

Church of Saint Mel

2615 154th St., Flushing, NY 11354

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

www.stmels-queens.org



Sunday, November 12, 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

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.

"They seemed, in the view of the foolish , to be dead... but they are at peace."

The Faithful Departed of St. Mel's

November 2022—October 2023

*Dorothy Pagano
Christine Albanese
Anthony Donatelli
James Brady
Francis Skuse
Francesco Leone
John Donelan
Rosemarie D'Angelo
Luigi Coppola
Maria Scoparino
Thomas Walsh
Rosita DiTrollo
Louis Lucchi
Josephine Magliano
Deborah DiGennaro
Maureen Clifford
Giuseppa Brusca
Anthony Casasso
Benedetta Marabeti
Antonietta Golia
Stella Nicoletti
Anthony Lucchese
Noelle Lennon
Anna Pizzurro
Robert Casal
Angelina Giacomino
Peter Papadopoulos*

*Mary Paront-Gorman
Joan Kruger
Florence Artinger
Joan Repice
Vincent DeLucia
Leonard Bohlig
Louise Gambino
Franco DiPietro
Ante Martinovic
Rosemarie Marinelli
Eileen Ryan
Noel Ferdinands
Louis Fonti III
Marie Speranza
Anna Gilmartin
Catalina Galvio
Jean Gagliardotto
Florence Morea
Rose Dallo
Dorothea Addeo
Kathleen Woelfel
Pasquale Tamburro
Donald Harold
Joseph Augustine
Marc Pagnozzi
Daniel Ilijasic
Teresa Hill
Alex O'Brien*

*Gloria Ubertini
Maria Colella
Ruthann Poole
Thomas Prunella
Nicoletta Signore
Joan Andreani
Bridget Sullivan
Jeanette Coletti
Zygmunt Wartski
Lieselotte Freels
Stefano Inzalaco
Brian Finn
Diomera Tansey
Millie Graziano
James Farnochi
Elizabeth DiCampfi
Helen Piazza
Nicoletta Marino
Justino Lopez
Myles McPartland
James Pollard
Carmen Scifo
Marie Sansone
Maria Nacinovich
Esther Malena
Gina Picerno
Francesco Canale*



Some believe that if you bury a statue of St. Joseph, you will sell your house.

I found out that if you want to rent your house, just ask a “Sister of St. Joseph.”

Our parish owns the house across the street from the rectory. Rented by our former organist, Rudy, and his family, the house became available as a rental at the end of the summer. It was then that I saw Sister Rosina praying in church.

Sister Rosina is a member of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Saint-Marc, a religious community of women that has its origins in France and whose charism is Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. She and her fellow 3 Sisters, all of whom are from India, are trained nurses. In this capacity they minister with the Carmelite Sisters to care for the aged at Ozanam Hall.

When we spoke in church that day Sister Rosina shared with me the community’s need for more housing. Presently, she and her 3 sisters live in a modest house close to Ozanam. Informed by their provincial that 3 additional Sisters are on their way to assist them, the issue of housing became a concern. The present house cannot accommodate the soon-to-be arrivals. I told Sr. Rosina: “I believe St. Joseph has answered your prayers. We have a house available, and it has 3 bedrooms!”

I am happy to share that St. Mel’s will not only have the fortune of 3 priests, but in early January the added blessing of 3 Religious Sisters! Once the Sisters are comfortably moved-in, I will formerly introduce them to the parish.

What a grace for our parish in this time of Eucharistic Revival to have the membership of these consecrated women whose main mission is to encourage Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Come, let us adore Him!

Father Fonti



Mass Intentions – November 12, 2023

SAT	11/11
5:00	Alex Fazzi
SUN	11/12
7:30	The People of The Parish
9:00	Rita DiCamillo
	Sebastian Parisi
	Lina Pellarin
	Americo Chima, Anna & Angelo Graci, & Carmelo Giardina
	Giuseppe Zuccarello
	Francesco Canale
	Domenick Lobasso
	Antonio Lalicata
	Laura Maffei
10:30	Filomena Monti Fraraccio
12:00	Giovanni Pancheri
MON	11/13
7:00	All Souls Novena
9:00	Domenico Ursino
TUES	11/14
7:00	All Souls Novena
9:00	Peter Pinto
WED.	11/15
7:00	All Souls Novena
9:00	Tony Mirkov
THURS.	11/16
7:00	Linda Aprile
9:00	Charlie Gusmano
FRI.	11/17
7:00	Jean Cerone
9:00	Frank Rappa
SAT	11/18
9:00	Lucia DeVincentis
	Dad Rocco Anthony Cervasio (Birthday in Heaven)
	Joseph Connors Sr. & Joseph Connors Jr.
	Fortunato Cortez Jr. (1 Year Anniversary)
5:00	Lucia, Tomazo, Renato, & Mario Ljubicic
SUN	11/19
7:30	The People of The Parish
9:00	Mario Codispoti
	Francesco Balkdo
	Jenny, Matteo, Francesco, Francesca, & Santina Calabro & Family
	Umberto & Nicoletta Guadagno
	Kathleen Hyer
	Carmelo Giardina & Angelo C Baconella
	Raffaele Nuzzi
	Frank Skuse
	Santa D'Angelo, Guglielmo & Gandolfo Cascio
10:30	Stanley Hom
12:00	Camillo Carullo (Happy Heavenly Birthday)



Bread & Wine

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

Linda Aprile

***Given by: Carolyn & Bob
Sitler***



Altar Candles

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

Davor Cimera

***Given by: Maryellen
Armento***



Sanctuary Candles

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

Anthony Donatelli

***Given by: The Zaput
Family***



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

October, 2023

***Mario Andreani
Flavia Contratti
Marie Guerriero
Carmen Rivera
Bob & June Murphy***

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

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.

November 5, 2023

Mass Attendance Total = 707

5:00 PM—143

7:30 AM—112

9:00 AM—109

10:30 AM—208

12:00 PM—135

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.



"United in Communion / United in Charity"

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

Already Pledged: \$120,989.64

165 Pledges

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



St. Mel's RC Church
2024 Mass Intention Request Form
Return to the rectory office Tuesday, November 7th

Fill out the information below and bring with you on **November 7th** Enclose a check for each Mass offering: \$15 per Announced Mass and \$50 per weekly gift. We will take your requests in the order we received them. Only three (3) Masses are allowed at this time. Masses will be confirmed by phone the following week.

Please neatly print your information.

Name: _____

Phone number: _____

Mass Intention Information

Date	Time	For	Alternate date/time

Weekly Gifts

Circle one	Week of	For	Given by
Bread & Wine Altar Candles Sanctuary Candle			
Bread & Wine Altar Candles Sanctuary Candle			
Bread & Wine Altar Candles Sanctuary Candle			

Pennies for Presents

November 18—19

The Girls Scouts will be having their Annual Pennies for Presents collection. Each year they have collected loose change after each Mass to help some needy families celebrate Christmas. As in the past we hope St. Mel's parishioners can generously support this outreach.



St. Mel's Leisure Club

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.



SAVE THE DATE

2nd Annual Parish Christmas Party

December 9th

Sponsored by: The Men's Club

Details to Follow



At St. Mel's Catholic Academy...

we celebrate Respect!



October Students of the Month

Our value of the month for the month of October was Respect. Here at St. Mel's teaching and living out gospel values is part of our mission. Not only do we expect our students to respect each other and their teachers, we also want them to respect themselves. We would like to congratulate the following students for demonstrating kindness during the month of October.

3KA Peter Sparagis
PKA Rebecca Salamone
K1 Harbor Tam
Gr2 Esteban Martinez
Gr 5 Fiona Capitulo

3KB Ryan Wong
PKB Corey Wu
K2 Gerardo Milano
Gr. 3 Phillip Weng
Gr. 6 Keo Ma

3KC Giavanna Carniera
PKC Francisco Occhiuto
Gr. 1 Justin Leung
Gr 4 Quinn McConville



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, Nov. 19, 2023 at 10:30 am Mass

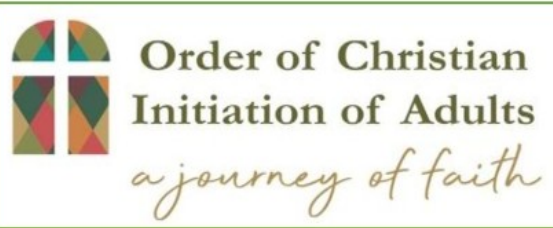
Family Grade Mass for Children from St. Mel's Academy and School of Religion – Grade 4

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 stmelsdderosa@gmail.com or at 718-461-9840



6TH, 7th and 8th Grade

Religious Education

Our evening middle school students recently watched the first episode of Netflix's The Chosen. They learned about Jesus and The Gospels. They later broke into discussion groups. It was a welcome change from the classroom for all!





Giving Tree

November 27th through December 17th

The Giving Tree last year was a great success. Together we were able to gift each group of religious women with \$1,472, and thirty of our homebound parishioners, each with gift cards in the amount of \$100—\$150.

Anticipating another year of generous outpouring and love, we invite you to join us as we brighten Christmas for these special groups: our parish Homebound, The Bridge to Life, and our friends: The Sisters of St. Joseph, The Sisters of St. Dominic and The Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm.

If you wish to support our outreach to the Homebound and The Bridge to Life you can purchase a gift card (any amount) from: Raindew, Met Fresh, Marino's, CVS, or a children's store for The Bridge to Life. Your gift will not only benefit our local merchants; but it will also make it easier for our Homebound parishioners to buy what they need. If you prefer, please make a check out for your desired gift and a member of the parish staff will purchase the gift card for you. The check should be made out to St. Mel's. In the memo, please indicate which business you wish to support.

Similarly, if you wish to support our religious women, please write your check to St. Mel's and indicate in the memo which community you wish to support.

Please place your gift in the wooden boxes located at the entrances of the church. Or if you wish, you can bring it to the rectory office.



Defensive Driving

Saturday, December 9th

In the Men's Club
9:00AM—3:30PM

\$50

Call Marty: 631-360-9720



With Thanksgiving near, our neighbors at St. Andrew's invite us to join them in stocking the shelves at two of our deanery Food Pantries: St. Michael's and St. Fidelis. Non-perishable food items will be collected at St. Andrew's the weekend of Nov 18th-19th before and after all weekend Masses. Mass times: Saturday: 4 PM, Sunday: 8 AM, 9:30 AM, & 11 AM.

NARANON OPEN MEETING

Looking for support?
A loved one struggling with addiction?

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

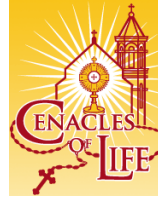
JOIN US TUESDAY EVENINGS FROM
7:30-9:00PM

Lower level of St. Mel School

Contact: Ann Acquaviva 201-400-7760

for more details

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.

A PRAYER FOR POLICE OFFICERS



Almighty God ~

We pray that you watch over
our police and law officers each day
as they keep us safe
in our homes and on our streets.

Dear God, their work is often
stressful and dangerous
so we humbly place them in your care.
We pray that you shield them from harm
as they carry out their service on our behalf.

Please give these brave men and women
your Almighty protection and
unite them safely with their loved ones
at the end of every day. ~ Amen

Bundle Saturday

Our next Bundle Saturday will take place on **January 13** 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

A PRAYER FOR HEALING VICTIMS OF ABUSE

God of endless love,
ever caring, ever strong,
always present, always just:
You gave your only Son
to save us by his blood on the cross.

Gentle Jesus, shepherd of peace,
join to your own suffering
the pain of all who have been hurt
in body, mind, and spirit
by those who betrayed the trust placed in them.

Hear the cries of our brothers and sisters
who have been gravely harmed,
and the cries of those who love them.
Soothe their restless hearts with hope,
steady their shaken spirits with faith.
Grant them justice for their cause,
enlightened by your truth.

Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts,
heal your people's wounds
and transform brokenness into wholeness.
Grant us the courage and wisdom,
humility and grace, to act with justice.
Breathe wisdom into our prayers and labors.
Grant that all harmed by abuse may find peace in justice.
We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.



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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

PARISH BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

St. Luke Church



**Meets every 1st
Tuesday
of every month.**

This group provides emotional assistance for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

If you are interested in participating in these meetings **you must** contact **Sister Theresa** at **(718) 746-8531**.

Sister also offers individual Bereavement Counseling Sessions where needed. Please remember to pray for all who are grieving the loss of loved ones.

**PLEASE
TURN OFF
CELL
PHONES**



Thank you!



Stay Connected to St. Mel's Church

Go to: <http://stmelsrchurch.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.



Church Bells

Church bell ringing dates to the 400s and the bishop St. Paulinus of Nola (today Southern Italy).

The US bishops express succinctly: "It is an ancient practice to summon the Christian people to the liturgical assembly or to alert them to important happenings in the local community by means of bells. The peal of bells is an expression of the sentiments of the People of God as they rejoice or grieve, offer thanks or petition, gather together and show outwardly the mystery of their oneness in Christ." (Living Stones 99)

Many churches also ring their bells thrice daily at 6AM [or 8AM], noon and 6PM summoning the faithful to recall the Incarnation by praying the Angelus thus "sanctifying" the entire day. This call is usually rung by a series of bells - three sets of three bells which correspond to the invocation, response and "Hail Mary" of the Angelus.

Before the proliferation of modern timekeeping methods bells also had an extremely practical use for the community being rung on the hour or even on the half or quarter hour in some places.

Church bells do not ring after the "Gloria" at the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday until the beginning of the "Gloria" of the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday.

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