

Church of Saint Mel

2615 154th St., Flushing, NY 11354

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

www.stmels-queens.org



Sunday, August 20, 2023

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

Rudolph Albert

FAITH FORMATION

CO-DIRECTORS

Paula Migliore - Denise DeRosa
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.



Whether a fledgling bird or a teenager headed off to college, leaving the nest is never easy.

This past week I blessed several of our young people who are leaving for college. Some have chosen to study a car ride away; others have decided to cross state lines. Regardless of the distance, this first time away from family, familiarity, comfort, and convenience will be a sacrifice for them and their parents/siblings. We ask the Lord to bless their academic efforts with success and to keep them safe.

Going away myself for college and then living in Rome for 5 years, I testify that: "Absence Makes the Heart Grow Fonder." Of course, adjustments had to be made and a few tears had to be shed, sorry Mom, but growth in maturity, wisdom, understanding, and independence were my windfall. I also had the added blessing of discovering the world beyond my neighborhood and meeting some amazing people who till this day are among my closest friends.

In and throughout the Bible we read about people who were invited by God to leave their comfort zones to achieve/discover more about themselves, life, and love. God constantly extends this invitation to each of us. Sometimes it shows itself in a relocation; many times, it is a beckoning to "think outside of the box", to "take the leap of faith", to trust in God's providential care of us.

May the nearness of this new academic year instill within us a hunger to know more, be more, discover more about ourselves, life, and our Catholic faith.

Father Fonti



Blessing of Backpacks & School Supplies

**Start off the New School Year by having your
backpack and supplies blessed!**

**Sunday September 3rd, 2023
10:30am Family Mass**

All students and educators are welcome!



Mass Intentions - August 20, 2023

SAT	8/19
5:00	Mom Jean Cervasio (Anniversary in Heaven)
SUN	8/20
7:30	Rose Flood
9:00	Anthony Mordente & Anthony Rodriguez Lelio, Robert, Enrico, & Francesco Mazzoni Joseph & Palmira Gatti Cristofaro DeMarinis The People of The Parish
10:30	Donald Halmy
12:00	Maria Calma
MON	8/21
8:00	Romano Flaim
TUES	8/22
8:00	Cecilia Pinto
WED.	8/23
8:00	Teresa Hill
THURS.	8/24
8:00	Vincent & Rosaria Rappa & Frank Rappa
FRI.	8/24
8:00	Martin & Lena O'Malley
SAT	8/25
9:00	Lelio, Robert, Enrico, & Francesca Mazzoni Patrick O'Connell Anthony Cillis Jr.
5:00	Anthony & Elizabeth Falsone
SUN	8/27
7:30	Catherine & Vincent Casale
9:00	Salvatore, Franco, & Angelo Bacarella Lelio, Robert, Enrico, & Francesco Mazzoni Giovanna & Vito La Puma, Salvatore & Martina Bacarella Sebastian & Christopher Gallagaer Domenico Zampini & Lucia DiRe In Honor of Madonna Del Romintello Isolina Cianelli The People of The Parish
10:30	Gioacchino Apollonia & Lena D'Arrigo
12:00	Salvatore Isabella LoBrutto



Bread & Wine

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

Robert Pitz

**Given by: With Love, John
& Theresa Holmes**



Altar Candles

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

Jeanette Coletti

Given by: Ronnie & Joanne



Sanctuary Candles

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

Carmelo Giardina

**Given by: Loving Mother
and Father**



**Newly Enrolled in the
Purgatorial Society**

July, 2023

**Kathleen Keown
Joyce Conte
Nicoletta Signore
Bridge Sullivan
Marko Bradica**

*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. | • Avery Santiago |
| • Lisa Sperazza | • Ari Ortiz |
| • Susan Trezioso | • Susan Caraher |
| • Nick Roberto | • Brian Finnerty |
| • Pasqualina Lucciola | • Robert Muller |
| • Julia Rollo | • Lee Ragusa |
| • Francesca Cecile | • Paul Adessa |
| • Angelo Ragonese | • Joanne Perricelli |
| • Nick O'Donnell | • Drenckhahn |
| • Patricia O'Donnell | • Dottie Giordano |
| • Kristian Mendez | • Siena Rose Romagnuolo |
| • Brian Finn | • David G. |
| • Jennifer Russo | • Rosa Annibale |
| • Roseann Orlando | • Patricia White |
| • Barbara Ann Luisi | • Patricia Feeley |
| • Tom Sammel | • Mia Elizabeth Skaats |
| • Freda Cassini | • Nicky O'Donnell |
| • Jacinta Carolan | • Jimmy Caraher |
| • Assunta Goldone | • John Holmes |
| • Kruno Pandzic | • Venice Hernandez |
| • Carol Sturm | • Gloria Ubertini |
| • Martha Catul | • Eileen McBride |
| • Dominick Fortino | • Cami Yandoli |
| • RoseAnn Dell Apenna | • Lynn Gallagher |
| • Alida Addeo | • John Paul Yezzo |
| • Yolanda Gatti | • Niki Angelopoulous |
| • Patricia Parrish | • Valerie Albano Krug |
| • Carmen A. Leites | • Bryan Day |
| • Carollynn Freeda | • Theresa Bedell |
| • Anthony Marino | • Karen Youdell |
| • Mario Sumberac | • Elizabeth DiCampli |
| • Helen Sumberac | • Angela Infantino |
| • George Behringer | |

We pray for those recently deceased from our parish:



**Annual Catholic
Appeal 2023**
DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

“United in Communion / United in Charity”

ST. MEL'S 2023 GOAL: \$ 84,065

Already Pledged: \$115,650.64

162 Pledges

(100% of all funds raised above our goal come directly back to St. Mel's)

A Prayer for Increasing Enrollment in Catholic Schools

O Good and Gracious God,
We praise and thank you for the students in our school. It is a sacred privilege to continue the teaching mission of your Son, Jesus. We hear His words in our hearts: “Let the children come to me! Do not hinder them.”

Lord, we are doing everything we can so that no child is hindered from coming to our school. We advertise, we market; we strategize and plan. Show us what more do we need to do, Lord?

Listen to our prayers as we ask you, Lord, to remove whatever hinders parents from choosing a Catholic school for their children. Guide their thinking and their decisions. May our desire to form a partnership with them be a source of hope and encouragement. Bless our efforts to meet funding challenges so that we can fulfill our commitment to be a school for all.

Lord, hold Mrs. Barron, our teachers, staff, our students and their families in Your loving, protective embrace.

And thank you for blessing St. Mel's with a hopeful and promising future. Amen.



masstimes.org
MASS TIMES FOR TRAVEL

When traveling this summer you don't have to miss Mass. If you are traveling in the U.S. you can use masstimes.org to find the closest Catholic Church. All you need to do is type in the city, state or, zip code from where you are and it will supply all Catholic Churches near you. Enjoy your summer!

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 haven't already, new and returning students should register your child for the 2023-2024 school year as soon as possible by completing the on-line registration form at <https://stmels-queens.org/religious-education>. The annual Tuition Fee can also be paid on-line at <https://osvhub.com/church-of-saint-mel/funds/tuition-religious-education>.

OCIA - Order of Christian Initiation for Adults

A Journey of Faith



- ◆ 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 stmelsdderosa@gmail.com.

St. Mel is now on Tabella!

Scan the QR code
or visit the link to
join our community!

tabella.app/connect



Tabella



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.

Stay Connected to St. Mel's Church



Go to: <http://stmelsrccchurch.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.

I prayed for you today

O Almighty Eternal God,
Look upon the face of Thy Christ,
and for the love of Him, Who is the Eternal High Priest,
have pity on Thy priests.
Remember, O most compassionate God,
that they are but weak and frail human beings.
Stir up in them the grace of their vocation which is
in them by the imposition of the Bishop's hands.
Keep them close to Thee,
lest the enemy prevail against them,
so that they may never do anything in the slightest
degree unworthy of their sublime vocation.

- St. Thérèse of Lisieux

Bundle Saturday

Our next Bundle Saturday will take place on **October 14th** from 9am to 12 noon in the St. Mel's Parking Lot. Clothing in good condition is needed.

If you are considering selling your truck, car, or van the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will give back to our church whether it is running or not— \$50/\$100 per vehicle. Call: 718-491-2525

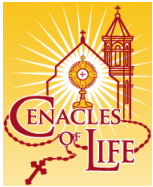
RACHEL'S HELPERS

A Post-Abortion Ministry for Women **Forgiven and Set Free** is a program for women who had an abortion and are seeking spiritual healing. Sponsored by the Diocese of Brooklyn, participants meet in small group settings.

For more information: 347-702-2352

No Fee & All Calls are Confidential.

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 come prepararono 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.



THE BRIDGE
TO LIFE

The Bridge to Life is in need of children's clothes (all sizes) in good condition. For more information please call Brian at Bridge to Life 718-463-1810 or text 516-387-2055

Volunteers Needed

The Bridge to Life is in need of volunteers on Wednesdays from 1-3PM to serve clients and/or to sort clothing a few hours a week (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday). For more information please call Brian at Bridge to Life 718-463-1810 or text 516-387-2055

14-02 124th Street ♦
www.thebridgetolife.org

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



AA Meetings

The First Step is always the hardest. It's made easier when it is not taken alone.

St. Mel's hosts 2 Weekly Meetings:

Mondays – 7:30 PM (Beginners)
Thursdays – 8:00 PM

Meetings are held in Serenity Hall. Entrance on 26th Ave / School Yard

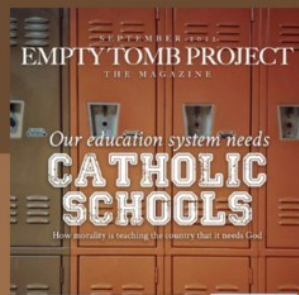
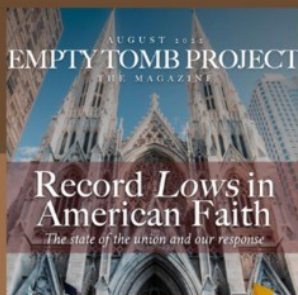
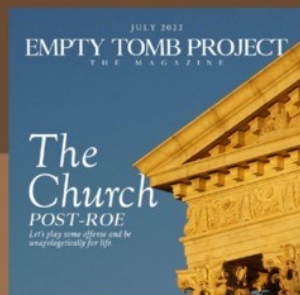
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Website
Link



COPIES WILL BE DROPPED IN THE CHURCH THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

St. Mel's 2nd Annual Cigar Night



Thursday
October 5th, 2023



6:00 - 10:00PM



Bourbon Street
40-12 Bell Blvd
Bayside, NY 11361

Join us for our
2nd Annual Cigar Night!
All proceeds benefit
St. Mel's Catholic Academy



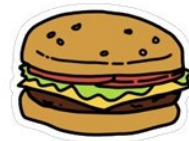
All tickets must be purchased in
advanced from the Rectory or
Main Office starting August 25th



Join us for a



BBQ



The St. Mel's Welcome Back BBQ

Friday, September 15th

7:00 PM

FOOD DRINKS DESSERT

This is a free event

50/50 DRAWING

Please call or email to RSVP

Joseph Vitobello (917) 929-4505 / vjvito@aol.com

Tony Flynn (917) 376-5286 / ma2kflynn@yahoo.com

Frank Keppel (718) 873-6759 / kepsenior@yahoo.com

Rain Date: September 22nd





The Chair for the Priest Celebrant

After exploring the altar and ambo, it's time to look at the place from which the liturgy is led. The General Instruction of the Roman Missal, 310 states:

“The chair of the Priest Celebrant must signify his function of presiding over the gathering and of directing the prayer. Thus the more suitable place for the chair is facing the people at the head of the sanctuary, unless the design of the building or other features prevent this: as, for example, if on account of too great a distance, communication between the Priest and the congregation would be difficult, or if the tabernacle were to be positioned in the center behind the altar. In any case, any appearance of a throne is to be avoided. It is appropriate that before being put into liturgical use, the chair be blessed according to the rite described in the Roman Ritual.”

The US bishops, in their document about building churches, add: “An appropriate placement of the chair allows the priest celebrant to be visible to all in the congregation. The chair reflects the dignity of the one who leads the community in the person of Christ, but is never intended to be remote or grandiose. The priest celebrant's chair is distinguished from the seating for other ministers by its design and placement” (63).

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917-881- 9149 per
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