

# Church of Saint Mel

2615 154th St., Flushing, NY 11354

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

[www.stmels-queens.org](http://www.stmels-queens.org)



Sunday, August 11, 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](http://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.

## Reflection 205: The Fortress of Peace



The peace of the Lord is like a fortress in which we must take refuge from all the outer attacks from the evil one. Outside of this fortress we are exposed to all of these malicious attacks. The darts of anger, oppression, deceit and envy can do us great damage without the sacred protection of the Peace of God. But within the walls of this fortress, the Lord protects us from all that seeks to do us harm. Seek refuge in the Lord's Mercy and allow it to form a barrier of peace, protecting you from the evils of the world. Do not allow these attacks to penetrate this barrier; rather, remain content with the Lord and allow Him to work on you within the safety of His place of refuge (See *Diary* #1067).

What is it that seeks to destroy your peace? What shakes you and disturbs you from within? Know that the Lord wants to protect you and to give you refuge. Seek His peace. Seek Him and He will give you, His peace. Peace is a gift that is beyond description and human comprehension. It's a place of safety that will shield your soul from the daily vices and attacks of the evil one. Do you know the Lord's peace? Are your eyes firmly fixed on this gift of His Mercy? Seek Jesus with all your heart and you will, indeed, know His peace. And in the shelter of that peace, the Lord will do great things to you, if you let Him.

*Lord, I entrust to You the protection of my soul. I give to You all of my inner longings, hopes, desires and weaknesses. Please come and form a barrier of protection around me so that I may meet You in this sanctuary within. I thank You for the love of Your Mercy that envelops me and produces sweetness and strength. I love You, my Lord, and entrust myself to Your perfect care. Jesus, I trust in You.*



A Mighty Fortress  
is Our God

Psalm 46

## Mass Intentions - August 11, 2024

### **Saturday, August 10**

5:00 Julia Finley

### **Sunday, August 11**

7:30 Catherine & Vincent Casale

9:00 Salvatore Cinquemani

Angelo Vitale

Monica Hernandez (6th Anniversary)

Paul Asaro

Mary Muggeo

The People of The Parish

10:30 Teddy, Carmela, & Christopher Kwiath

12:00 Giuseppe & Rosaria Candela

### **Monday, August 12**

8:00 Ante Grando

### **Tuesday, August 13**

8:00 Jose Reynoso

### **Wednesday, August 14**

8:00 Vincent, Rosaria, & Frank Rappa

### **Thursday, August 15**—The Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 Papa & Perretti Family, Miro Family, & Giordano Family

12:00 The People of The Parish

7:00pm All Deceased Parishioners

### **Friday, August 16**

8:00 Michael Ferrari

### **Saturday, August 17**

9:00 Frank Rappa

Marion Courtney

Dolores Rosales

Mary Muggeo

Yvonne Renee Brogan

5:00 Stephen J. Finley Jr.

### **Sunday, August 18**

7:30 Guglielmo, Ersilia, Raymond, & Frank Tiseo

9:00 Gioacchino, Apollonia, & Lena D'Arrigo

Carmelo Giardina

Carmelo Acquista

Giovanni Cangialosi

Angelo Vitale

Mary Muggeo

The People of The Parish

10:30 Sebastian & Christopher Gallagher

12:00 Maria & Francesco Prestifilippo

## *Bread and Wine*

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

*Teddy, Carmela, & Christopher Kwiath*

*Given by: Peter, Linda, & Laura Kwiath*

## *Altar Candles*

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

*Mary Muggeo*

*Given by: St. Mel's Italian American  
Association*

## *Sanctuary Candles*

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

*A Dear Friend,  
Jean Montenuro*

*Newly Enrolled in the  
Purgatorial Society*

*July, 2024*

*Diane Stolfi Baker  
Nayda Cruz  
Angelo Vitale  
Yamile Melgar*



## 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
- Carolynn 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 Angelopoulos
- 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
- Kaylie Santana
- Michelle Milano
- Joseph Onorato
- Calogero Gambino
- Jean Cettina

### **We pray for those recently deceased from our parish:**



#### **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.

**SAVE the DATE**  
**The St. Mel's Welcome Back BBQ**  
*Friday, September 13th*  
**6:00 PM**  
Rain Date: September 20th

The Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Mary  
Holy Day of Obligation  
Thursday, August 15th  
Mass Times: 8:00AM, 12:00PM, & 7:00PM  
*The Assumption*  
*Of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

# St. Mel Catholic Academy Alums

**SAVE THE DATE**

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**



**SCAN ME** 





# ST. MEL'S

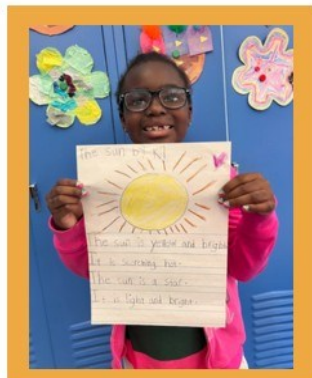
## CATHOLIC ACADEMY

**REGISTER NOW  
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](http://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.***



# Religious Education

**REGISTER NOW**

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 [faith@stmels-queens.org](mailto:faith@stmels-queens.org) 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](mailto:stmelfaithformation@gmail.com) and [mariamarotta@stmels-queens.org](mailto:mariamarotta@stmels-queens.org).



The logo consists of the letters 'OCIA' in a bold, purple, sans-serif font. A small, lit candle with a yellow flame is positioned between the 'C' and the 'I'.

**OCIA**

*Becoming  
Catholic*

## **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](mailto:stmelfaithformation@gmail.com).

**Bundle Saturday  
St. Vincent de Paul**



The next bundle Saturday will be **October 12th**. 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.

**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

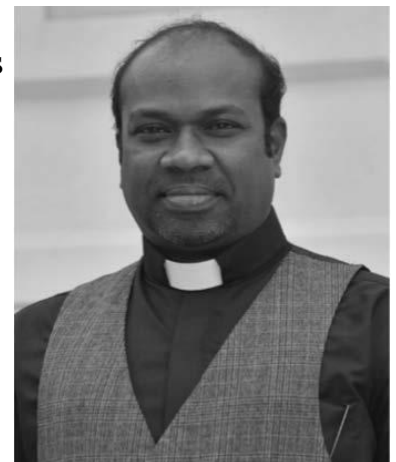
Lower level of St. Mel School

**Contact: Ann Acquaviva 201-400-7760**

for more details

**MISSION APPEAL TO PROMOTE EDUCATION  
AMONG POOR CHILDREN IN INDIA, AUGUST 24-25, 2024**

Rev. Paul Dass Selvaraj, OMI San Diego, CA will be making a mission appeal on Aug 24-25, 2024 at the Church of St. Mel, Flushing, NY to promote education among the poor children in India. Christianity is India's third-largest religion with approximately 30 million followers, constituting 3% of India's population. Around 70% of Christians are Dalits, a marginalized group without any rights or power. Dalits are formerly known as 'Outcaste or Untouchables' under the caste system of India. For centuries, they have been deprived of education, human dignity, and equal opportunity. Due to poverty, the Christian children are unable to continue their schooling and end up working in restaurants, tea shops, brick kilns, hazardous firework factories and weaving factories. They are robbed of their beautiful childhoods and bright futures. More than 15 million children are listed as child laborers in India. The only way these children can break this vicious cycle of poverty, abuse and oppression is to return to school. In this painful context, our Bishop, A. Neethinathan, Bishop of Chingleput Diocese makes this appeal in seeking your support and prayers. Your generosity through this mission appeal can help our children return to school and enjoy their childhood. You can surely prevent many children from child labor, child trafficking and child migration. Your contribution will be used to pay school fees, books, and uniforms. You can also support a child through educational sponsorship at [www.dalitsolidarity.org](http://www.dalitsolidarity.org) Thank you and may God richly bless you for answering God's greatest commandment -- to love.





**ST. MEL'S**

CATHOLIC ACADEMY

**FREE SEATS**

**STILL AVAILABLE (age 4)**

**Call or Email Mrs. Ligurgo**

**[mligurgo@stmelsschool.org](mailto:mligurgo@stmelsschool.org)**

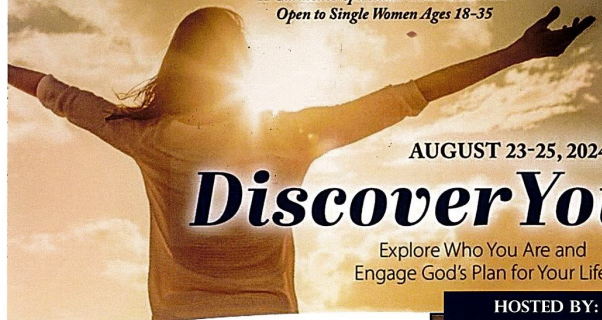
**718-539-8211**

**PRE-K  
FOR ALL**



# METANOIA CATHOLIC RETREAT

*A Carmelite Spiritual Weekend Retreat  
Open to Single Women Ages 18-35*



AUGUST 23-25, 2024

## Discover You

Explore Who You Are and  
Engage God's Plan for Your Life.

Discover You is a Metanoia Catholic retreat that helps adult Catholics to prayerfully discern and engage three essential questions:

*Who am I?  
What's my purpose?  
What's in the way?*



**RETREAT LEADER:**

**MATT INGOLD**

*Catholic Coach and Spiritual Director  
Co-Founder of Metanoia Catholic*

**SESSIONS INCLUDE:**

- Unearthing the Gift of Your Temperament
- Discovering Your Unique Call to Sanctity
- How to Co-author Your Best Life with God
- From Triggered to Transformed

Opportunities throughout the weekend for 1:1 coaching and spiritual direction.

**For more information, please contact:**

Sr. Mary O'Donovan, O. Carm.  
Tel: (845) 768-2303  
Email: [smaryod@stmhcs.org](mailto:smaryod@stmhcs.org)  
\$60 Donation Suggested



**HOSTED BY:**



**CARMELITE SISTERS  
FOR THE AGED AND INFIRM**

**REGISTER TODAY!**

*This is a retreat for single women  
ages 18-35*

**WHEN:**

Friday-Sunday, August 23-25, 2024

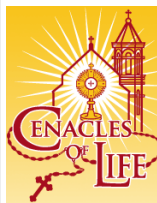
**WHERE:**

St. Teresa's Motherhouse  
600 Woods Road  
Germantown, NY 12526

**REGISTRATION:**

[www.carmelitesisters.com/  
retreat-registration](http://www.carmelitesisters.com/retreat-registration)  
or  
Scan the QR Code.

## 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 prepararono 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.



## **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.

## **August 4, 2024 Mass Attendance Total = 678**

**5:00 PM— 122  
7:30 AM—118  
9:00 AM—132  
10:30 AM—121  
12:00 PM—185**

**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 26<sup>th</sup> Ave / School Yard**



**AA Meetings**

# DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

## Events

### VOCATION OFFICE



#### Fraternitas

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 12 - 6 pm** at St. Rita, East New York
- **Oct 26 - 5 pm** at St. Mary Star of the Sea, Far Rockaway
- **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



[www.brooklynpriests.org](http://www.brooklynpriests.org)



Vocations Brooklyn Diocese



[brooklynpriests](https://www.instagram.com/brooklynpriests)



## THE GOSPEL OF JOHN WORD SEARCH

U Y O R E S U R R E C T I O N E S V E  
 N R Z C Z C Q Y V K M V C H D U B Z L  
 E W K F I S H E R M E N W I R R J N P  
 T S A M A R I T A N I P B A E M T D I  
 T H G I L L Z G M Z P A Z A S J I B C  
 O J R L E S H E N I V A D Q L H R K S  
 G L H B A N T J P S L I N A Z M I R I  
 E M A D I L A W I N E O T H A B P N D  
 B W U N O A S T H P I N T S C L S Z G  
 V J G V R C M J H T H U U O C I U G D  
 U T E H I E W E A A R L B G H N G N O  
 P Y I B Z Z T N F T N E S O A D E I Y  
 H T R I B E R E K I L A E L E N U L Y  
 L H X D S A E N P L L C E G U E U A B  
 D O Q Y C T W X V T B M V L S S W E N  
 G M R N T J C O M F O R T E R S A H S  
 I A I X O N I C O D E M U S Y B T M I  
 K S X H B B M A L Y N O M I T S E T Z  
 X R N W R D I V I N E Y R O L G R F T

<b>ABIDE</b>	<b>FISHERMEN</b>	<b>LIGHT</b>	<b>SPIRIT</b>
<b>BEGOTTEN</b>	<b>GLORY</b>	<b>LOGOS</b>	<b>TESTIMONY</b>
<b>BELIEVE</b>	<b>HEALING</b>	<b>LOVE</b>	<b>THOMAS</b>
<b>BLINDNESS</b>	<b>I AM</b>	<b>NATHANAEAL</b>	<b>TRUTH</b>
<b>BREAD</b>	<b>INCARNATION</b>	<b>NICODEMUS</b>	<b>VINE</b>
<b>COMFORTER</b>	<b>JOHN</b>	<b>REBIRTH</b>	<b>WASHING</b>
<b>DISCIPLE</b>	<b>JUDAS</b>	<b>RESURRECTION</b>	<b>WATER</b>
<b>DIVINE</b>	<b>LAMB</b>	<b>SAMARITAN</b>	<b>WAY</b>
<b>ETERNAL</b>	<b>LAZARUS</b>	<b>SENT</b>	<b>WINE</b>
<b>FEET</b>	<b>LIFE</b>	<b>SIGNS</b>	<b>ZACCHAEUS</b>



## Liturgical Ministries –

### Lector, Commentator, and Intercessor

Moving from the sacrament to the Word during the sacred liturgy, we first have the lector. The word *lector* is from the Latin “to read.” This minister reads the non-Gospel readings at Mass or other liturgical celebrations. In the absence of a psalmist, a lector may lead the responsorial psalm, and if there is no deacon, the lector may voice the petitions of the universal prayer (general intercessions). While individual Scripture readings may not be read by multiple readers, the ministry of the lector may be shared at a single liturgy as needed (e.g., multiple lectors for the many readings at the Easter Vigil).

While rarely used today, the role of commentator is permitted by the General Instruction. This would be a minister who gives brief explanations and commentaries to help the faithful better understand the celebration. More needed during the introduction of the Mass of Paul VI after Vatican II, it can still be helpful for children and the newly baptized during the *mystagogia* (revealing of the mysteries) period during Eastertide. Commentators may also make short announcements before the final blessing and dismissal.

In the absence of a deacon, an intercessor (or more than one) may voice the petitions of the universal prayer (general intercessions) as needed.

All of these ministers of the Word must be properly trained and adequately prepare for their ministry prior to each opportunity.

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