# **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.



As the school year ends, I offer a few Thank Yous:

**To our PAA:** Thank You for all that you did to make this year memorable and fun for our Wildcats. Ending the school year with a carnival...classy!

To our Board of Directors: Dominick Yezzo, Ann Acquaviva, Frank and Antoinette Quatela, and Richie Diaz: Thank You for your dedication and generous service to the Academy. Your tireless efforts have secured Catholic education at St. Mel's.

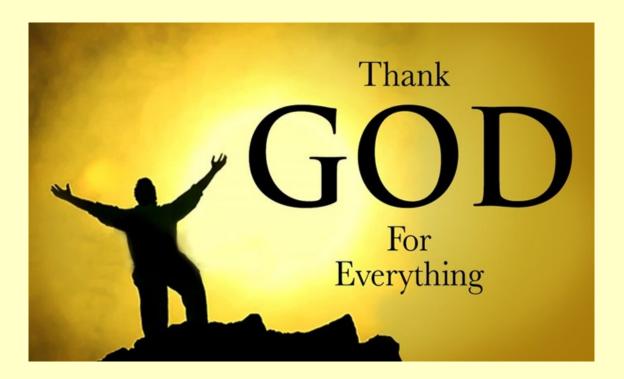
**To our Parents:** Thank You for your investment and for trusting us with your precious / beautiful children. We love them...We love you too!

To our Magnificent Teachers & Wonderful Staff: Thank You for molding the minds, hearts, and souls of our children this year in ways of understanding, loving, and believing. We are indebted to you and so thankful to God for you!

**To Mrs. Barron:** Thank You for wholeheartedly embracing the challenge of giving the Academy "new birth" 5 years ago. Your loyal, generous, and motherly care has brought our school and students an abundance of blessings. As you move south be proud that your hard work has set the school on course for greater success. We love you and wish you continued happiness in your new endeavors. We won't forget you. You have a permanent home at St. Mel's.

**To our Parishioners & Donors:** Thank You for your prayerful and generous support. It's true, "it takes a parish and then some." Thank you for your extended hands and open hearts. "The best is yet to come!"

Father Fonti





# Office of the Bishop

Diocese of Brooklyn

310 Prospect Park West Brooklyn, New York 11215

June 7, 2024

Dear Pastors and Administrators,

As you know we are coming up on the conclusion of this year's Deanery visits. Monsignor Joseph Grimaldi, your local Regional Episcopal Vicar and I have listened to your suggestions and concerns, and the conversations have personally been very encouraging to me.

As we look to the new pastoral year, I am committed to implement our Reconfiguration Process, with its three different stages throughout our diocese, in order to effectively utilize our financial and clergy personnel resources. The purpose of the Reconfiguration Process is to strengthen the relationship that already exists among parish communities in particular areas of our diocese and to enhance the varied ministries that each parish offers, while collaborating, partnering or merging with another parish.

Collaboration, partnerships, or parish mergers are taking place in many dioceses and a number of parishes share their pastor with at least one other parish with that number growing. The issues we face here in our diocese, though unique in their own ways, are similar to what is happening throughout the country. We are one family in faith.

With this in mind, pastors in each deanery have been tasked to discuss and adjust their Mass schedules in collaboration with the other parishes in their deanery this coming Fall. You are also strongly encouraged to work with neighboring parishes outside your assigned deanery, if pastorally necessary. To that effect, I am asking that no Mass intentions be taken after June 30, 2025. It is essential that every parish share in this commitment.

You will hear more about this process in the coming months, and you are encouraged to engage actively in the consultation opportunities at the deanery level. Please provide your thoughts and ideas to your Dean. This is an important moment for new opportunities in our diocese. It is crucial that this process be rooted in prayer and open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit. I ask that you be faithful to patient discernment and committed to creating a plan with your Parish Leadership, Dean and Regional Vicar that will set the roadmap for the future vitality and vibrancy of all our parishes in Brooklyn and Queens.

Thank you for your cooperation as we embark in this new phase of reconfiguration in our diocese. Be assured of my continued prayers for each of you and parish communities.

Fraternally yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. Brennan

Bishop of Brooklyn.

# Mass Intentions - June 30, 2024

Saturday, June 29

5:00 Philip Venditti

Sunday, June 30

7:30 Grace T. Cutrofello

9:00 Joseph Iccari

Anna Cinquemani

The People of The Parish

10:30 Maureen Brosnan

12:00 Angelo Messina

Monday, July1

8:00 Pasquale Tamburro

Tuesday, July 2

8:00 The Marano Family

Wednesday, July 3

8:00 John Joseph Ferina

Thursday, July4

8:00 James Fleming & James Farrell

Friday, July 5

8:00 The Purgatorial Society

Saturday, July 6

9:00 Ferucio, Albino, & Elio Boneta

Eugenia Madonna

**Dolores Rosales** 

Joseph Boneta

5:00 Charles Boyle

Sunday, July 7

7:30 Andrew Charles Giovanniello

9:00 Vito & Giovanna LaPuma

Ferucio Frankola

The People of The Parish

10:30 Maria Palma, Giuseppe Bonforte, Maria & Stefano Smolizza,

Livio Smolizza, & Malfada Vucina

12:00 Charles Gioe

Starting on Monday, July 1st until August 30th, there will be only one daily weekday Mass at 8:00AM.

# **Bread and Wine**

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

Andrew Charles Giovanniello

Given by: Mom, Dad, & Daniel

# **Altar Candles**

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

Daniel Ilijasic

Given by: His Children: Gloria Armano & John Ilijasic

# Sanctuary Candles

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

James Fleming & James Farrell

Newly Enrolled in the Purgatorial Society

May, 2024

Vernon Vlaun
Richard Carmelo
Deloris Ethel Walker Sosa
William Wrynn
Antonio Compa
Salvatore Torino
Rosario Randazzo
Matilde D'Amelio

# 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
- Lee Ragusa
- Paul Adessa
- Joanne Perricelli Drenckhahn

- Dottie Giordano
- Siena Rose Romagnuolo
- David G.
- Rosa Annibale
- 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
- Angela Infantino
- Carol VitoBello
- Giovanna Palmese

- Olga Scopa
- Tom Hummel
- Edda Iacona
- Bob Mistretta
- Patricia Lamagna
- Lester Kuczynski
- Beverly Ilchert
- Danielle Byrd
- Patricia Suarz
- Lena Bae
- Antoinette Ruotolo
- Charles Ragnauth
- Giovanna Mazzoni
- James Burns
- Giovanni Badalamente
- Vivian Dunne
- Kavlie Santana
- Michelle Milano

# We pray for those recently deceased from our parish:



June 23, 2024 **Mass Attendance Total = 767** 

> 5:00 PM— 145 7:30 AM—115 9:00 AM—180 10:30 AM-172 12:00 PM-155



First Friday Adoration is July 5th following the 8:00 AMMass. Benediction is 12:00 PM. In the event of a funeral adoration will be held in the chapel.

# St. Mel Catholic Academy Alums



St Mel Catholic Academy is on the move.

We are growing and expanding
at a time when many catholic schools are closing.

We are more important than ever.

Come see what's been going on at your Alma Mater and join us in support of our mission to continue providing Catholic Education, moral strength and academic excellence into the future.

With a generous donation from one of our alumnus, Steve Somers (74'), we have begun updating our school and have a fresh new look. We still have much to do but we are on our way.

Who: All St. Mel School/Academy Alumni

When: October 19th

What: 5pm Mass - School tour and reception

More Info To Come

Help Us Achieve
Our Mission.
Consider Donating









# FOR THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR 3K-7th GRADE!



# Set your child on the path to a bright future at St. Mel's

- · Piano Lab and Paint CAN art studio
- Indoor & outdoor gross motor play areas
- Social-emotional learning
- Hands-on, inquiry & center based learning
- Individualized and differentiated instruction
- Technology integration—Smartboards, iPads
- Tuition free 3K and Pre-K for All classes
- Early drop off and afterschool available
- Tuition assistance available
- · Warm, nurturing environment
- Tennis, Chess, Baking, CYO Sports
- Flying Classrooms, STEM Program









154-24 26th Avenue Flushing, NY 11354 (718) 539-8211 www.stmelsacademy.org St. Mel's Catholic Academy fosters the spiritual, social, emotional and academic growth of our students in a nurturing, Christ-centered environment to build a foundation for life.





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 age-appropriate curriculum. The program also prepares the children to complete their initiation into the Catholic Church through the Sacraments of Penance/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 for the 2024-2025 school year as soon as possible by completing the on-line registration form at: https://stmels-queens.org/religious-education. The tuition fee for the 2024-2025 school year is \$150 for one child, \$200 for two children and \$225 for three or more children. Tuition can be paid through one of the following three options:

- **By Check** Please make all checks payable to St. Mel Religious Education. You can mail the check to the St. Mel Rectory clearly marked to the attention of the Office of Faith Formation with your child's full name noted on the check or cover note accompanying your payment.
- **Zelle** To make payment via Zelle send to <u>faith@stmels-queens.org</u> Please include a note indicating your child's full name.
- Cash Payments in cash can be dropped off at the St. Mel Rectory in an envelope clearly marked to the attention of the Office of Faith Formation with your child's full name noted on the envelope.

May all the children/catechists and their families have a restful summer! If you have any questions regarding St. Mel's Religious Education program, please email us during the summer months at stmelfaithformation@gmail.com and mariamarotta@stmels-queens.org.



## OCIA - Order of Christian Initiation for Adults

A Journey of Faith

## ARE YOU SOMEONE OR DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO...

- Has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic?
- Was baptized Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Communion and/or Confirmation?

If you answered yes to either of these questions, we invite you to look deeper into the Catholic faith through a process called the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults ("OCIA")

Here at St. Mel, we offer an opportunity to come together in a small group (collaborating with the program at St. Luke's), to learn more about our faith. Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of Church and prepare individuals to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation during the Easter season.

You are welcome to participate in the process with your questions, your insights and your faith story in a warm and welcoming setting. If you are interested in learning more about this program, please contact the Office of Faith Formation at stmelfaithformation@gmail.com.

# Bundle Saturday St. Vincent de Paul



The next bundle Saturday will be July 13th. St. Vincent de Paul will have a truck in the St. Mel's parking lot from 9am—12:00pm.

Lightly used clothing is needed. They also accept shoes, handbags, towels, and linens. Thank you for your generosity.





# 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



## 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.



# 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 September 13-15, 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.

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.



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.

# Wedding Anniversary Mass

All couples celebrating their 25th, 50th, and 75th Anniversary are invited to renew their vows at a Mass celebrated by bishop Brennan.



11:30 AM

St. Thomas Aquinas Church 1550 Hendrickson Street, Brooklyn

Please come to the rectory to register.

The Fee is \$35.00 - registration must be done by September 15th.

If you have any questions regarding the celebration please call 718-281-9540

All registered couples will receive a personalized certificate and those couples in attendance will have their picture taken with the Bishop.

# DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

# 2 verts

# **VOCATION OFFICE**





Middle School students join us for prayer, catechesis, and sports. Located at Cathedral Prep, Elmhurst 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Sat.

Sept 28, Dec 21, Feb 1, Mar 29, May 10



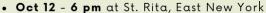
# Jeremiah Project

High School – College Vocation Discernment Retreat weekend for young men. Located at Saint Joseph's Seminary, Yonkers 5 p.m. Fri. - 1 p.m. Sun.

Sept 20 - 22, Nov 22 - 24, Jan 24 - 26, April 11 - 13



Project Andrew
An evening of prayer, dinner, and conversation for young men to learn more about the priesthood.



- Oct 26 5 pm at St. Mary Star of the Sea, Far
- Nov 16 5 pm at Queen of Angels, Sunnyside
- Dec 7 4 pm at Our Lady of Grace, Gravesend
- Jan 18 5 pm at Sacred Heart, Bayside
- Feb 8 5 pm at Immaculate Heart of Mary, Brooklyn
- Mar 22 5 pm at St. Fidelis, College Point
- April 5 5 pm at Regina Pacis, Brooklyn
- May 17 4:30 pm at St. Thomas the Apostle, Woodhaven
- June 14 5 pm St. Therese of Lisieux, Brooklyn



Fr. Chris Bethge Vocation Director



718-827-2454



Yocations Brooklyn Diocese



www.brooklynpriests.org 🧿 brooklynpriests





# the Nicene and the Apostle Creed

Е Η WGVLB R Μ G Ε Η C В P Η Α Y G P Е Μ P Е Y S O S Z N G Η Z P R В G Е P I N J Η S K S Η R Ε D Ε S Е Е Η I S I P R Е U D V O S F G P В G W Ι Μ Q J Υ Ι K D G Ν R T I R Η T C S L O R F J W В L L D N Z Ι Ε L K G Z В

forgiveness	christian	scripture	ascended	almighty
apostles	kingdom	worship	spirit	nicene
dalia	glory	power	bible	jesus
creed	holy	god		



# Eucharistic Devotions -

# Mindfulness

During this period of Eucharistic Revival for the Catholic Church in the United States, it is appropriate that we pause and reflect on Eucharistic devotions. It's beneficial to explore four aspects of these devotions: mindfulness, solidarity, public witness, catechesis.

Our devotion must be rooted in our hearts and minds. Perhaps it was simply passed to us from older generations by their actions. All Eucharistic devotion is rooted in the simple mindfulness of who is really present in the Holy Eucharist: Jesus Christ himself! There's no need to completely solve the mystery but always to appreciate that through love Jesus is accessible to us in an intimate way in the Holy Eucharist.

Because it is him present, we should always treasure our encounters. Thus, we ought to make a worthy reception of Holy Communion, both free from sin and free from distractions when attending Mass.

Simply put, if Jesus is our friend, don't we want to spend time with him through quiet visits before or after Mass and even during the week if possible. Even with locked churches, we can pause outside just for a minute or mindfully make the Sign of the Cross while passing. Social media even allows for virtual visits, if that is all that is possible!

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