



ST. MEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

20870 VENTURA BLVD., WOODLAND HILLS, CA | 818.340.6020 | WWW.STMELPARISH.ORG

SUNDAY, JANUARY 23, 2022

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me...
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free.
- Lk 4:18*

GOSPEL REFLECTION

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Human history reveals many periods where people lost a sense of God's transcendence. It may even be argued that human beings have been wandering and lost more than they have been at home and focused. Human nature being what it is, we struggle with who God really is — the God of our salvation history or the "gods" of human constructs. Relying on our own designs and pursuits, we forget that we really are meant to listen to One upon whom the Spirit of the Lord rests, Jesus Christ, and not to ourselves. That same history that reveals our fickleness and infidelity also reveals God's constancy and faithfulness. God always finds us.

As people wander and fumble to find their way, God is there bringing them back to holiness and giving them the assurance of His presence. We have to allow God's Word, God's life, to touch us and change us. It can make us more flexible and attentive to the sacred in all facets of life so that every day is one that is holy. Every day is a time when fulfillment is possible for one's soul. Jesus stood before those gathered in the synagogue as the fulfillment of words of promise that were echoed long ago. God doesn't forget. He always comes for us.

Now it is time to remember to go to God. Sometimes our lives are so confused and tangled that it is

difficult to see the Word and hand of God. But when we realize, deep within, the depth of friendship God offers to us it really has the power to turn sadness to joy. The promise is fulfilled. Going frequently to God's Word, allowing ourselves to be enriched and rejuvenated, and pondering the certainty of God's fidelity and promise permanently transforms us. We will be more aware of the sacred and the holy and less invested in things that pull us away.

©LPi



Pastor: Rev. Steve Davoren
Senior Priest: Rev. Vivian Ben Lima
Associate Pastor: Rev. Francis Kim
Deacon: Dn. Brian Conroy



St. Mel on Social Media
Instagram: StMel_WoodlandHills
Facebook: SaintMelParish
Twitter: @SaintMelParish

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil
5:00 p.m.

Sunday
8:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m.
12:00 noon
5:00 p.m.

Weekdays
8:15 a.m.
5:30 p.m.

Or view online on **Facebook**
or www.bit.ly/StMelTV

RECONCILIATION

Monday — Friday
4:45 — 5:15 p.m.

Saturday
9:00 — 9:30 a.m.
and
3:45 — 4:45 p.m.

Parish Center Hours:
Monday-Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Sunday: 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Please call us at
(818) 340-6020.

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MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 22

5:00 Grace Denoga

Sunday, January 23

8:00 Waltraud Rieck †

10:00 Alice Pfenning †

Noon The People of St. Mel

5:00 Maria Carvalho †

Monday, January 24

8:15 Helen & Len Kilfoyle †

5:30 Cecil Cawley †

Tuesday, January 25

8:15 Luis Angel Llarena †

5:30 Carolina Maestro Seastres †

Wednesday, January 26

8:15 Rosemary Giordano †

5:30 Mr. & Mrs. Oculam †

Thursday, January 27

8:15 Daniel Sarrosa

5:30 Alberto Manahan

Friday, January 28

8:15 Annie Au

5:30 Elza Urresti †

Saturday, January 29

8:15 Les Vesell

Pray for Our Beloved Deceased

In your Masses and prayers during the week please remember the repose of the souls of our deceased parishioners and loved ones.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Every Tuesday evening at 7:00
in the school faculty lounge.

All are welcome.

For more information,

contact Will Ross:

wilfordrossiii@gmail.com.

SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading

Ezra read plainly from the book of the law of God, interpreting it so that all could understand what was read. (Neh 8:8)

Psalm

Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life. (Ps 19)

Second Reading

For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons, and we were all given to drink of one Spirit. (1 Cor 12:12)

Gospel

He said to them, "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing." (Lk 1:21)

READINGS for the WEEK

Monday 2 Sm 5:1-7, 10/Ps 89:20, 21-22, 25-26/Mk 3:22-30

Tuesday: Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/Ps 117: 1bc, 2/Mk 16:15-18

Wednesday: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 27-28, 29-30/Mk 4:1-20

Thursday: 2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29/Ps 132:1-2, 3-5, 11, 12, 13-14/Mk 4:21-25

Friday: 2 Sm 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6a, 6bcd-7, 10-11/Mk 4:26-34

Saturday: 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 16-17/Mk 4:35-41

Sunday: Jer 1:4-5, 17-19/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 15-17 [cf. 15ab]/1 Cor 12:31—13:13 or 13:4-13/Lk 4:21-30

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER

Contemplative prayer, the oldest expression of prayer, is a path towards the order, balance and harmony God intended. All we need to do is show up empty handed and open hearted. We would love you to join us for two 20 minute periods of silent prayer in the intimate St. Mel Convent Chapel. At the end of the hour, we will close with "Our Father" and you will receive reflection questions for your own personal "at home" meditation.

Now offered **EVERY Monday Evening** of Each Month.

Facemasks are **REQUIRED** until further notice.

Monday, January 17

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

St. Mel Convent Chapel

For further information, please call
Michelle Waters at (310) 489-0253.

January 23, 2022



3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time




Adult Confirmation

Beginning February 8th
Tuesdays from 7:00—8:30 p.m.

Ten online sessions and two in person.
To sign up, contact Monica Matthews
(818) 340-6020 ext. 1026
MMatthews@stmel.org

- February 8** – Introduction and the concept of God
- February 15** – Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation
- February 22** – Eucharist: The source and summit
- March 1** – Sin, Penance & Healing
- March 8** – Matrimony & Holy Orders
- March 15** – The Moral Life
- March 22** – Prayer: Liturgical and Private
- March 29** – Time for your Soul – IN PERSON
- April 5** – Holy Week, History and Spirituality. Participation
- April 26** – The Catholic Church Relation to other Churches, Ecclesial Communities and Religions
- May 3** – Conclusion, Q &A, Understanding the ceremony
- May 10** – Twilight Retreat – IN PERSON

WEDNESDAYS
IN THE
WORD



Exploring the Gospel of Luke

13 Wednesdays

Beginning February 2

Follow in Luke's footsteps as St. Mel jumps into the Gospel. We will explore the Gospel that Luke heard from eye witnesses and then made it his mission to make sure it was not forgotten. The message is just as real today as it was in Luke's time. Join us as we hear from dynamic presenters with unique insights and be challenged to grow in faith.

February 2 - *Introduction of Luke's Gospel* led by **Amir Dinkha** (author of *Restored, Rescued, and Redeemed by Jesus: Seven Minor-Character Vignettes from the Fourfold Gospel*)

St. Patrick Auditorium
7:00 — 8:15 p.m.

Childcare provided upon request.

For more details please call Monica Matthews at 818-340-6020 ext. 1026 or MMatthews@stmel.org

... quotable ...



I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen: not only because I see it, but because *by* it I see everything else. – **C. S. Lewis**





The University Series 2022

During the season of Lent, The University Series® offers a multitude of seminars connecting faith with real life in areas such as current events, contemporary moral issues, evangelization, faith and science, marriage and family, church history, scripture, prayer, and other priorities set by the Los Angeles Archdiocesan Synod. Sessions include multi-media presentations and always allow time for your questions.

During Lent 2022, virtual presentations will be offered Monday/Wednesday nights and some Friday lunchtimes, while in-person presentations are currently planned for Tuesday/Thursday nights and other Friday lunchtimes. Registration is only available on-line. Unfortunately, there will be no mail-in registration and there will be no payment accepted at the door.

Here are some important dates:

February 5-6 Kick-Off Weekend

Catalogs will be available at all Masses, at the discretion of parishes in accordance with county health guidelines.

On-line registration opens.

Purchase your Season Pass, or register for individual presentations at www.theuniversityseries.org.

March 2 Last date to purchase Season Pass. (Single session purchases are available until 1 day before each presentation.)

March 3 - April 7 The University Series is in session, offering 12 Virtual and 25 In-person Presentations.

View course descriptions and more information in early February at www.theuniversityseries.org

Contact us at office@theuniversityseries.org

 Like us on Facebook at The University Series

 Follow us on Twitter at TheUniversityS

The University Series strives for excellence because our Catholic faith deserves our very best efforts.

All in-person presentations are subject to the Archdiocese and County Health Directives at that time, including, but not limited to, mask mandates, and hospitality guidelines. If in-person presentations must be cancelled at the last minute, a virtual session will be substituted. Please watch the website for current, up-to-date information.

January 23, 2022



3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 23, 2022 ❖ 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



Synod
2021
2023

WHAT IS THIS SYNOD IN OUR CATHOLIC CHURCH?



WHAT DOES THE SYNOD HOLD FOR THE LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY

Please join the GLO Ministry at St. Mel for an evening of education and learning about the synodal process. Learn how we can continue to share in the joy of knowing Jesus as we participate in the Synod.

Sunday January 23 following the 5:00 Mass

Our meeting will be held in the Auditorium. Light refreshments will be served.

St Mel's GLO Ministry is a fellowship ministry for the LGBTQ community and its allies where we share a vision of diversity and offer support on a spiritual faith journey.



For more information contact Tom Keep 310-403-0804



St. Mel Preschool's Fall 2022-2023 Registration is in progress.

We would love the opportunity to show you the wonderful program that awaits your child! If you are considering enrolling your child in our preschool, please email the school office (**Kara Nelson** - knelson@stmel.org) and make an appointment for a Parent Orientation Tour.

Spaces are available for children aged 2.5-to-5 years old for the 2022-'23 school year.

Our Purpose

St. Mel Preschool has an emphasis on the social, cognitive, physical and spiritual growth of all its children. This growth occurs naturally through many different & developmentally appropriate experiences. The preschool embodies a community of respect for all religious and cultural backgrounds. We are a wonderfully exciting

and fulfilling place to learn. St. Mel Preschool is grateful to be a ministry to our larger St. Mel Parish community and school. Families that choose to continue on to our K-8 School enjoy a seamless transition to kindergarten.

What We Offer

- Our quality program includes ages 2.5 to 5 years
- Small class size
- Child to teacher ratio of 1:8
- Hours of operation, 5 days a week, 7:30am-5:00pm
- Traditional school calendar year, plus summer camp

HOME BLESSINGS

Sign-up to have your home blessed at:
bit.ly/StMelHomeBlessing

Whether you're single, a couple or any size family - in a house, an apartment or whatever dwelling you call "home," let us come to bless your sacred space.

For more info, watch St. Mel Moment #141:
<https://vimeo.com/455978010>

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Every Sunday at the **10:00 a.m. Mass**, all kids from grades 1 through 3 are invited to participate in the Children's Liturgy of the Word.

Our wonderful Children's Liturgy leaders escort the group to the Parish Center to take a look at that week's scripture message in a way that is especially meaningful for young children. Please join us!

DID YOU KNOW?

Talk to your children about social media challenges
 Children have spent many months at home now, separated from friends and classmates. Social media is a great tool to stay in touch, but there are definitely dangerous aspects to much "screen time" that parents need to be aware of. Social media challenges range from funny and harmless to risky and dangerous — and sometimes even illegal. If your child has social media accounts, talk to them about making smart choices and about knowing the difference between harmless pranks and seriously dangerous stunts. Make a pact to discuss anything they see their friends or acquaintances doing before they try it out at home. For more tips on social media safety, visit <https://lacatholics.org/did-you-know/>.



ST. MEL SERVICE T-SHIRTS

Order yours today to wear when volunteering at St. Mel, doing community outreach, or any time you want to "represent" for your parish!

T-shirt cost is **\$20**. (Proceeds benefit local charities.) To receive yours in time for the Packed with Love food packing event, get your order in by **Thursday, January 27th**.

Turn your order form into the parish office with payment attached. Make checks payable to "St. Mel Parish."



Name _____ Phone Number: _____

Quantity and sizes:

Adult Small Men's Crewneck _____ Adult Small Ladies V-neck _____
 Youth Small _____ Adult Medium Men's Crewneck _____ Adult Medium Ladies V-neck _____
 Youth Medium _____ Adult Large Men's Crewneck _____ Adult Large Ladies V-neck _____
 Youth Large _____ Adult XL Men's Crewneck _____ Adult XL Ladies V-neck _____
 Adult XXL Men's Crewneck _____ Adult XXL Ladies V-neck _____
 Adult XXXL Men's Crewneck _____ Adult XXXL Ladies V-neck _____

Total number of shirts _____ (\$20 each) **Amount Enclosed \$** _____
 Cash or Check (circle one)

January 23, 2022 ❖ 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



SAINT MEL SCHOOL

ACTIVE CATHOLICS

- Catholic beliefs and values are taught at grade-appropriate levels
- Christian Service is emphasized
- Classes attend Mass weekly

CREATIVE & CRITICAL THINKERS

- Computer coding, robotics, and web development (K-8)
- Concepts of algebra, geometry, and statistics are interwoven throughout the curriculum beginning in kindergarten
- Small, skill-based math groups for 3rd-8th grade
- Advanced math taught in 7th (Pre-Algebra) and 8th (Algebra) grades. Advanced 8th grade students are given the opportunity to study Geometry.
- Creative writing classes offered 5th - 8th grades
- Schoolwide one-to-one mobile devices (iPad)

SELF-AWARE INDIVIDUALS

- John Wooden Pyramid of Success Character Program
- Visual and Performing Arts
- We celebrate being an American and appreciate cultural diversity

HOW TO APPLY

- Go to www.stmel.org
- Click on APPLY NOW
- Complete the online application and submit all requested documents

IMPORTANT DATES

- Applications due February 4, 2022
- Student evaluation testing during the third and fourth week of February
- Acceptance and waitlist letters mailed March 11, 2022

CONTACT

Questions, contact Katie Romey
kromey@stmel.org
(818) 340-1924

St. Mel Elementary School recognizes that parents have the primary responsibility to educate their children. In partnership with them and the larger St. Mel community, the faculty and staff endeavor to develop all students' spiritual, academic, social, emotional, and physical potential. Students emerge from St. Mel well prepared for their next step as active Catholics and contributing members of their community.

St. Mel Parish
 20870 Ventura Boulevard
 Woodland Hills, CA 91364

PARISH SERVICE

Pastoral Council: Sheryl Alzona (818) 340-6020, x3022
 Finance Council: James Hallissy (818) 621-5799

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Altar Servers: Kerry Edwards *kedwards@stmel.org* (818) 340-6020, x1025
 Altar Society: Catherine Ghaffari (Linens) (818) 398-7403
 Church Environment: Kerry Edwards *kedwards@stmel.org* (818) 340-6020, x1025
 Eucharistic Ministers: Kerry Edwards *kedwards@stmel.org* (818) 340-6020, x1025
 Lectors: Kerry Edwards *kedwards@stmel.org* (818) 340-6020, x1025
 Hospitality: Kerry Edwards *kedwards@stmel.org* (818) 340-6020, x1025
 MultiMedia Ministry: Francesco Alleruzzo *falleruzzo@stmel.org* (818) 340-6020, x1028
 Music Ministry: Francesco Alleruzzo *falleruzzo@stmel.org* (818) 340-6020, x1028
 Sacristans: Kerry Edwards *kedwards@stmel.org* (818) 340-6020, x1025

PERSONAL GROWTH/SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT/SACRAMENTS FOR ADULTS

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults & Adult Confirmation: Monica Matthews (818) 340-6020, x1026
 Saints Among Us — Special Needs Ministry: Jenni Porter (818) 518-6973
 Knights of Columbus: Tito Montero (310) 923-6399
 Men's Group: Anselm Varni (818) 346-8874
 Heart Filled Toastmasters: Christopher Hogan *Toastmasters@stmel.org* (818) 212-1508
 Partners in Prayer: Susie Screbant (818) 348-8386
 Legion of Mary: Mitos Bitong (818) 710-9888
 Rosary Ministry & Eucharist Adoration Coordinator: Mitos Bitong (818) 710-9888
 Theresians: Maty Goodman (818) 224-3221
 Women of Grace: Monica Matthews (818) 340-6020
 Contemplative Prayer: Michelle Waters (310) 489-0253
 GLO LGBT Outreach & Ministry: Tom Keep *TomKeep@sbcglobal.net* (310) 403-0804

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Baptism Preparation: Genevieve LaVoie *GLaVoie@stmel.org* (818) 340-6020, x1020
 Teen Confirmation: Bryan Villegas *bvillegas@stmel.org* (818) 340-6020, x1043
 Children's Faith Formation and Sacrament Prep., PreK-8
 Sunday Preschool/Ages 3-5 during 10:00 a.m. Mass
 Vacation Bible School: Jennifer Lemmon *jlemmon@stmel.org* (818) 340-6020, x1022
 Ministry of Moms Sharing (M.O.M.S. Group) : Yazmin Pace Yazmin@lmmsolutions.com
 Parish Swim Team: Andrea McIntyre *stmelswim@gmail.com* (310) 849-6928

CARING MINISTRIES

To Become a Registered Parishioner at St. Mel

call (818) 340-6020, ext. 1012
 or register online via our website:
www.stmelparish.org

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St. Mel Catholic Church, Woodland Hills, CA

A 4C 05-1021



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**ST
MEL**



**Saturday
February 19
7:30 – Noon**

**O'Connor
Center**

Join the movement to feed the hungry through the love of Christ!

This food packing event engages St. Mel parish and schools in a revolution against world hunger, as we gather to load *Vitafood* packets and raise the funds necessary to ship this life-saving food to the poorest of the poor around the world.

We are going to need a *lot* of volunteers: parents, kids and grandparents; couples and single people; from students and young adults to retirees; whole families, small groups and ministries ... **EVERYONE** can help as we work as one community to package **50 THOUSAND** meals for the poor.

SAVE THE DATE AND SPREAD THE WORD!

Volunteer:



www.bit.ly/StMelCCO

**Two Ways
to Help**

Donate:



www.bit.ly/DonateCCO

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