

# Church of Saint Mel

2615 154th St., Flushing, NY 11354

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

[www.stmels-queens.org](http://www.stmels-queens.org)



Sunday, March 17, 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](http://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.



# RECONCILIATION

## MONDAY

**MARCH 25, 2024**  
**DEANERY Q4**

**Holy Trinity**  
3-5 pm; 7-9 pm  
English

**Mary's Nativity**  
12-1 pm  
English & Spanish

**St. Ann**  
5-7 pm  
English & Tagalog

**St. Andrew Avellino**  
2-4 pm; 6-9 pm  
English & Spanish

**St. Fidelis**  
2-4 pm; 6-9 pm  
English, Spanish,  
Urdu

**St. John Vianney**  
10 am-12 pm; 4-8 pm  
Chinese, English, Spanish,  
Vietnamese

**St. Luke**  
12:30-2:30 pm; 6-9 pm  
English, Italian

**St. Mel**  
2-5 pm; 6-9 pm  
English, Italian, Spanish

**St. Michael**  
10 am-12 pm  
1-3 pm; 6-9 pm  
English, Spanish, Chinese,  
Vietnamese

**St. Paul Chong Ha-Sang**  
**Tuesday, March 19**  
10 am-12 pm; 7-9 pm  
Korean, English





# HOLY WEEK 2024

**24**

MAR

## PALM SUNDAY

5:00 PM (Saturday, March 23rd)

7:30 AM

10:30 AM

9:00 AM Italian

12:00 PM

**28**

MAR

## HOLY THURSDAY

9:00 AM Morning Prayer

7:30 PM Mass of The Lord's Supper

**29**

MAR

## GOOD FRIDAY

9:00 AM Morning Prayer

3:00 PM Passion of The Lord

7:30 PM Stations of The Cross

**30**

MAR

## HOLY SATURDAY

9:00 AM Morning Prayer

**31**

MAR

## EASTER SUNDAY

7:30 PM Easter Vigil (Saturday, March 30th)

7:30 AM

10:30 AM

9:00 AM Italian

12:00 PM



Irish luck is not exclusively Irish.

In fact, sometimes it's encased in cannoli cream.

The picture below was taken in front of St. Patrick's Cathedral on St. Patrick's Day 2019.

Shortly after it was taken, Bishop DiMarzio asked me to make an appointment to see him. He said he needed to speak to me about something.

I met him 2 days later, March 19<sup>th</sup>, St. Joseph's Day.

That "something" turned out to be his asking me to be your pastor. I'm not just lucky; I'm truly blessed!

Thank you for your welcome, love, and kindness.

St. Patrick and St. Joseph pray for us!

Enjoy your soda bread and be sure to leave room for some sfingi!

Love – Father Fonti



## Mass Intentions - March 17, 2024

<b>SAT</b>	<b>3/16</b>
5:00	Faustino Giacomino
<b>SUN</b>	<b>3/17</b>
7:30	Mariagrazia DiGiorgio
9:00	Lina Pellarin
	Domenica Floramo
	Vito & Giovanna LaPuma
	Giuseppe Belulovich
	The People of The Parish
10:30	Antonio Lao
12:00	Francesco DiMaria
<b>MON</b>	<b>3/18</b>
7:00	Mocarski, McAllister, & Naclerio Families
9:00	Rose Bono & Charlotte Brancato
<b>TUES</b>	<b>3/19</b>
7:00	Joseph DeAnnuntis
9:00	Joseph Flood
7:00PM	St. Joseph's Mass
<b>WED.</b>	<b>3/20</b>
7:00	Vincenza Zolla
9:00	Irene Pariselli
<b>THURS.</b>	<b>3/21</b>
7:00	Joseph Ragusa
9:00	William Mulqueen
<b>FRI.</b>	<b>3/22</b>
7:00	Dick Thornhill
9:00	Maria Rosa DiPietro
<b>SAT</b>	<b>3/23</b>
9:00	Rocco & Antonietta Cardarelli
	All Souls in Purgatory
	Dorothy Kavanagh (Happy Birthday in Heaven)
	Li Jian Tao (Li Joseph)
	Doris & George Comer
	Giovanna Mazzoni (Living)
	Lelio & Roberto Mazzoni & All Deceased Members of The Mazzoni Family
	Michele & Maria Scopa
	Zlatko Bacich & Anton Merlin
5:00	Norma Ciacco
<b>SUN</b>	<b>3/24</b>
7:30	Frank Cirri Sr.
9:00	Carmelo Giardina, Anna & Angelo Graci
	Msr. Kevin Noone (Happy Birthday Wishes) (Living)
	Elis Rasporich
	Domenico Zampini
	The People of The Parish
10:30	Scott Bower (2nd Anniversary)
12:00	Marijan - Vera Stipicevic



## Bread & Wine

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

***James Brady***

***Gift Given by: His Wife & Family***



## Altar Candles

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

***Irene Pariselli***

***Gift Given by: Her Loving Daughters: Linda, Angela, Teresa, & Mary***



## Sanctuary Candles

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

***Irene Pariselli***

***Given Given by: Her Loving Husband, Guido Pariselli***



***Newly Enrolled in the Purgatorial Society***

**February, 2024**

***Rose Galeota  
Eugenia Madonna  
Thomas Nicosia  
Regina Modica, RN  
Lelio & Robert Mazzoni  
Michele & Maria Scopa  
Emilia Foschi***

*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...*

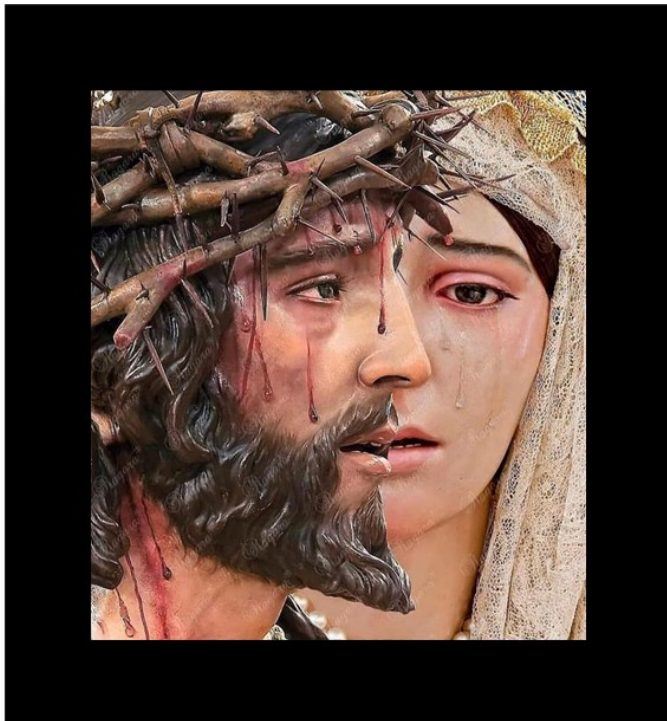
*Father of goodness and love, hear our prayers for the sick members of our community and for all who are in need. Amen*

### **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     | • Carolynn 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     | • Giovanna Mazzoni   |
| • Freda Cassini       | • Brian Finnerty      | • Valerie Albano Krug   | • James Burns        |
| • 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:**

**Marie Matticchio**



## **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.”***

# Pascal Candle Memorial



Last year we received an overwhelming response to this memorial we will not be limiting the number of participants. If you wish to be part of this years Pascal Candle Memorial please come to the rectory during office hours (9:00am-3:00pm Monday to Friday) with your offering of \$50.

The candle will be lit at all Masses - Easter through Pentecost (50 Days) - Deadline is March 21st. A special page for your memorial intention will be dedicated in

## St. Patrick's Day, March 17



### St Patrick Prayer!

As I arise today, may the strength of God pilot me,  
the power of God uphold me, the wisdom of God guide me.  
May the eye of God look before me, the ear of God hear me,  
the word of God speak for me.

May the hand of God protect me, the way of God lie before  
me, the shield of God defend me, the host of God save me.  
May Christ shield me today.

Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me,  
Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me,  
Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down,  
Christ when I sit, Christ when I stand, Christ in the heart of  
everyone who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of everyone  
who speaks of me, Christ in every eye that sees me,  
Christ in every ear that hears me.

Amen

**Saint Patrick pray for us!**





# At St. Mel's Catholic Academy...



## We are Fair!

### February Students of the Month

Our value of the month of February is Fairness. Here at St. Mel's teaching and living out gospel values is part of our mission. Fairness doesn't always mean that everyone gets the same thing instead everyone gets what they need. We would like to congratulate the following students for their sense of fairness during the month of February

3KA Ciara Barone  
PKA Colin Foy  
K1 Niko Begonja  
Gr. 2 Isabelle Fana  
Gr 5 Fiona Capitolo

3KB Boris Leiter-Gryszkin  
PKB Elena Tatta  
K2 Genevieve Pizzo  
Gr. 3 Isaiah Persaud  
Gr. 6 ShuYi Ding

3KC Luciano Franco  
PKC Gabriella Musacchia  
Gr. 1 Stella Maris Glavan  
Gr. 4 Christine Marino

*Congratulations!*





**ASSOCIAZIONE ITALO-AMERICANA DI SAN MEL**

**LA GRANDE FESTA DI  
SAN GIUSEPPE**



**LA MESSA SOLENNE PER LA FESTA DI SAN GIUSEPPE**

**MARTEDI, 19 MARZO 2024**

**7:00 PM**

**IL CELEBRANTE: IL VESCOVO NICHOLAS DIMARZIO**

**DOPO LA MESSA, VERRA' DISTRIBUITO**

**IL PANE BENEDETTO**



# 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](https://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.

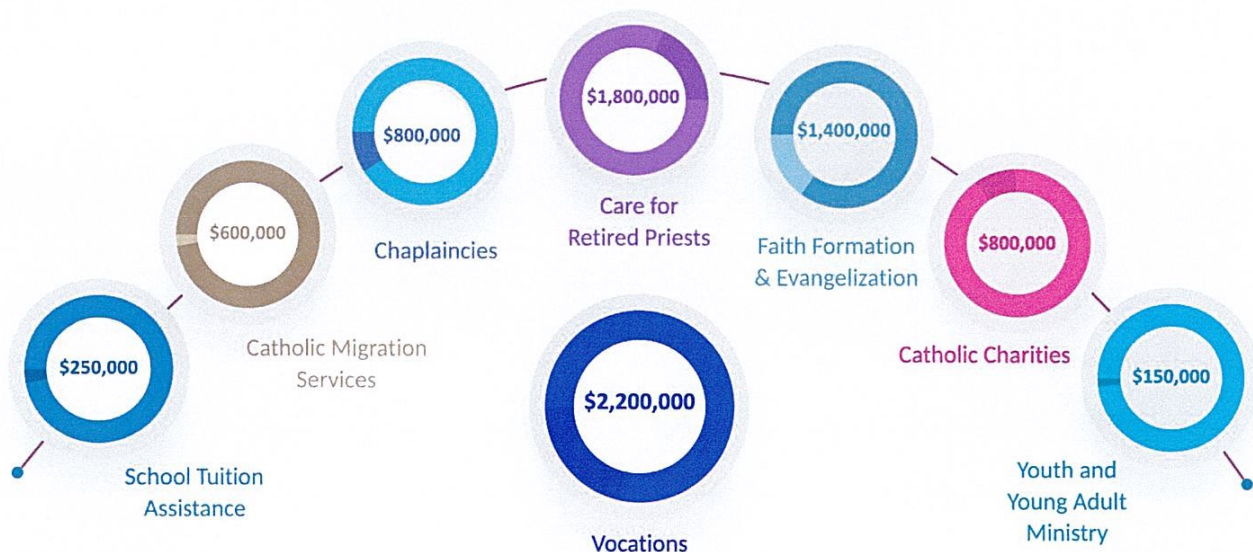
**The goal at St. Mel R.C. Church is \$84,065**

**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?





# 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](mailto:stmelfaithformation@gmail.com) and [mariamarotta@stmels-queens.org](mailto:mariamarotta@stmels-queens.org)



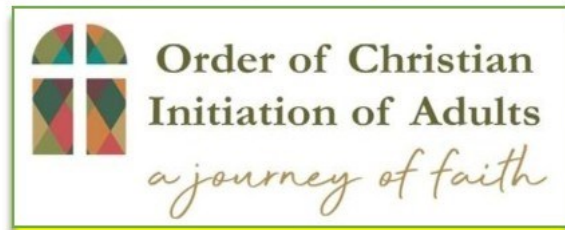
## SAVE THE DATE – Sunday April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024 at 10:30 am Mass

Mass for Children and Families of First Communion Candidates from the  
St. Mel's Catholic Academy and the School of Religion



- ◆ 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](mailto:stmelfaithformation@gmail.com) or at 718-461-9840**

# First Penance Celebration



**O my God! I am heartily sorry for having offended You, and I detest all my sins, because I dread the loss of Heaven and the pains of hell: but most of all because I have offended You, my God, who is all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Your grace, to confess my sins, to do penance, and to amend my life. Amen.**



## St. Mel's Leisure Club



### DEFENSIVE DRIVING

Saturday, April 6th  
9:00AM—3:30PM  
St. Mel Men's Club  
\$50

Call Marty for more information:  
631-360-9720



### Because no marriage is beyond hope...

- Is your marriage tearing you apart?
- Do you feel hurt and angry?
- Does talking make it worse?
- Thought of leaving or divorce?
- Is your marriage heading in the wrong direction?

### Retrouvaille can help.

**Our Next Weekend is**  
**April 26-28, 2024**  
**at The Immaculate Conception Seminary,**  
**Huntington**

**To register or for more information:**  
**1-800-470-2230**  
**HelpOurMarriage.org**

**Retrouvaille** is a practical program for married couples facing difficult challenges. It is not counseling and you will not be asked to share the personal details of your story.

**Retrouvaille** is different; it's a way to improve your communication, help you reconnect, and build a healthy, happier, stronger marriage.



### 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.

### 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.

**March 10, 2024**

**Mass Attendance Total = 845**

**5:00 PM—170**

**7:30 AM—115**

**9:00 AM—82**

**10:30 AM—263**

**12:00 PM— 215**

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 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary and  
1974 on their 50<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:simazzella@aol.com)

Dorian Mecir @ [dorianc67@aol.com](mailto:dorianc67@aol.com)

Kathy Siano @ [emeraldcity66@verizon.net](mailto:emeraldcity66@verizon.net)

Maureen Cooke @ [moe9091@optonline.net](mailto:moe9091@optonline.net) (Class of 1974)

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





## Holy Thursday –

### Mass of the Lord's Supper

“With this Mass in the evening of the Thursday in Holy Week, the Church begins the sacred Easter Triduum and devotes itself to the remembrance of the Last Supper. At this supper on the night he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus, loving those who were his own in the world even to the end, offered his body and blood to the Father under the appearance of bread and wine, gave them to the apostles and their successors in the priesthood to offer them in turn.

“This Mass is, first of all, the memorial of the institution of the Eucharist, that is, of the memorial of the Lord's Passover, by which under sacramental signs he perpetuated among us the sacrifice of the New Law. The Mass of the Lord's Supper is also the memorial of the priesthood, by which Christ's Mission and sacrifice are perpetuated in the world. In addition this Mass is the memorial of that love by which the Lord loved us even to death.” (Ceremonial of Bishops)

Since Vatican II this Mass is fittingly celebrated at an evening hour, which ideally allows families to attend together. The Mass concludes with a procession bringing Jesus in the Holy Eucharist to a repository recalling his Agony in the Garden: an ideal time to join him in silent prayer.

*Egeria Inserts are an endeavor of [egeriathepilgrim.com](http://egeriathepilgrim.com)*



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