



# 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

**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: \$1006**

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 TRINITY

### Masses for the week of MAY 26, 2024 – JUNE 1, 2024

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
<b>Sun.-Sat.</b>	<b>8:00</b>	<b>Liv. &amp; Dec. Benefactors of the SMA</b>	
Sun. May 26	10:00	Susan Mancad+ & Aida Zoleta+	
	12:00	Neill Walsh (Birthday)	Breda Walsh
Mon. May 27	9:30	Michael R. Desrochers+	
	11:45	William Cole Hackman (Liv.)	Joseph & Noreen
Tue. May 28	9:30	Special Intentions Lindsay Kintop (Liv.)	Louise Coull
	11:45	James LaGreca+	Paul LaGreca
Wed. May 29	9:30	Maria R. Valdes+	Friend
	11:45	Edward Kelly+	Paul LaGreca
Thurs. May 30	9:30	Nita Ponce de Leon (Liv.)	Rosanne Ambulo
	11:45	Deceased Members of The Sciacca Family	Victoria Costa
Fri. May 31	9:30	Danial Yi & Anna Yi (Liv.)	Julianna Lee
	11:45	Sharon Simmons+	Paul LaGreca
Sat. June 1	9:30	Veladeta Chung+	John Chung
	11:45	Holy Souls in Purgatory	Victoria Costa

**Today’s Readings:**

**First Reading Deuteronomy 4:32-34. 39-40**  
*God rules in heaven and on Earth.*

**Second Reading Romans 8:14-17**  
*The Spirit of God inspires us to be enthusiastic witnesses to God’s presence in our lives and in the world.*

**Gospel Matthew 28:16-20**  
*On a mountain in Galilee, Jesus calls on his followers to make disciples of, and baptise, all nations in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. He promises to be with them to the end of time.*

**SYMPATHY.-** The SMA Community send our sympathy to: Dr. Eugene Bonacci, and family at the passing of his wife Maureen Elizabeth Bonacci. May she rest in peace.

And also to the Kennedy Family in the passing of Mr. Quentin Kennedy, Sr. Mr. Kennedy was a long time friend and supporter of the SMA. May God grant him eternal rest.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the Bonacci and the Kennedy Families.

# ***“Teach them to observe all the commands I gave you.”***

## *Illustration*

*The Catholic House of Prayer on the Scottish island of Iona sits on a hill and its oratory offers a beautiful view over the tranquil Sound of Iona. Behind the altar is a Celtic cross of Iona, made from distinctive Iona green marble. There are also sayings of St Columba, who founded the first monastic community on the island 1,400 years ago. The first Celtic crosses appeared on Iona from around AD 800.*

*The Celtic cross is a symbol found all over England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland – particularly in churchyards. The cross itself represents the suffering and death of Jesus, but what makes it unique is the addition of the circle. The circle suggests the circle of life and the cycle of the seasons, and it is also a symbol of wholeness, completeness, unity and infinity. Many see it as representing the eternal love of God. It reminds us that we are a Christian community that is a friend of the poor, a friend of creation, and a friend of God.*

*The early Celtic pioneers and saints who created the Celtic crosses lived in violent times, in lands wracked by petty politics, tribal feuding, constant migration and its ensuing ethnic and racial tensions. Extreme wealth was in the hands of a few, and there was a downtrodden hidden majority – not unlike some of the problems we face today!*

## *Gospel Teaching*

*Matthew’s Gospel today ends with the baptismal formula of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Jesus names the three Persons of God. On Trinity Sunday, we celebrate our common divine origin – collective offspring of God with one shared life in the Holy Spirit. God has been present in the world from its beginning and the first reading tells us that God rules on Earth as in heaven. We celebrate this every time we say the “Our Father”, particularly “thy will be done on Earth as it is in heaven.”*

*The Trinity holds all things together and is a model of mutuality. The parts are all aspects of the same God – God as Creator and Maker of Creation, God before us and over us; God incarnate as Jesus Christ, fully human, fully divine, God beside us; and the mutual love and Wisdom that is Spirit breathed into our very lives and into all creation. In the Trinity there is no hierarchy: only mutual love and harmony.*

*We pray repeatedly during our Eucharistic celebration to be filled with the Holy Spirit so that we may become one in body and spirit. The Holy Spirit connects us all to each other, and to the natural world. The Celtic Christians’ love and honour of the natural world, God’s creation, was paramount. That’s evident in the surviving stories about the earliest saints of the Celtic Christian world and their bonds with nature.*

## *Application*

*The religious communities of Iona have overcome fire and murder, battles and desecration over the centuries to once again support a vibrant faith community. The ecumenical Iona Community today focuses on global peace, social justice initiatives and environmental care. It invites pilgrims from around the world to pray and study with them at Iona Abbey, surrounded by Celtic crosses.*

*Our natural environment is one of the greatest examples we have of God's power. Creation is a precious and holy resource, for God’s spirit is in all that lives. And yet the beauty and diversity of God is being diminished as millions suffer desperate poverty, creatures go extinct, Earth’s climate is heating up because of human activity, and waters are polluted. We have a responsibility to ensure that the world is a place that can sustain all of God's people into the future and we must appreciate our interconnections with the rest of creation. Pope Francis called for this in his 2015 encyclical *Laudato Si*, where he urged human society “to hear the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor”.*

*The holidays will be starting soon. Let us enjoy green spaces and urge children to appreciate the life in the grass, plants and hedges. Let us appreciate the fertility of soil and the wonder of birdsong in the dawn chorus, and see the Spirit of God at work in creation, especially in all new life. May we be sensitive to, and support, action campaigns to protect vulnerable communities and natural resources. The Church has Caritas agencies, peace organisations and environmental initiatives which can help us to do this.*

*Let us pray that we experience God’s enduring presence in our lives; that we may experience enduring gratitude for who we are and for what the universe is.*

*Living the Word*