

Church of Saint Mel

2615 154th St., Flushing, NY 11354

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

www.stmels-queens.org



Sunday, March 24, 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
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



I am sure you are familiar with the adage: “A picture is worth a thousand words.”

This picture of the Suffering Christ is one of my favorites.

Whenever I pray with it, I hear Jesus saying: “Joseph, do you love me? Do you love me?”

He does not have to say anything more for the serenity of His somber eyes tell me: “I did it for you. I did it for you.”

Each Holy Week invites us to do something for Him; namely, to suffer, die, and rise with Him.

And so, seriously consider being with me this week as together we dine with Jesus in the upper room, pray with Him in the garden, die with Him on Calvary, and rise with Him on that first Easter morn.

As the picture of perfect love, Jesus’s actions speak louder than words.

May our effort to be in attendance this week make our love for Him picture perfect.

Blessed Holy Week!

Father Fonti



Mass Intentions - March 24, 2024

SAT	3/23
5:00	Norma Ciacco
SUN	3/24
7:30	Frank Cirri Sr.
9:00	Carmelo Giardina, Anna & Angelo Graci Msgr. 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
MON	3/25
7:00	Eugenia Madonna
9:00	Franco DiPietro
TUES	3/26
7:00	Mladen Aleksa
9:00	Giuseppe Magagna (Anniversary)
WED.	3/27
7:00	Madeline Bauer (Living)
9:00	Richard Donovan
THURS.	3/28 Holy Thursday
9:00	Morning Prayer
7:30PM	Mass of The Lord's Supper
FRI.	3/29 Good Friday
9:00	Morning Prayer
3:00PM	Passion of The Lord
7:30PM	Stations of The Cross
SAT	3/30 Holy Saturday
9:00	Morning Prayer
7:30PM	Easter Vigil - Easter Novena
SUN	3/31
7:30	The Stalloni, Rizzo, DiTaranto, Marano, & Corrigan Families
9:00	Americo Chima, Anna & Angelo Graci Carmelo Giardina Joseph Iccari Francesca Laconca Zlatko Bacic The People of The Parish
10:30	John Varallo
12:00	Frank Canale



Bread & Wine

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

Scott Bower

***Gift Given by: Mary
Elizabeth & Ann Grace***



Altar Candles

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

Irene Pariselli

***Gift Given by: Her loving
Grandchildren & Great
Grandchildren***



Sanctuary Candles

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

Michael Vangi

***Gift Given by: Roseann
Rohrsen***



***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...

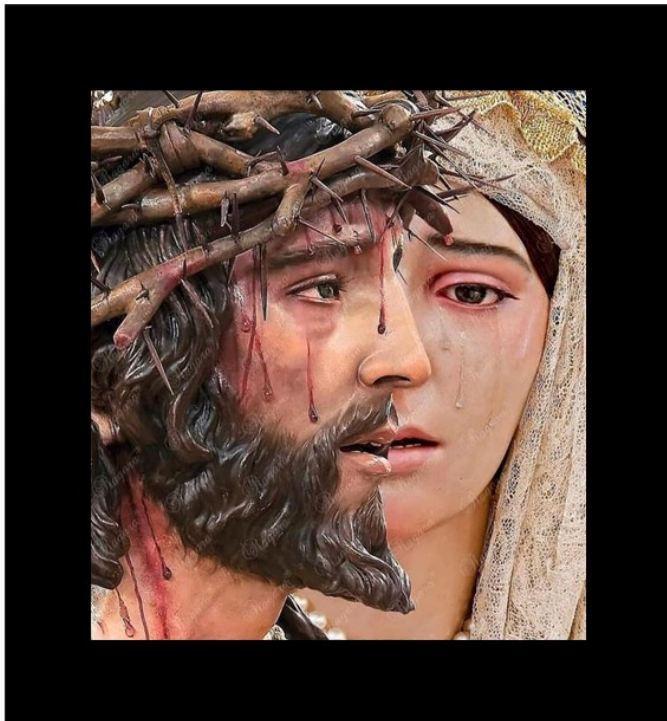
Father of goodness and love, hear our prayers for the sick members of our community and for all who are in need. Amen

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 | • Giovanni Badalamente |
| • 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.”



Hi, I'd like to introduce myself. I am Cathy Quinn and I am your new PAR- Parish Athletic Representative for St. Mel's. I am honored to represent the best part of our parish, our children. I'm an alumna of St. Mel's and a lifetime parishioner. Throughout my time as a parishioner, I have served as the softball athletic director, physical education teacher for 9 years, eucharistic minister and member of the Rosarians.

I am the current cross country Track Coach at Holy Cross HS and previously coached at St. Agnes and The Mary Louis Academy. I have served in this capacity for almost 20 years in the CHSAA, as well as 22 years in CYO as a coach of multiple sports.

I am grateful to have this opportunity to build upon the sports program for the children of the parish. I look forward to promoting the values of the CYO mission. My goal is that each child has the opportunity to learn and play a sport. Above all, more importantly, build confidence, make friends through teamwork but above all grow in good sportsmanship and faith.

Cathy Quinn

You may have noticed that our newly established convent has a statue of St. Joseph in front of it. Gifted to us by the parish of St. Joseph in Astoria, this statue honors the spouse of Our Lady & highlights the presence of the Sisters of St. Joseph now living among us.

We thank Fr. Vincent Chirichella and the parishioners of St. Joseph's in Astoria for their generous gift to St. Mel's.

Viva, San Giuseppe. Viva!





At St. Mel's Catholic Academy...

Student Spotlight—Fiona Capitulo



This week, I chose to highlight one of our students, current 5th grader, Fiona Capitulo. To many of her classmates and teachers, Fiona appears shy, quiet and unassuming. However, once she gets out on the ice, Fiona is a force to be reckoned with. Fiona is the goalie for the NY Islanders Girls 10U team and last weekend, she lead her team to place 3rd in the Atlantic Girls Hockey Federation after coming from behind victories against the Philadelphia Junior Flyers and the Bucks County Royals. Congratulations to Fiona and her NY Islanders teammates. Fiona, your St. Mel's family is proud of you and all of your accomplishments. You go girl!



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



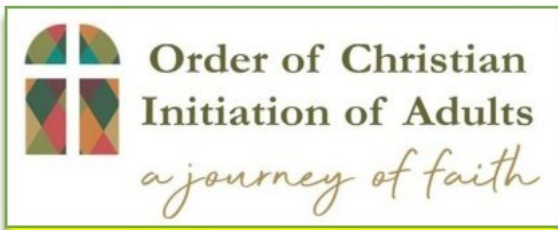
SAVE THE DATE – Sunday April 21st, 2024 at 10:30 am Mass

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 or at 718-461-9840

St. Mel's Leisure Club



DEFENSIVE DRIVING

Saturday, April 6th

9:00AM—3:30PM

Given in the 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

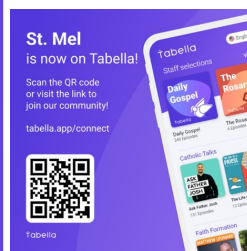


Tabella is a fully Catholic app where you can enjoy Catholic content to grow in the faith. The Tabella app is available in English/Spanish and has the biggest library of Catholic audio devotional content.

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 17, 2024

Mass Attendance Total = 847

5:00 PM—167

7:30 AM—103

9:00 AM—91

10:30 AM—286

12:00 PM—200

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.



Good Friday –

The Celebration of the Lord's Passion

“On this day, when Christ our Paschal Lamb was sacrificed, what had long been promised in signs and figures was at last revealed and brought to fulfillment. The true Lamb replaced the symbolic lamb, and the many offerings of the past gave way to the single sacrifice of Christ.

“The wonderful works of God among the people of the Old Testament were a prelude to work of Christ the Lord. He achieved his task of redeeming humanity and giving perfect glory to God, principally by the paschal mystery of his Blessed Passion, Resurrection from the dead, and glorious Ascension, whereby ‘dying he destroyed our death and rising he restored our life.’ For it was from the side of Christ as he slept the sleep of death upon the Cross that there came forth the sublime sacrament of the whole Church.

“In contemplating the Cross of its Lord and Bridegroom, the Church commemorates its own origin and its mission to extend to all peoples the blessed effects of Christ’s Passion that it celebrates on this day in a spirit of thanksgiving for his marvelous gift.” (Ceremonial of Bishops)

This unique celebration (Holy Mass is not celebrated) consists of three parts: Liturgy of the Word, Veneration of the Cross, and Holy Communion. “Come, let us adore.”

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