

Church of Saint Mel

2615 154th St., Flushing, NY 11354

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

www.stmels-queens.org



Sunday, September 8, 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: Lauren Giacalone, M.S. Childhood Ed., M.S.
School Leadership

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.



Last weekend we said goodbye to summer.

This weekend we welcome it again!

This coming Friday is our Parish BBQ. Sponsored by the Men's Club, this anticipated annual event promises parishioners of all ages a night of outdoor fun and feasting.

What to expect: a traditional summer cookout complete with burgers and dogs and pasta too! Arts and crafts and rock climbing for our kids and libations and music for us older ones. Something for everyone.

I hope you will attend. Last year we had over 500 attendees. This year we're prepared to feed more. So don't hesitate to join us because at our table and altar there is always room for one more.

At St. Mel's it's always summer because here the "Son" never sets. He is always among us and with us, fostering our friendships with one another and fortifying us as a united parish in faith, hope, and love.

Father Fonti

**At the table of Jesus,
all are welcome.**

**JESUS
FEEDS
5,000**

Join us for a



BBQ



The St. Mel's Welcome Back BBQ

Friday, September 13th

6:00 PM

FOOD DRINKS DESSERT

This is a free event

50/50 DRAWING

Sponsored by The Men's Club

Please call or email to RSVP

Tony Flynn (917) 376-5286 / ma2kflynn@yahoo.com

Frank Keppel (718) 873-6759 / kepsenior@yahoo.com

Rain Date: **September 20th**



Mass Intentions - September 8, 2024

Saturday, September 7

5:00 Philip D'Alessio

Sunday, September 8

7:30 Simon & Sophia An, & Children (Living)

9:00 Angela & Michael Vangi

Salvatore Cinquemani

Anna & Angelo Graci & Americo Chima

Antonina Zuccarello

Vito & Giuseppa Decimati

Victorio Todaro

Mary Muggeo

The People of The Parish

10:30 Pietro Gagliano, Giuseppe D'Amico, & Francesca Gagliano

12:00 Rose Galeota

Monday, September 9

7:00 St. Lucy & The Sacred Heart

9:00 Alice & Frank Renze

Tuesday, September 10

7:00 Rose Paroula

9:00 Richard Higgins

Wednesday, September 11

7:00 Dominick Pugliese (Happy Birthday in Heaven)

9:00 Matteo Pinto

Thursday, September 12

7:00 Adriano Papi

9:00 Maria Antonini

Friday, September 13

7:00 Donald Harold

9:00 Alex R. Fazzi

Saturday, September 14

9:00 Daniel & Nevenka Ilijasic (60th Wedding Anniversary in Heaven)

Mr. & Mrs. McCutchen & The McCutchen Family

In Gratitude

5:00 Mom Lucy Bova

Sunday, September 15

7:30 Ante Grando

9:00 Domenico, Antonino Casabianca & Leonarda Romano

Anna & Angelo Graci

Vito & Giovanna LaPuma & Salvatore & Martina Bacarella

Carmelo Alaimo

Jennifer Lavelli

Marie Blatus

Stefana Gioielli & Antonio Laconca

Maria Concetta DiMuro

Elizabeth DiCampli

Canpino Ciali

The People of The Parish

10:30 Kazimir, Branko, & Ankica Boncic

12:00 Helen Piazza

Bread and Wine

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

Walter Ilchert

**Given by: His Loving Wife Beverly &
His Children & Grandchildren**

Altar Candles

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

Benedict Tockarszewsky

Given by: His Family

Sanctuary Candles

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

Maria Antonini

Given by: Marilyn DeVito

**Newly Enrolled in the
Purgatorial Society**

August, 2024

Mary Muggeo

Tommaso Nacchia

Elisabeth DeSanctus

Richard Higgins

Thomas DeCarlo

Alfred Quinlan & Laura Hayes

Nicholas Cirillo

Josephine A. Falci

St. Mel's Catholic Academy School is Back In Session!





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
- Jean Cettina

We pray for those recently deceased from our parish:



St. Mel's Adult Choir

"You express, when you sing, your soul in song. And when you get together with a group of other singers, it becomes more than the sum of the parts. It becomes magic." - John Rutter

St. Mel's Music Ministry strives to provide joy, comfort and inspiration for our liturgies and festive parish celebrations through the musical gifts, generosity and commitment of its members. If you can carry a tune, want to learn and deepen your worship experience, and have a desire to try singing, please contact Kelsey. Happy singing!

~ ksheldon@stmels-queens.org ~



St. Mel's 3rd Annual Cigar Night



Thursday
October 3rd, 2024



6:00 - 10:00PM



Bourbon Street
40-12 Bell Blvd
Bayside, NY 11361

Join us for our
3rd Annual Cigar Night!
All proceeds benefit
St. Mel's Catholic Academy



All tickets must be purchased in advance
Please call or email Dani Van Arsdale
(718) 539-8211
dvanarsdale@stmelsschool.org

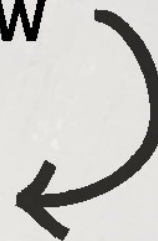
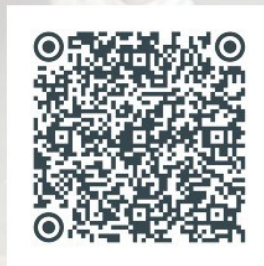
**REGISTER
NOW**

CALLING ALL ST. MEL'S ALUMNI

Please Join Us
October 19th
5pm MASS
RECEPTION
SCHOOL TOURS

RECONNECT WITH YOUR ALMA MATER
AND SEE OLD FRIENDS

REGISTER BELOW



FOR MORE INFO CONTACT JOANN ACQUISTA 917.440.6054



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 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 **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

St. Mel's Leisure Club

The Leisure Club will resume meeting weekly on Mondays. The first meeting for 2024-2025 will be September 16th at 1:30pm in Fr. O'Malley. Entrance through the main doors of the church. This year we would like to ask God's blessings for the club and its members at the noon Mass on Sunday, September 15th, If available please join us.

We warmly welcome any senior who would like to join us. We have bingo, cards, board games, and friendly conversation. You can pass the time sharing your interests with friends and neighbors. New tables for book clubs and crafts are encouraged. Cake and coffee are served at every meeting. Around the holidays we enjoy a festive meal together.

Give the club a chance. Come to cultivate friendships and to learn about community events and information. Please leave a message for Ann at the rectory office with any questions.

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

0813

September 1, 2024

Mass Attendance Total = 556

5:00 PM— 95

7:30 AM—91

9:00 AM—89

10:30 AM—134

12:00 PM—147

Labor Day weekend

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)

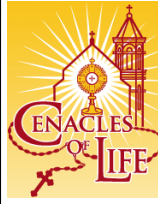
Thursdays – 8:00 PM

Meetings are held in Serenity Hall.
Entrance on 26th Ave / School Yard



AA Meetings

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.

WANTED

CYO COACHES

If you have knowledge in soccer,
basketball, cheer, or swimming please
contact Cathy Quinn

cquinn@stmels-queens.org

Defensive Driving
September 21st in The Men's Club

Entrance on 27th Avenue

For more information please
call Marty:

631-360-9720



\$50

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



Vocations Brooklyn Diocese



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



He does all things well!

"Everything he does is wonderful. He even makes the deaf to hear and gives speech to those who cannot speak."

Mark 7:37b (NLT)

Based on Mark 7:31-37



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

EARS
OPENED
TOUCHED

LOOSED
SPEAK
SPIT

MAN
MUTE
FINGER

HEAL
JESUS
DEAF

TONGUE
TALK
HAND



Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross – September 14

This feast recalls the finding of remnants of the True Cross in 326 by St. Helena and her son, Emperor Constantine, building a church over Mount Calvary (where the relics were found) and Christ's tomb. More broadly, the feast celebrates Christ's victory over sin and death through the wood of the Cross.

The Church of the Holy Sepulcher was dedicated on September 13, 335. On the following day, the relics of the True Cross were first presented to the faithful for veneration. For three centuries, the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross was celebrated annually in Jerusalem on September 14. Before the seventh century, it was observed in Rome and by 720 it was a universal celebration.

This observance is filled with the celebratory emotions that are understandably absent on Good Friday. Through his fidelity to the divine plan, Christ transformed an instrument of torture and humiliation into a symbol of victory and salvation. For the first quarter of Church history, crosses were covered with precious metal and jewels and used (like the Roman legions) as a standard to follow; hence processional crosses. Using the body of Jesus on the crucifix became more widespread in the 5th and 6th centuries.

We adore You, O Christ, and praise You, because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world!

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