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.



I am happy to share with you Good News: <u>The Sisters of St. Joseph of Saint-Marc</u> are officially parishioners of St. Mel's!

This past Wednesday, Msgr. Noone and I blessed our new residents, Sister Roseena, Sister Shiji, and Sister Rhine, and their "new convent", the small house across the street from the rectory.

Prior to their move in, our former music director, Rudy, and his family lived in the house. In past years, several others have lived in the house, particularly The Sisters of Saint Joseph of Brentwood who educated our children for years. So, in a way this new beginning is a "homecoming" for Religious Women who generously serve God's holy people under the protective/watchful care of Saint Joseph.

Founded 179 years ago in the town of Saint-Marc, Alsace, France, The Sisters of St. Joseph of Saint-Marc have primarily served the Church in the areas of health

care and education. Our newest parishioners, all licensed nurses, minister to the residents living at Ozanam Hall Nursing Home in Bayside.

In addition to working at Ozanam, The Sisters will be visible and pastorally available to St. Mel's. Two of the three Sisters are interested in joining the choir. All three are available to help with the distribution of Holy Communion at our weekend Masses.

Some words of gratitude. First, to the parish of Sacred Heart in Bayside. We thank them for helping us furnish our "new convent" with the furnishings from the former convent of The Sisters of Mercy at Sacred Heart. We thank our friends at St. Fidelis for gifting The Sisters with a small tabernacle for their chapel. And lastly, to our own, Peter Kwiath, who shared his time and talent this week to help us with final preparations in the house.

Like Jesus whom we hear today received the gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, we too receive "3" precious gifts: Sister Roseena, Sister Shiji, and Sister Rhine.

As we embrace them in friendship and love, we thank God for them and pray that their years among us will be spiritually rich and filled with happiness, joy, and peace.

Father Fonti



Sister Roseena



Sister Shiji



Sister Rhine

ST. MEL'S R.C. CHURCH Statement of Revenues and Expenditures For Year Ended August 31, 2023

Ordinary Income			
Sunday & Other Collections	\$ 450,648		
Rental Income	\$ 180,000		
Votive Shrines	30,076		
Poor Box	13,380		
Religious Education Income	12,145		
Other Income	11,784		
Total Ordinary Income	 ·	\$	698,033
•			
Ordinary Expenses			
Salaries & Benefits	473,609		
Rectory Expenses	29,794		
Office Expenses	42,040		
Religious Education Expenses	18,032		
Other Parish Programs	7,407		
Church Expenses	26,156		
Utilities	43,482		
Repair & Maintenance	54,637		
Insurance	70,997		
Diocesan Assessment	65,973		
Donations to Other Charities	9,934		
Other Expenses	 8,800	_	
Total Ordinary Expenses			850,861
Net Deficit From Ordinary Operations			(152,828)
Extraordinary Income			
Donations & Bequests	259,761		
Annual Catholic Appeal	35,935		
Employee Retention Tax Credit	43,951		
Investment Income	51,589		
Total Extraordinary Income		_	391,236
,			,
Extraordinary Expenses			
Church, Rectory & School Major Repairs	66,329		
Deferred Maintenance	 36,000	_	
Total Extraordinary Expenses			102,329
Net Surplus From Extraordinary Items			288,907
		_	
Net Surplus		\$	136,079

Mass Intentions - January 7, 2024 SAT 1/6		
5:00	James Cioffi & Rocco Bona Sr.	
SUN	1/7	
7:30	People of The Parish	
9:00	John & Augy Schiavetta, Robert & Ugo Gatti, & Joseph &	
	Palmira Gatti	
	Carmelo Giardina	
10:30	Salvatore & Isabella LoBrutto	
12:00	Josephine & Bill Spellman	
MON	1/8	
7:00	Msgr. William Sears	
9:00	Laura Maffei	
TUES	1/9	
7:00	Sister Lucille L'Episcopo, CSJ	
9:00	Marge Huygens (Living)	
WED.	1/10	
7:00	Christopher McCarthy	
9:00	Edward Sitler	
THURS	. 1/11	
7:00	Emilio Delligatti	
9:00	Dominick Pugliese	
FRI.	1/12	
7:00	Anthony Rubinich	
9:00	Josephine Proietto	
SAT	1/13	
9:00	Adriano Colalillo	
	James Joyce (Happy Birthday in Heaven)	
	Mary Augustine	
5:00	Ugo Ciacco	
SUN	1/14	
7:30	Madeline Bauer (Living)	
9:00	Francesco Baldo, Jenny, Mateo, Santina, Gigetto, & Gigetta Calbro	
	The People of The Parish	
10:30	Donald Halmy	
12:00	Dumica-Marko-Marijan Simicic	



Bread & Wine

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

James Joyce

Gift Given by: Teresa Joyce



Altar Candles

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

Elis Rasporich

Gift Given by: Juliana Grizic



Sanctuary Candles

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

Benedict & Carmela Zumpetta

Gift Given by: The DeAnnuntis Family



Newly Enrolled in the Purgatorial Society

December, 2023

Anthony Rubinich
Marie Nicholson
Gail Florio
Julie Grgurevic
Mario Grgurevic
Josephine Proietto
Calogero Tribastone
James Martino
Franklin Parodi

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
- Olga Scopa
- Tom Hummel
- Edda Iacona
- Bob Mistretta
- Patricia Lamagna
- Lester Kuczynski
- Beverly Ilchert
- Danielle Byrd

We pray for those recently deceased from our parish:



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

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.

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.

December 31, 2023 Mass Attendance Total = 661

5:00 PM—126 7:30 AM—105 9:00 AM—116 10:30 AM—179 12:00 PM—135



OPEN HOUSE



JANUARY 28TH 11:30AM

Please join us for our annual Open House!

Enrollment for
2024-2025 School Year
will begin during
Catholic Schools Week
January 28th to
February 3rd



2 154-24 26th Avenue Flushing, NY 11354







Saturday, February 3, 2023 7:00pm - 11:00pm

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FROM THE MAIN OFFICE
ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT
ST. MEL'S CATHOLIC ACADEMY



IN THIS NEW YEAR, MAY THE LORD GUIDE YOU IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION OF YOUR LIFE. HAPPY NEW YEAR BLESSINGS TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY!

OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION



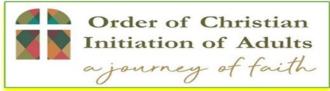
Religious Education Program

St. Mel's Office of Faith Formation provides Religious Instruction to children in grades 1 through 8 who attend public schools. Classes are held on Wednesdays from 3:30 to 5:00 for Grades 1-5 and from 6:30 to 8:00 for Grades 6-8. If you have any questions, please email us at stmelfaithformation@gmail.com and mariamarotta@stmels-queens.org

SAVE THE DATE - Sunday January 28, 2024 at 10:30 am Mass

Family Grade Mass for Children from St. Mel's Academy and School of Religion – Grade 5 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



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.





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 January 19-21, 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 a marriage retreat, or counseling. 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.

Catholic in origin, couples of all faiths, or no faith background, are welcome to attend. We are a Christian Peer Ministry offering tens of thousands of marriages hope in over 160 communities world-wide.

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 pregarono 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 las santitá 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.

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.



Stav 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 Search

T Ι D E I D X D E E S Q 5 Ι 0 E S S E R E 5 E NI D T S 5 G S N D

TEKAKWITHA CHRISTOPHER **IGNATIUS PORRES** LAMBERTINI SAVIO FRANCIS PAUL THERESE AUGUSTINE BERNADETTE PERPETUA MONICA STEPHEN **AMBROSE** JOSEPH JUDE AGNES BOSCO BENEDICT



Liturgical Colors - White

After examining the church building itself, the next most noticeable aspect of worship is the liturgical colors of the vestments and seasons.

White symbolizes rejoicing, purity of spirit and divine splendor. "The color white is used in the Offices and Masses during Easter Time and Christmas Time; on the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity; and furthermore on celebrations of the Lord other than of his Passion, celebrations of the Blessed Virgin Mary, of the Holy Angels, and of Saints who were not Martyrs; on the Solemnities of All Saints (November 1) and of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist (June24); and on the Feasts of St. John the Evangelist (December 27), of the Chair of St. Peter (February 22), and of the Conversion of St. Paul (January 25)." (GIRM 346,a)

White is also used for the sacramental celebrations of Baptism, First Holy Communion, Anointing of the Sick, Holy Matrimony and Holy Orders. It may also be used for Masses of Christian Burial and Masses for the Dead as well as several votive Masses.

On more solemn or festive occasions more precious vestment colors may replace white like gold or silver. Lastly, white may always be used if vestments of other liturgical colors are not available.

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> 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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