

Church of Saint Mel

2615 154th St., Flushing, NY 11354

(718) 886-0201 - Fax: (718) 886-0882

www.stmels-queens.org



Sunday, February 25, 2024

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Joseph G. Fonti, S.T.L., Pastor
Rev. Italo Barozzi, In Residence
Msgr. Kevin B. Noone, In Residence
Deacon Joseph A. Freda

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Saturday - 9:00 A.M., 5:00 P.M. (Vigil)
Sunday - 7:30 A.M., 9:00 A.M. (Italian),
10:30 A.M., 12:00 P.M.

WEEKDAY MASSES

September - June

Monday - Friday: 7:00 A.M., 9:00 A.M.

July - Labor Day

Monday - Friday: 8:00 A.M.

CONFESSION

Saturday 11:00 - 12:00 P.M.
and by appointment at the Rectory.

ST. MEL'S CATHOLIC ACADEMY

154-24 26th Ave., Flushing, NY 11354
(718) 539-8211 Fax (718) 539-6563
www.stmelsacademy.org
Board Chair: Dominick Yezzo
Principal: Mrs. Amy Barron, M.A., M.S.Ed.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Kelsey Sheldon

DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION

Paula Migliore
Faith Formation Office - (718) 461-9840

BAPTISMS

Call the Rectory Office for information at least one month in advance.

MARRIAGES

Call the Rectory Office for information and appointment with a priest at least six months prior to the date you wish.

NEW PARISHIONERS

We are always happy to welcome new parishioners into the family of St. Mel. Stop in at the Rectory to register, ask questions and meet the priests who gladly serve you.

PASTORAL CARE TO THE HOMEBOUND

We are concerned about parishioners who are homebound and would like to receive the Eucharist, the Sacrament of Reconciliation or the Anointing of the Sick. If you are homebound, or if you know someone who is unable to come to Mass - please do not hesitate to contact the Rectory -718-886-0201. Visits will be happily arranged for you.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION & NOVENA

Each Monday after the 9:00 A.M. Mass.
Blessed Sacrament Devotions:
First Friday Adoration 9:30 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.
Daily Recitation of the Rosary: 8:30 A.M.

EVANGELIZATION

If you know of any Catholic, who is not attending Church or receiving the Sacraments and desires help in returning, please call or refer them to one of the priests at 718-886-0201. All information is confidential.

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.
Weekends by Appointment Only
Emergencies any time.



This year a “father & son” team will lead our Lenten Nights of Reflection.

Father Sean Magaldi and Deacon Jerry Magaldi will be at St. Mel’s Wednesday, March 6th and Thursday, March 7th, to share with us their love for ministry and the Catholic faith and to offer us spiritual insights that will help us better our daily walk with Christ.

I have known the Magaldi’s for a long time. I was Father Sean’s spiritual director during his early years of priestly formation and Deacon Jerry’s spiritual director throughout his years of diaconal formation. I continue to support Deacon Jerry in this role.

Spirited, engaging, and blessed with good humor, both “father and son” are generous in serving the people of God living in the Diocese of

Rockville Centre: Father Sean is the Vocation Director for the Diocese and Deacon Jerry is assigned to the parish of St. Aidan’s in Williston Park.

As one who “knows their souls” and enjoys their friendship, you won’t be disappointed so make the effort to attend.

Please also mark on your calendars: Reconciliation Monday - March 25th.

Called each day to authentically live the Gospel, may you and I see these Lenten opportunities as God’s gift to do more for us.

Father Fonti

Lent IS A TIME TO
GROW
CLOSER TO JESUS

Mass Intentions - February 25, 2024

SAT	2/24
5:00	Patrick & Margaret McGeever
SUN	2/25
7:30	The People of The Parish
9:00	Jeanette Coletti (Birthday)
	Salvatore Cinquemani
	Carmelo Giardina
	Filingeri Andonina
	Eugenia Madonna
10:30	Sebastian & Chris Gallagher
12:00	Joseph DeAnnuntis
MON	2/26
7:00	Ivan & Boska Vukas
9:00	Alberto Frisoni
TUES	2/27
7:00	Mark & Domenika Simicich
9:00	Domenico Ventrella
WED.	2/28
7:00	Mario Simicich
9:00	Tony Mirkov (Happy Birthday in Heaven)
THURS.	2/29
7:00	Stella Scerbo
9:00	Peter Vukas
FRI.	3/1
7:00	Purgatorial Society
9:00	Anna Sferrazza
SAT	3/2
9:00	All Souls in Purgatory
	Remigio Runko
5:00	Brother Anthony Cervasio
SUN	3/3
7:30	Louis Aresu
9:00	Sebastian Parisi
	Giuseppe Lafronza
	Americo Chima & Angelo & Anna Graci
	Angelo LoBrutto
	Fr. Barozzi (Birthday Wishes) (Living)
10:30	Maria Palma, Giuseppe Bonforte, Maria & Stefano Smolizza, Livio Smolizza, & Mafalda Vucina
12:00	Robert Puccio



Bread & Wine

This week the Bread and Wine are donated in Loving Memory of:

Frank Canale

Gift Given by: The St. Mel's Italian American Association



Altar Candles

This week the Altar Candles are donated in Loving Memory of:

Tony Mirkov

Gift Given by: Lily, Sam & Eric Mirkov



Sanctuary Candles

This week the Sanctuary Candle is donated in Loving Memory of:

Eugenia Madonna

Gift Given by: The Cervasio Family



Newly Enrolled in the Purgatorial Society

January, 2024

***John Joseph Foley
John Wylie
Don St. Croix
Antonio Fabbri
Joseph DeAnnuntis
Peter Alexandratos
Ching Wong
Vincenza Zolla***

The Purgatorial Mass is offered on the First Friday of each month at 7:00am. Enrollment in the Purgatorial Society is for the period of one year.



In your prayers...

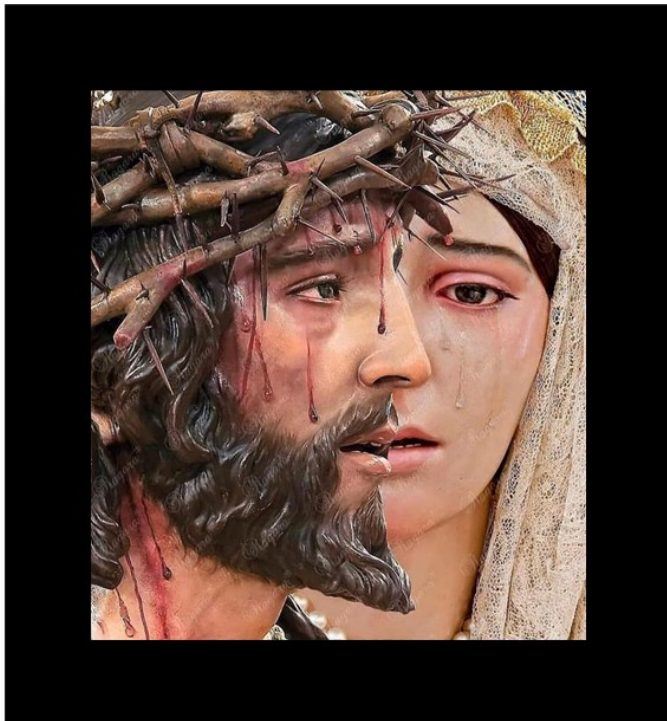
Father of goodness and love, hear our prayers for the sick members of our community and for all who are in need. Amen

We pray for all those who are sick, especially:

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| • Matt Z. | • Martha Catul | • Dottie Giordano | • Carol VitoBello |
| • Lisa Sperazza | • Dominick Fortino | • Siena Rose Romagnuolo | • Giovanna Palmese |
| • Susan Trezioso | • RoseAnn Dell Apenna | • David G. | • Olga Scopa |
| • Nick Roberto | • Alida Addeo | • Rosa Annibale | • Tom Hummel |
| • Pasqualina Lucciola | • Yolanda Gatti | • Patricia White | • Edda Iacona |
| • Julia Rollo | • Patricia Parrish | • Mia Elizabeth Skaats | • Bob Mistretta |
| • Francesca Cecile | • Carmen A. Leites | • Nicky O'Donnell | • Patricia Lamagna |
| • Angelo Ragonese | • Carollynn Freeda | • Jimmy Caraher | • Lester Kuczynski |
| • Nick O'Donnell | • Anthony Marino | • John Holmes | • Beverly Ilchert |
| • Patricia O'Donnell | • Mario Sumberac | • Venice Hernandez | • Danielle Byrd |
| • Kristian Mendez | • Helen Sumberac | • Eileen McBride | • Patricia Suarz |
| • Jennifer Russo | • George Behringer | • Cami Yandoli | • Lena Bae |
| • Roseann Orlando | • Avery Santiago | • Lynn Gallagher | • Antoinette Ruotolo |
| • Barbara Ann Luisi | • Ari Ortiz | • John Paul Yezzo | • Charles Ragnauth |
| • Tom Sammel | • Susan Caraher | • Niki Angelopoulos | |
| • Freda Cassini | • Brian Finnerty | • Valerie Albano Krug | |
| • Jacinta Carolan | • Lee Ragusa | • Bryan Day | |
| • Assunta Goldone | • Paul Adessa | • Theresa Bedell | |
| • Kruno Pandzic | • Joanne Perricelli | • Karen Youdell | |
| • Carol Sturm | • Drenckhahn | • Angela Infantino | |

We pray for those recently deceased from our parish:

John Paul Argenziano & Billy Catalanotto



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

FRIDAYS IN LENT

9:30 AM (English)

1:00 PM (Italian)

7:00 PM (English)

“We Adore You, O Christ, and We Praise You. Because by Your Holy Cross, You Have Redeemed the World.”

A Lenten Reflection...



Give up complaining; focus on gratitude
Give up harsh judgments; think kindly thoughts
Give up worry; trust divine Providence
Give up discouragement; be full of hope
Give up bitterness; turn to forgiveness
Give up hatred; return good for evil
Give up negativism; be positive
Give up pettiness; become mature
Give up jealousy; pray for trust



Friends of
RADIO MARIA New York
(718) 417-0550

Siete tutti invitati ad una
GIORNATA DI SPIRITUALITÀ

SABATO 24 Febbraio, 2024
10:00 am - 3:30 pm

Sara' una giornata di preghiera
e di riflessione in preparazione
alla Santa Pasqua

PROGRAMMA

10:00 am - Confessioni
11:00 am - Santa Messa
12:00 pm - Pranzo al sacco
1:30 pm - Via Crucis
2:30 pm - Adorazione Eucaristica

Basilica of Regina Pacis

1230 65th St.
Brooklyn, NY 11219
(718) 236-0909

Durante la celebrazione ci saranno sacerdoti a disposizione per le confessioni



The Cenacles of Life

The Cenacles of Life are prayer groups that pray as the Blessed Mother and the Apostles prayed in the Upper Room, awaiting the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. They pray – as should all Catholics – to stop the killing of the unborn, sick, and disabled. The goal of the Prayer Group: restore respect for the sanctity of life which has so frighteningly eroded in our country and world. Please come and pray with St. Mel's Cenacle of Life: Thursdays @ 11:00 AM in the church.




I Cenacoli della Vita sono gruppi di preghiera che pregano comeregarono la Madonna e gli Apostoli nel Cenacolo, in attesa dello Spirito Santo a Pentecoste. Pregano—come dovrebbero tutti i cattolici—per fermare l'uccisione di nascituri, malati e disabili. L'obiettivo del gruppo di preghiera: ripristinare il rispetto per la santità della vita che ha così spaventosamente eroso nel nostro Paese e nel mondo. Per favore, venite a pregare con il Cenacolo della Vita di San Mel: giovedì alle 11:00 in chiesa.

Bundle Saturday—St. Vincent de Paul

The next bundle Saturday will be April 13th. St. Vincent de Paul will have a truck in the St. Mel's parking lot from 9am—12:00pm.



Lightly used clothing is needed.
Thank you for your generosity.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
February 25 Second Sunday of Lent “This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.” (Mark 9:7)	February 26 “We need to listen to Jesus. Lent is a time of grace to the extent that we listen to him as he speaks to us.” (Pope Francis, Message for Lent 2023)	February 27 After dinner, pray a decade of the Rosary for those who feel unwelcomed, unheard, and unloved.	February 28 “Often when people commit deeds of injustice, they act together. In the same way, when they repent they help one another, so that, freed from sin by the grace of Christ, they may work together with all people of good will for justice and peace in the world.” (Order of Penance, no. 5)	February 29 On this “extra” day of the year, make a list of all the good things that God has given you and say a prayer of thanksgiving for God’s loving care.	March 1  Prayerfully discern ways that you can give to others by sharing your time, treasure, and talent.	March 2 If possible, apologize to someone you have hurt or offer forgiveness to someone who has hurt you.
March 3 Third Sunday of Lent We proclaim Christ crucified. (1 Cor 1:23)	March 4 “To deepen our knowledge of the Master, to fully understand and embrace the mystery of his salvation, accomplished in total self-giving inspired by love, we must allow ourselves to be taken aside by him and to detach ourselves from mediocrity and vanity. We need to set out on the journey, an uphill path that, like a mountain trek, requires effort, sacrifice and concentration.” (Pope Francis, Message for Lent 2023)	March 5 Pray one of the Penitential Psalms (Psalms 6, 32, 38, 51, 102, 130, 143) and give thanks for God’s mercy.	March 6 “The disciple of Christ who, after sinning, is moved by the Holy Spirit and comes to the Sacrament of Penance, should, above all, turn to God with all his (her) heart.” (Order of Penance, no. 6)	March 7 Today is the memorial of Saints Perpetua and Felicity, martyred in Africa in the early years of the third century. Pray for all who suffer persecution for their faith.	March 8  As Lent nears its halfway point, recommit yourself to prayer, fasting, and almsgiving to purify your heart for the Paschal feast.	March 9 Lord Jesus, have mercy on me, a sinner.
March 10 Fourth Sunday of Lent For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. (John 3:16)	March 11 “Jesus is himself the Way, and therefore, both in the liturgical journey and in the journey of the Synod, the Church does nothing other than enter ever more deeply and fully into the mystery of Christ the Savior.” (Pope Francis, Message for Lent 2023)	March 12 If possible, spend some time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, asking that God will fill you with his grace so that you may draw ever closer to the Body of Christ.	March 13 “The genuineness of repentance depends on this contrition of heart. For conversion should affect the person from within, in order to enlighten him (her) more deeply day by day and to conform him (her) more and more to Christ.” (Order of Penance, no. 6a)	March 14 Pray for peace in all the troubled parts of our world, in our communities, and in our families.	March 15  Pray the Stations of the Cross (Stations Of The Cross USCCB), either in your parish or on your own.	March 16 Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation: you make us hunger and thirst for holiness. Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation: you call us to true fasting: to set free the oppressed, to share our bread with the hungry, to shelter the homeless and to clothe the naked. (Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers)

Lenten Reflection Nights



March 6th & 7th 7:00PM
St. Mel's Church

“Come Follow Me”

Maintaining our daily walk with Christ through faithful scripture reading, prayer, and works of charity.

Guest Preachers:

Father Sean Magaldi
&
Deacon Jerry Magaldi





Annual Catholic Appeal 2024

DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

Each year **St. Mel R.C. Church** and the Diocese of Brooklyn engage in the **Annual Catholic Appeal** which supports Catholic programs throughout Brooklyn and Queens and affects the lives of countless individuals and families living in our neighborhoods in addition to benefiting our parish. The Annual Catholic Appeal makes possible those programs that no one parish could do alone.

Why is your participation important?

As followers of Jesus here at **St. Mel R.C. Church**, we understand our responsibility to our parish implies a responsibility to the diocese which unites us together with the entire Catholic community as the one body of Christ.

When one part of the body does not participate, the entire body suffers and makes it harder to function. Likewise, your participation in this Appeal, over and above your regular Sunday offering, will determine the ability of **St. Mel R.C. Church** to faithfully support the mission of Christ while also providing the needed support we receive as one parish, which is part of the larger Catholic Church.

Please join us to respond as the Church of Christ called to Communion, Participation & Mission in Brooklyn and Queens through a pledge to the **Annual Catholic Appeal** today at AnnualCatholicAppeal.org or text **DONATE** to 917-336-1255

The **Annual Catholic Appeal** seeks to raise a minimum of \$8 million to provide programs and ministries throughout the Diocese and support the local efforts of parishes like ours.

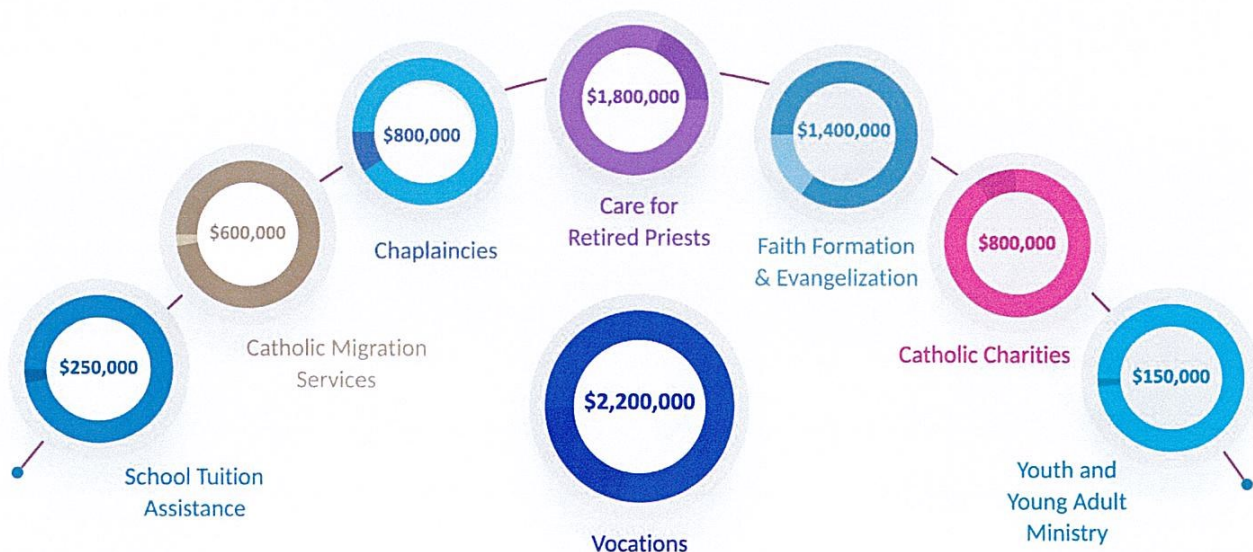
The goal at St. Mel R.C. Church is \$84,065

Once we exceed our goal, we will then receive 100% of all funds raised above this figure directly back to our parish.

For questions regarding the **Annual Catholic Appeal**, or to schedule an appointment to make a gift to the parish, please contact the
Parish Office –
(718) 886-0201

**Called to
Communion,
Participation &
Mission**

What does the Annual Catholic Appeal Support?



ASH WEDNESDAY



Jesus
loves
you



Religious Education students attended Ash Wednesday Service during class . They all received their ashes , their Lenten journey Calendar and a special heart craft.



Religious Education Program

St. Mel's Office of Faith Formation oversees the St. Mel School of Religion Program which provides Religious Instruction to children in grades 1 through 8 who attend public schools. Through our Religious Education program, we seek to increase children's awareness of the presence of God in their daily lives through Scripture, prayer and an appropriate curriculum that teaches Catholic doctrine necessary for children to become good, practicing Catholics. The program also prepares the children to complete their initiation into the Catholic Church through the Sacraments of First Communion and Confirmation. Classes are held on Wednesdays from 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm for Grades 1-5 and from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm for Grades 6-8. If you have any questions regarding St. Mel's Religious Education program, please email us at stmelfaithformation@gmail.com and mariamarotta@stmels-queens.org



SAVE THE DATE – Sunday March 3, 2024, at 10:30 am Mass

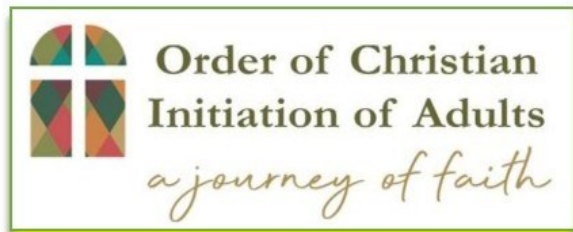
Mass for Children and Families of Confirmation Candidates from the School of Religion

All are invited for light refreshments and breakfast treats following Mass in O'Malley Hall.



- ♦ Are you a practicing adult Catholic (18+) seeking the sacrament of Confirmation, who has been baptized and have received your first Holy Communion?

If you answered yes, to this question, we invite you to participate in our Adult Confirmation Program which would prepare you to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Pentecost Sunday, May 28th. The Adult Confirmation Program presents an overview of the essentials of the Catholic Faith, focusing on immediate catechesis for the reception of the sacrament of Confirmation. The program includes presentations, group discussion, reflection, and prayer.



- ♦ Are you interested in the Catholic faith?
- ♦ Have you been coming to church for a while but are not Catholic?
- ♦ Have you been baptized Catholic or validly baptized in another Christian denomination and wish to be fully initiated into the Catholic faith through the Sacraments of Confirmation and Communion?

If you answered yes to this question, we invite you to look deeper into the Catholic faith through a process called the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults ("OCIA") It is also adapted for older children.

If you are interested in learning more about these programs, contact the Office of Faith Formation at stmelfaithformation@gmail.com or at 718-461-9840

St. Mel's Leisure Club



Stay Connected to St. Mel's Church

Go to: <http://stmelsrcchurch.flocknote.com> or you can find the app, Flocknote

This will bring you to the sign up page to enter your name, email address, and mobile phone number. You will be asked to verify your email or mobile number or both if given.

Once you have your information verified you will be asked to create a password.

Then you will just follow the directions on the site. Once all is complete you will be set up to receive updates from Fr. Fonti.

Saint Mel's Leisure Club meets every Monday at 1:30 PM in Father O'Malley Hall. Some come for bingo. Some to play cards or board games. All come for what the Club offers: friendship and camaraderie.

NARANON OPEN MEETING

Looking for support?
A loved one struggling with addiction?

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

JOIN US TUESDAY EVENINGS FROM
7:30-9:00PM

Lower level of St. Mel School

Contact: Ann Acquaviva 201-400-7760
for more details

Connect with St Mel using the Free Social App Tabella



Tabella is a fully Catholic app where you can enjoy Catholic content to grow in the faith. The Tabella app is available in English/Spanish and has the biggest library of Catholic audio devotional content.

If you currently receive parish communications through Flocknote, be sure to download this app to your phone as it will eventually replace Flocknote for parish communications. This app is very easy to use and when there is a post from us you will get a push notification on your phone. In the meantime, use all the resources available on this app to nurture your faith.

Step 1: Just scan the QR code to the left.

Step 2: Find and Follow St Mel Church. Use the Communities tab and search for "11354" Then click the "follow" Button on our church profile. You are now all set.

September 22 to
October 3

Join Fr. John Costello
Pastor of St. Luke, Whitestone

PILGRIMAGE 2024

ROME - ST. PADRE PIO

ASSISI-LORETO-LANCiano-POMPEII-MONTECASSINO-AMALFI COAST

\$4,999.00 per person
double or triple occupancy

For more information and details:

A & G Peace Tours, Inc.

(718) 423-5077 or ageacetours@yahoo.com

February 18, 2024

Mass Attendance Total = 720

5:00 PM—150

7:30 AM—112

9:00 AM—100

10:30 AM—208

12:00 PM—150

Parish Partnerships are seriously being considered for our deanery and throughout our diocese. To help us understand the process, I will be publishing in our weekly bulletin our Sunday Mass attendance numbers so that if in the future there is a change made to our Mass schedule, we will understand that the change was not solely predicated on the number of parish priests, but on the data.



Save the Date

We are celebrating the St. Mel Classes of
2014 on their 10th anniversary and
1974 on their 50th anniversary!!

Saturday, June 22, 2024

Father O'Malley Hall

6:30-10:30 p.m.

This reunion is for the Class of '14 and '74
students and their families!

We are beginning the evening with 5 p.m. mass
followed by the celebration in
Father O'Malley Hall at 6:30 p.m.

More information will be forthcoming!

1974 ~ 2014 ~ 2024

If you wish to be part of the planning committee, please let us know by 2/29:

Sue Mazzella @ simazzella@aol.com

Dorian Mecir @ dorianc67@aol.com

Kathy Siano @ emeraldcity66@verizon.net

Maureen Cooke @ moe9091@optonline.net (Class of 1974)

Please share with any members of the Class of 2014 and 1974!



Fact of Faith

WHY IS LENT FORTY DAYS?

The Lenten season is a time of preparation for the liturgical celebration of the suffering, Death, and Resurrection of Christ. Many Catholics spend that time on the three practices of Lent: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. It is also a time to participate in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.

The season of Lent lasts from Ash Wednesday until the evening of Holy Thursday. If Sundays are excluded from the count, the season lasts forty days. The forty-day length of Lent is rooted in the biblical usage of the number forty. Forty is typically indicative of a time of testing, trial, penance, purification, and renewal. In the New Testament, forty days is the length of Jesus' time of trial in the desert in preparation for his public ministry, proclaiming the Gospel.

Mark 1:12-15

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert,
and he remained in the desert for forty days,
tempted by Satan.
He was among wild beasts,

and the angels ministered to him.
After John had been arrested,
Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God:
" This is the time of fulfillment.
The kingdom of God is at hand.

The forty-day period of Jesus' trial in the desert echoes a number of events in the Old Testament:

- The face of the earth was cleansed and purified during the promised period of days and nights that rain poured down during the great flood—"I will bring rain down on the earth for forty days and forty nights, and so I will wipe out from the surface of the earth every moving creature that I have made" (Gen 7:4).
- The face of the earth was renewed during a forty-day period after the mountain tops appeared and the waters of the great flood receded—" The tops of the mountains appeared. At the end of forty days Noah opened the hatch of the ark that he had made" (Gen 8:5-6).
- Moses spent forty years as a shepherd in the desert before God called him to lead the Israelites out of slavery—" Moses fled when he heard this and settled as an alien in the land of Midian . . . Forty years later, an angel appeared to him in the desert near Mount Sinai in the flame of a burning bush" (Acts 7: 29-30).
- Moses fasted for forty days and nights on Mount Sinai before receiving the tablets of the covenant—

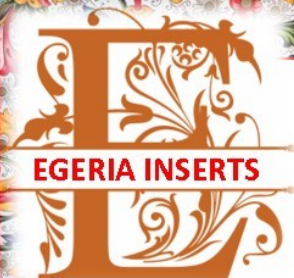
" So Moses stayed there with the LORD for forty days and forty nights, without eating any food or drinking any water, and he wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant, the ten commandments" (Ex 34:28).

- The Israelites spent forty years wandering in the desert, as a time of testing, trial and purification of the people, before reaching the Promised Land—" Now the Israelites had wandered forty years in the desert, until all the warriors among the people that came forth from Egypt died off because they had not obeyed the command of the LORD" (Jos 5:6; see Num 32:13).
- The prophet Elijah spent forty days in the desert before encountering God on Mount Horeb—" [Elijah] got up, ate and drank; then strengthened by that food, he walked forty days and forty nights to the mountain of God, Horeb" (1 Kgs 19:8).
- The Ninevites were given forty days before God was going to destroy the city, allowing time for repentance and conversion—" Jonah began his journey through the city, and had gone but a single day's walk announcing, ' Forty days more and Nineveh shall be destroyed,' when the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast and all of them, great and small, put on sackcloth" (Jon 3:4-5).

The Liturgical Year

U	A	P	Y	A	D	N	U	S	M	L	A	P	A
L	D	O	R	D	I	N	A	R	Y	T	I	M	E
L	V	E	E	S	T	S	A	E	F	S	S	A	R
W	E	M	H	P	N	W	H	I	T	E	I	E	E
T	N	N	D	D	P	U	R	P	L	E	L	N	S
N	T	N	O	I	S	N	E	C	S	A	T	V	T
E	G	R	E	E	N	E	S	E	V	M	E	E	N
L	D	E	R	E	P	I	P	H	A	N	Y	Y	I
H	S	A	G	O	O	D	F	R	I	D	A	Y	A
E	Y	A	D	E	N	D	E	W	H	S	A	N	S
R	U	F	G	O	I	K	E	A	S	T	E	R	L
I	E	N	O	I	T	P	M	U	S	S	A	I	L
S	O	E	S	P	E	N	T	E	C	O	S	T	A
O	H	O	L	Y	W	E	E	K	A	H	A	L	D

- EASTER
- ASH WEDNESDAY
- ADVENT
- ORDINARY TIME
- ASSUMPTION
- WHITE
- GOOD FRIDAY
- LENT
- HOLY WEEK
- GREEN
- ALL SAINTS
- FEASTS
- PALM SUNDAY
- PURPLE
- EPIPHANY
- ASCENSION
- RED
- PENTECOST



Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

Yearly at the Easter Vigil, thousands are baptized into the Catholic Church in the US alone. Parishes welcome these new Catholics through the *Order of Christian Initiation of Adults*.

After a conversation with the parish priest an individual may seek acceptance into the Order of Catechumens, through the Rite of Acceptance. During this Rite, the inquirer joins the parish community at the beginning of Sunday Mass and states a desire to become a baptized member of the Church. The congregation affirms this desire, and the individual becomes a Catechumen.

The Catechumenate Period is flexible depending on an individual's growth in faith. The Catechumen then requests baptism and the celebration of the Rite of Election which begins their special relationship to the Church.

The Rite of Election includes the enrollment of all the Catechumens' names seeking baptism at the Easter Vigil. Typically, on the first Sunday of Lent, the Catechumens, with their sponsors and families gather at the cathedral requesting Baptism to the bishop who enrolls them in the Book of the Elect.

The Celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation takes place during the Easter Vigil when the Elect receives the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist. Now the person is fully initiated into the Catholic Church. (Adapted from USCCB Committee on Divine Worship)

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