



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: \$992

Thank you for your support.

Please remember to support
your local parishes.

Administration:

Fr Ranees A. Rayappan,
Provincial Superior

Fr James McConnell,
House Superior

THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

Masses for the week of JUNE 2, 2024 – JUNE 8, 2024

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv. & Dec. Benefactors of the SMA	
Sun. June 2	10:00	Gil Pajela+ & Patrick Co+	
	12:00	John & Annie Hamill+	Daughter
Mon. June 3	9:30	Holy Souls in Purgatory	Louise Coull
	11:45	Felix Labay+	Family
Tue. June 4	9:30	Lilia R. Tocker+	Friend
	11:45	Deceased Loved Ones	
Wed. June 5	9:30	Special Intentions Lindsay Kintop (Liv.)	Louise Coull
	11:45	Mueller Family (Liv.)	Family Member
Thurs. June 6	9:30	Special Intentions Lindsay Kintop (Liv.)	Louise Coull
	11:45	Gregory Roche+	Rudolf Lewis
Fri. June 7	9:30	William Cole Hackman (Liv.)	Joseph & Noreen Hackman
	11:45	Spec. Int. Neill and Forgrave Families	
Sat. June 8	9:30	JoAnn DiPaolo+	Martha DiPaolo
	11:45	Spec. Int. Stoever & Mongiello Families	

Today's Readings:

First Reading Exodus 24:3-8

Moses tells the people the Lord's words and laws, and they respond with one voice.

Second Reading Hebrews 9:11-15

Christ is the mediator of a new covenant. We are called to serve the living God.

Gospel Mark 14:12-16. 22-26

The disciples make preparations for the Passover. Jesus takes and offers to his disciples the bread and wine, his body and blood.



“When he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples...”

Illustration

Marcus Rashford is an England international footballer. He was brought up by his mum, a single parent who worked full time, but earned just the minimum wage. His family relied on school breakfast clubs, school dinners and, sometimes, food banks, for meals. In 2020, he ran a campaign to ask the UK government to offer vouchers for families who had free school meals during term time, so that they could receive the same support during school holidays. In a letter to MPs he wrote, “This is not about politics; this is about humanity. Looking at ourselves in the mirror and feeling like we did everything we could to protect those who can’t, for whatever reason or circumstance, protect themselves. Political affiliations aside, can we not all agree that no child should be going to bed hungry?”

Rashford also worked alongside the charity Fairshare, to raise funds to combat food poverty for children and ensure they could have at least one meal a day. He made significant financial donations himself and asked all his social media followers to donate too, raising enough money for 21 million meals. His own experience of poverty as a child made him committed to bringing about positive change for other children.

Gospel Teaching

In today’s Gospel, we hear about the preparations the disciples made for the Passover, just before the death of Jesus. They ask Jesus what they are to do. He tells them to go into the city and prepare a room for the meal. And in the second part of the text, we hear the words of Jesus that mean so much. “This is my body,” and, “This is my blood.” In the Gospel of Mark, which we hear today, he continues, “the blood of the covenant.” The US bishops explain, “His blood of the covenant both alludes to the ancient rite of Exodus 24:4-8 and indicates the new community that the sacrifice of Jesus will bring into being.” A covenant is more than a contract. It is a deep and binding promise, a bond.

Application

On this Feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, our attention is especially drawn to the Eucharist. How do we understand the Eucharist? What does it mean to us? Does being nourished by the Eucharist translate into a different way of life? Today we are given an opportunity to reflect on these questions. It is important to think about how our belief translates into our daily life – as Pope Benedict says, “so that Christ may walk where we walk and live where we live.”

If we are to become or to continue to be a part of the community of believers, our lives will never be the same as they were before. We can no longer turn our face away from those who are struggling, from people who live in poverty, from migrants and refugees. We are a people of hope, not indifference. We are a people of love in action. As Pope Francis says, “Those who are nourished by the Bread of Christ cannot remain indifferent to those who do not have their daily bread.” And, on another occasion, “the Eucharist we receive...inspires us to give ourselves to others.” As we receive this bread, we grow in love, and begin to recognise the face of Christ in the face of our neighbour.

Marcus Rashford’s letter makes a really good point. “Political affiliations aside, can we not all agree that no child should be going to bed hungry?” What is the path of justice we need to follow so that no child goes to bed hungry? St John Chrysostom gives us a clear route. “Those who are generous should not ask for an account of the poor’s conduct, but only improve their condition of poverty and satisfy their need... if they lack the necessary nourishment, let us free them from hunger,” and, “Do you wish to honour the body of Christ? What good is it if the Eucharistic table is overloaded with golden chalices when your brother is dying of hunger?” St John Chrysostom was born in AD347, and yet, sadly, his challenges continue to ring true today. How will we respond?