Church of Saint Mel

2615 154th St., Flushing, NY 11354

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

www.stmels-queens.org



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.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION & NOVENA

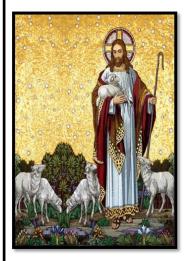
Each Monday after the 9:00 A.M. Mass. Blessed Sacrament Devotions: First Friday Adoration 9:30 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. Daily Recitation of the Rosary: 8:30 A.M.

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.



The Church concludes each liturgical year with the Feast of Christ the King.

This feast which highlights the Second Coming, reminds us that at the end-of-life each person will be judged by Christ according to what they did in the body whether good or evil: "And the king will say: "Come, you who are blessed" or "Depart from me, you accursed" (Matthew 25).

Adhering to the Higher Power, our King, is never easy. Innate within us is the desire to do it "our way", that is, on our own.

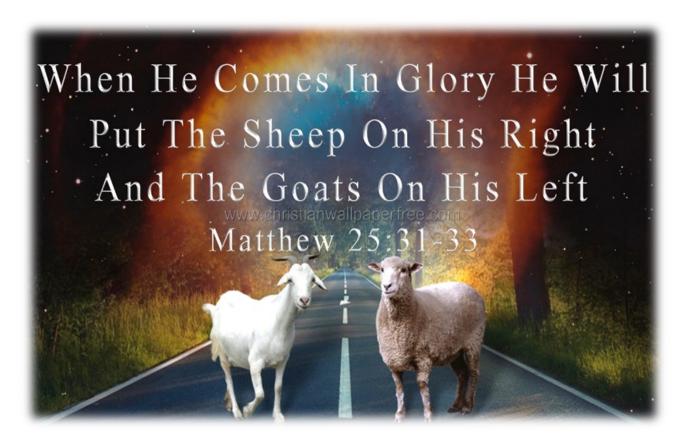
True and lasting peace can only be known and appreciated when we realize that we cannot live without Him.

Our submission to His Lordship is not our defeat; it is the means of our salvation.

Christ does not want to intimidate nor pressure us into being His followers. He wants us to awaken us from the slumber of sin so to share with us the joy of His Kingdom.

May this feast encourage us to renew our loyalty, to renew our desire to live with and for Christ the King.

Father Fonti



Mass Intentions - November 19, 2023

SAT 11/25 5:00 Dominick Galeota & Robert Galeota SUN 7:30 Scott Brower (Happy Birthday in Heaven) 9:00 Francesco Canale Antonio Lalicata Ernesto DiMarco Giovanni Salonia Carmelo Vasta Francesco Leone (1st Anniversary) The People of The Parish 10:30 Julia Chao 12:00 Giuseppe D'Amico, Pietro Gagliano, & Francesca Gagliano MON 11/27 7:00 Thomas J. Farrell 9:00 Rita & Vito Lestingi TUES 11/28 7:00 Giuseppe & Rachele Bona 9:00 Deceased Members of the Howell & McCabe Families WED. 11/29 7:00 Dorothea Addeo 9:00 George DeVardo THURS. 11/30 7:00 Herbert Holmes 9:00 Living & Deceased Members of the Mooney & Mordhorst Families FRI. 12/1 7:00 The Purgatorial Society 9:00 Giuseppe & Antonio Matrullo SAT 12/2 9:00 Mary & James Hayes Mary Paront-Gorman Bob & June Murphy Evon LaMagna Norma & Ugo Ciacco, & Teresa Ribarich 5:00 SUN 12/3 7:30 Marie Guerriero 9:00 Adriano Colalillo Carmelo Giardina, Anna & Angelo Graci, & Americo Chima Concetta DiMuro Francsco Canale Antonio Lalicata The People of The Parish 10:30 Maria Palma, Giuseppe Bonforte, Maria & Stefano Smolizza, Livio Smolizza, & Malfada Vucina 12:00 Domenico & Giovanna Brucculeri



Bread & Wine

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

Living & Deceased Members of The Howell & McCabe Families



Altar Candles

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

Julia Chao

Given by: Michael & Melody Iuliano



Sanctuary Candles

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

Marie Breidenbach



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.
- Lisa Sperazza
- Susan Trezioso
- Nick Roberto
- Pasqualina Lucciola
- Julia Rollo
- Francesca Cecile
- Angelo Ragonese
- Nick O'Donnell
- Patricia O'Donnell
- Kristian Mendez
- Jennifer Russo
- Roseann Orlando
- Barbara Ann Luisi
- Tom Sammel
- Freda Cassini
- Jacinta Carolan
- Assunta Goldone
- Kruno Pandzic
- Carol Sturm
- Martha Catul
- Dominick Fortino
- RoseAnn Dell Apenna
- Alida Addeo
- Yolanda Gatti
- Patricia Parrish
- Carmen A. Leites
- Carollynn Freeda
- Anthony Marino
- Mario Sumberac
- Helen Sumberac
- George Behringer
- Avery Santiago
- Ari Ortiz

- Susan Caraher
- Brian Finnerty
- Robert Muller
- Lee Ragusa
- Paul Adessa
- Joanne Perricelli Drenckhahn
- Dottie Giordano
- Siena Rose Romagnuolo
- David G.
- Rosa Annibale
- Patricia White
- Mia Elizabeth Skaats
- Nicky O'Donnell
- Jimmy Caraher
- John Holmes
- Venice Hernandez
- Eileen McBride
- Cami Yandoli
- Lynn Gallagher
- John Paul Yezzo
- Niki Angelopoulous
- Valerie Albano Krug
- Bryan Day
- Theresa Bedell
- Karen Youdell
- Angela Infantino
- Carol VitoBello
- Giovanna Palmese
- Anthony Rubinich
- Olga Scopa
- Tom Hummel
- Edda Iacona



First Friday Adoration December 1st following the 9:00 AM Mass. Benediction 12:00 PM. In the event of a funeral adoration will be held in the chapel.

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 19, 2023 Mass Attendance Total = 748

5:00 PM—130 7:30 AM—85 9:00 AM—80 10:30 AM—273 12:00 PM—180

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.



November 2023

Merry Christmas!

venmo

Dear St. Mel's Families and Friends,

The Christmas season is quickly approaching and just as the birth of Jesus illuminates our lives, we hope to illuminate St. Mel's Catholic Academy and Church. With a \$10 donation per bulb, a light will shine brightly at St. Mel's in honor of your family, relative, friend, special occasion or special intention. You may request as many bulbs as you would like to help us celebrate the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

If you would like to donate a bulb, please fill out the slip below and return it to school, or place in Church collection basket, in an envelope marked "Christmas Illumination" by **Monday December 4th.**

As Jesus is the light for all of our lives, we can symbolize his light by illuminating St. Mel's with thousands of bulbs. May the light of Jesus shine in our hearts, school, Church and community during this Christmas season and always. Thank you for your support and dedication to St. Mel's Catholic Academy and the greater St. Mel's community. We wish you and your family a very blessed Christmas.

	Amy Barron
Name Address Number of bulbs Amount enclosed Special intention for the bulb(s). \$10 per bulb	
1	You can now pay us with Venmo Please write your name and "Christmas Illumination" in the description.
4 5	@ Saint-Mels
6	

Christmas Toy Drive

***stmary's

Healthcare System for Children

DONATE A NEW, UNWRAPPED TOY FOR A CHILD THIS CHRISTMAS!

Please join us this Holiday Season in giving back to the community by participating in a Holiday Toy Drive! The Drive will run from November 20th through December 20th. Your donations of new and unwrapped toys will be brightening the holidays for the children of St. Mary's

Children's Hospital!

Contact: Melissamcoppola@gmail.com Robertstephen13@gmail.com Donnagee66@gmail.com

Drop Off Locations

Councilwoman Vickie Paladino's Office 20-15 Francis Lewis Blvd Whitestone, NY 11357

Christie Lauren 14-33 150th St, Queens, NY 11357

Larry's Auto Collision 15054 12th Ave, Whitestone, NY 11357

Patsy's Pizzeria 21-64 Utopia Pkwy, Queens, NY 11357

Prime Realty 250-02 Northern Blvd. Little Neck. NY 11362

St. Mel's Catholic Academy 154-24 26th Ave, Queens, NY 11354

Stonegate Real Estate 2a Poole St, Oceanside, NY 11572

Trattoria 35 213-15 35th Ave, Queens, NY 11361



Whitepoint Cleaners 132-07 14th Ave, Queens, NY 11356





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.



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, Dec. 10th, 2023 at 10:30 am Mass

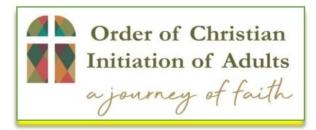
Family Grade Mass for Children from St. Mel's Academy and School of Religion – Grade 7

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

Fourth Grade Family Mass



















12p.m.-4p.m. 26-20 Francis Lewis Blvd, Entrance on 29th Ave

JennMakes * Angel Creations* Two Cats Creamery
Chunky Novel "T's" * Simpletwentythree *
Pathquilt Creaters* M Hearts Creations
Tee Tee Ma's Kitchen * Kooktown Crafty
Maria's Little Boutique * BorikenCoquito
Russo Wood Works * A Lid As You Wish
S & D Crocheted Gifts * Awesome Prints Gift Shop
Zaira Lipgloss Boutique



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



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 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



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

PLEASE TURN OFF CELL PHONES



Chank you!

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

Defensive Driving

Saturday, December 9th

In the Men's Club 9:00AM—3:30PM

\$50

Call Marty: 631-360-9720



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.

St. Mel is now on Tabella! Scan the QR code or visit the link to join our community! tabella.app/connect The Rosary Catholic Talks Ask Famer Josh 131 Episodes Faith Formation Faith Formation Faith Formation Faith Formation

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.



Advent

The Advent season begins the Church's liturgical year, through which we reflect on the Mystery of Jesus. Advent prepares for Christmas as Lent prepares for Easter. It consists of the four Sundays prior to Christmas. It can be as short as twenty-two days and as long as twenty-eight.

The word *Advent* comes from the Latin for "coming." The season has two focal points. preparing for the coming of Christ in glory at Judgement Day and preparing to celebrate anew the birth of Jesus Christ in the flesh. While the theme of the first weeks of Advent is preparedness ("be ready"), the last eight days (Dec. 17–24) focus us on the birth of Jesus. The presence of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception and the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe within the season give it a Marian quality.

Like Lent, Advent is also a penitential season, though that characteristic has faded as these same weeks have increasingly been treated as "the Christmas season" in our popular culture. Advent has many prayers and customs, most notably the Advent wreath and Advent calendar, the Jesse Tree, and the blessing of the manger figures, especially the Blessed Infant.

This year, Advent begins Saturday evening, December 2!

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manny.delmas.jfpj@statefarm.com

72 year old male looking for a companion to assist with daily household activities and chores (i.e cooking, cleaning, shopping). Schedule 3-4 days a week for

4-5 hours per day. Must be able to speak Italian or Sicilian.

Please contact Benny at 917-881-9149 for further information.

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domestiche quotidiane e le faccende domestiche (cucinare, pulire, farela spesa) 3-4 giorni alla settimana per 4-5 ore al giorno.

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Contattare Benny a 917-881- 9149 per ulteriori informazioni. remier I rinting of Long Island

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