel readings show two sides of the same story. As Jesus rode a donkey into Jerusalem, the ordinary people celebrated his presence among them whilst, in the background, the authorities criticised and plotted. True, within a few days, because the scribes and Pharisees were experts at manipulating crowds, some would call for Jesus' crucifixion.

In Simon's house, an unnamed woman anointed Jesus' feet with expensive perfume, washing them with her tears and drying them with her hair. Meanwhile, the “more important” people condemned both her lifestyle and her behaviour.

Both stories describe “them and us” situations. When Jesus rode a donkey into Jerusalem, the scribes and Pharisees condemned the actions of those who welcomed him. When the woman washed Jesus' feet with her tears, she was scorned because of her extravagance and because of the spectacle she had made in “polite society”. Jesus was criticised for ignoring convention and letting the woman touch him. He hadn't stopped her actions which had also highlighted Simon's disrespect in not washing the feet of a guest. The fragrance of her perfume would linger inside the house for several days, reminding Simon of his social sin of neglecting a visitor.

Living the Word

Holy Week Schedule

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

EASTER TRIDUUM

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

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until 11pm

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

Friday Evening—Stations of the Cross 7:30pm

Holy Saturday—The Easter Vigil 8:00pm

Easter Sunday—Masses: 10am and 12 Noon