

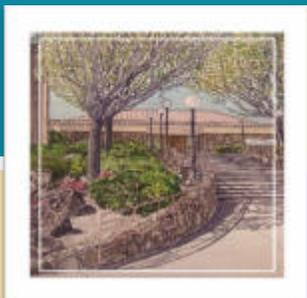
May 16th, 2021 • The Ascension of the Lord



THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Jesus said to his disciples, "Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved." - Mk 16:15-16A

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.



ST MEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

St. Mel Catholic Church

4745 Pennsylvania Avenue

P.O. Box 1180

Fair Oaks, CA 95628

916-967-1229

stmeloffice@yahoo.com

Parish Office: 4748 Pennsylvania Avenue

Monday - Thursday 9:00AM to 1:00PM

Closed Friday

Website: stmelchurch.org

In an emergency call 916-298-9324 for a priest

PARISH STAFF

Parochial Administrator:

..... Father Aldrin Basarte

Deacons:

..... David Lehman

..... Jack Roland

St. Mel School Principal:

..... Janet Nagel

Director of Business & Development:

..... Bob Mayer

Financial Director/Dir. of Religious Education:

..... Sara Donnelly

Director of Music:

..... Aaron Thompson

Parish Secretary:

..... Nancy Mammano

St. Vincent de Paul

..... 916-967-1229

PLEASE NOTE!

NEW BULLETIN SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Send typed articles, in MS Word - Times New Roman, font 10, via email to stmeloffice@yahoo.com no later than 8am on the day indicated below. Mass Intention requests are not subject to these deadlines.

Bulletin Weekend Dates	Articles DUE
May 22 - 23	May 12
May 29 - 30	May 19
June 5 - 6	May 26
June 12 - 13	June 2

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil 4:30PM Inside the Church

Sunday 8:00AM and 10:30AM Inside the Church

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:30AM Inside the Church.

All Masses will continue to be live streamed

CONFESSIONS

Saturday from 9:00-10:00AM in the St. Jude Room or by appointment

BAPTISMS

Call the office to make appointment

CATHOLIC FAITH FORMATION (CFF)

Email.....ccd@stmelschool.org

ST MEL SCHOOL

916-967-2814.....www.stmelschool.org



Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is in the Church Monday - Saturday from 9:00AM to 12noon and Wednesday evenings from 6:00 to 9:00PM.

You must enter and exit through the back church door which is closest to the St. Jude Room.

LIVE STREAM INFORMATION

Masses will be lived streamed via the St. Mel Facebook page. Use the below link to connect to the Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Mel-Catholic-Church-104087984568676/videos/>

There is also a link on the St. Mel website, stmel-church.org. Simply click on the photo of the Blessed Mother to view the live-stream Masses.



The Parish Office continues to be open limited hours. Someone is usually in the office Monday through Thursday from 9:00AM to 1:00PM. **The office is closed on Friday.** Please call before stopping by to make sure that someone will be there to help you. 916-967-1229.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

May 16, 2021

Sunday: Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/
Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13/Mk 16:15-20

Monday: Acts 19:1-8/Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab [33a]/
Jn 16:29-33

Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27/Ps 68:10-11, 20-21 [33a]/Jn 17:1-11a

Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38/Ps 68: 29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab [33a]/Jn 17:11b-19

Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 [1]/Jn 17:20-26

Friday: Acts 25:13b-21/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab [19a]/
Jn 21:15-19

Saturday: Morning: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/Ps 11:4, 5 and 7 [7b]/Jn 21:20-25

Sunday: Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5/Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30 [cf. 30]/
Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39 **Day:** Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34 [cf. 30]/1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13



Aiden Hulse
Albert Souza
Amanda Barron
Andrew Cobb
Arlene Michaels
Betty Cerato
Bill Ehlers
Bruce King
Bryan Tanglao
Carol Bronk
Carol Ellen Leever
Cecilia Dixon
Corrie Young
Dawna Jones
Delia Comstock
Della Harmon
Delores Bousliman
Dolores Leon
Donna Mae
Eberado Madueno
Elba Tompkins
Eve Waggerman
Frank & Renee Weiss
Gene Fischer
George Stevens
Gerald Hoffarth
Gerry & Paul Parker
Gloria Payne
Gretchen Cahill
Harrison Morton
Helen S. Worthington
Helen Chilcott
Jack Callaghan
Jackie Lohmeier
Jason Bucello
Jeffrey Viernes
Jenna Barron
Jim Carroll
Joan Gamble

Joann Buckman
Joanne Frances Miller
Joanne & George Kim
John Atilano
John English
Jonathan Hayes
Jonathan Rassmussen
Joyce Martin
June McKenderich
Kathy Houser
Kathryn Hesia
Larry Williams
Linda Lambrite
Louella Mortensen
Maggie Harrington
Margaret Hesia
Marti Gohring
Marvin Schluttenhofer
Mary Jane Rocha
Marylou Tavera
Melanie & Sally Edwards
Michael Kashuba
Mike Browning
Mike Tompkins
Nick Oakes
Norma Kaufman
Pat Woods
Rhonda Morgan
Rod Tarrer
Ron Barton
Ron & Judy Martinez
Rosemary Easter
Rudy Rodoni
Sara Donnelly
Susan Arthur
Talon Bonanno
Tracy Kent
Victoria Hummer
Walter Thompson

TODAY'S GOSPEL MEDITATION ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

God remains where love remains. When a believer realizes without doubt that God is love, it is a powerful moment. Being able to place our resurrection trust in this fundamental truth allows us to experience God's presence in all of our experiences: the good and the bad, positive and negative, life enriching and destructive events we encounter. It is no wonder that St. Paul so accurately tells us that it is love that endures all things and lasts. How can God not endure or ever fade away? Because he is God, Jesus also guarded and protected his disciples as the endearing shepherd who always had their best interest at heart.

If we become too immersed in the world, we lose touch with these deeper realities. We can become so preoccupied with preserving what we have created or think that we need, forgetting that it is not building our city that really matters, but God's. Jesus clearly did not belong to the world and, by virtue of his resurrection, he tries to get us to understand that we do not either. The truth brings us to other worldly, more divine places and takes our eyes off of the concerns that often captivate our fears and storm our senses.

Life can easily erode our faith. Think of your life over the last couple of weeks. What challenged your faith and distracted your divine glance? Even being overly stimulated with technology and social media can erode our sense of confidence and cause us to forget who we really are. We need to distance ourselves from the world in order to experience the joy that Christ offers. The world will never like the word of God. It is too challenging and too perplexing. The world mistakenly believes that it can survive on its own. It is a mistaken judgment that may cost people a lot in the end. It is all so very simple: God remains when we love one another. If in all the business of our lives and all that each day brings, the good and the bad, we follow the call and path of love, we will walk with God. There is nothing to fear and anxiety finds no home.



Sunday, May 16

- 8:00am (I) Kathleen Gohring
by Paul & Marti Gohring
- 8:00am (I) John Atilano
by Chris & Karen Juten
- 10:30am (R) Clare Anne & Mike Moody
by Gene Moody
- 10:30am (R) Paulino Aguilar
by Ruggles Court Family

Monday, May 17

- 8:30am (R) Cecilia Goveas by Goveas Family
- 8:30am (R) Tressa Ruport by John Ruport

Tuesday, May 18

- 8:30am (R) Mary Pippig by John Pippig, Jr.
- 8:30am (R) John Schaefer
by Don & Pat Schaefer

Wednesday, May 19

No Mass

Thursday, May 20

- 8:30am (R) Isaac & Marietta Barron
- 8:30am (R) Dennis Reibold by Arlene Reibold

Friday, May 21

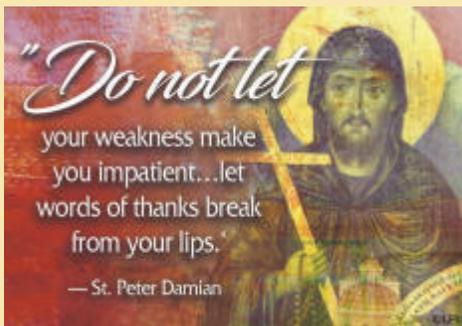
- 8:30am (R) Joe & Doris Renner
by Paul & Marti Gohring
- 8:30am (R) Paulino Aguilar
by Ruggles Court Family

Saturday, May 22

- 4:30pm (R) Rush Limbaugh
by A Family of Fans
- 4:30pm (R) Joanne Wagner
by Tom & Anne Marie Moore

Sunday, May 23

- 8:00am (I) Mass for Parishioners
- 10:30am (R) Joanne Wagner
by Gale & Bob Johnson
- 10:30am (R) Lily Grills by Leever Family



Not even murderers are deprived of their dignity as persons. –The Gospel of Life, 9

Reflection: If we ask, “How can we eliminate capital punishment?” The answer is, “Eliminate abortion.”

As long as we throw away the innocent, it is quite hard to convince people not to throw away the guilty.

Prayer: Lord, may we protect the innocent, and may we not fail to recognize the dignity even of the guilty.

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PRAYER INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS

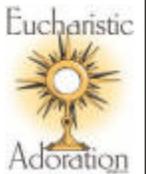


Please join the **Legion of Mary** in praying daily the intentions of Pope Francis for May - **The World of Finance**

Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers.

ADORATION CHAPEL NEWS

Planning has started to open the Eucharistic Adoration Chapel on June 7th. We would like to start with the Adoration Chapel open Monday through Saturday from 9:00AM to 12noon and Wednesday evenings from 6:00PM to 9:00PM. In order to open, we need people to sign up and make commitments to be in the Chapel. To sign up, contact Karen Fitts, 916-202-0606 or Cheryl Hoffmann, 916-342-1336.



Adoration Schedule Coordinator

We are looking for one or more people to be in charge of setting up and maintaining the Adoration Chapel Schedule.

If you or someone you know would be interested in this ministry, please contact the St. Mel office at 916-967-1229 or email stmeloffice@yahoo.com.



This weekend we take up the collection for the Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC). Your support helps the CCC connect people to Christ and builds Catholic communities in the United States and around the world using the internet, television, radio, and print media. Half of the funds we collect remain here in the Diocese of Sacramento to support local efforts. Be a part of this campaign to spread the Gospel message. To learn more, visit www.usccb.org/ccc.



Attention Parents and Godparents. The next scheduled Baptism Preparation class is Wednesday, June 2nd at 7:00PM in the Parish Center. Please call the Parish office to register to attend. 916-967-1229

PENTECOST WEEKEND

The Easter season comes to an end next weekend after the celebration of Pentecost on May 22nd & 23rd. "Pentecoste" is a Greek word for "fiftieth"; it falls on the 50th day after Resurrection (Easter). Pentecost represents the fulfillment of Christ's promise, "I send the Father upon you; until you are **power from on high.**" (Luke 24:46-49). This "clothing with power" comes with the bestowal of the Holy Spirit upon the Church. The Holy Spirit is symbolized through the elements of wind and fire.



The Sacred Environment team encourages you to wear something in red, orange or yellow (the colors of a flame) as a visible sign that you are "sealed with the Holy Spirit", which you received at Confirmation. The entire parish can then become a visible reminder of this great feast day.

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally,
Come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace you as if you were already there
And unite myself wholly to you.
Never permit me to be separated from you.
Amen.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

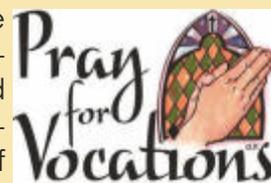
The practice of making a "spiritual communion" dates back several centuries and St. Thomas Aquinas described it as "an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Holy Sacrament and a loving embrace as though we had already received Him." Traditionally, a prayer of spiritual communion has been used by those who are unable to receive sacramental communion because of health, inability to attend Mass, or who cannot receive communion because of grave sin. This practice has been encouraged by many saints and spiritual writers and most recently Pope Francis encouraged the practice when the realities of the COVID-19 pandemic prevented so many Catholics from taking part in the Mass or receiving sacramental communion.

Although the graces offered in spiritual communion are not the same as those offered in the sacramental communion of the Mass, this practice is still a powerful opportunity to express our desire for union with the Lord and to be united with Christ and the Church, even in an imperfect way.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Lord, you call us all by name to follow your path. You always bless your Church and guide your followers to become leaders who think of others before themselves.

Mold us in the image of your Son, to respond to your call as Sisters, Priests, Brothers, Deacons and Lay servants of the Gospel. Embolden us all to grow in knowing of you, and allow this knowledge to open our hearts, minds, and souls to your enduring call. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.



ST. MEL SCHOOL AND CFF NEWS

CFF Classes

Congratulations to our Confirmandi and our First Holy Communicants! May God bless them and their families. Stay tuned for news about next year! As soon as we know you will know. Have a blessed Pentecost!! If you have any questions please email Sara Donnelly, ccd@stmelschool.org.

ST MEL SCHOOL SCRIP

Now more than ever St. Mel School needs our help. You can purchase Scrip by calling or emailing Regina Edwards, Scrip Coordinator, at 916-752-3878 or Edwardsfamily@Reagan.com. You can also order online at ShopwithScrip.com by using the St. Mel enrollment code, 3DL76FEA2151L. All Scrip orders will be sent directly to Regina who will then arrange delivery. Thank you for your support of St. Mel School!



CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME

If you or someone you know is considering returning to the Catholic Church, St. Mel can provide assistance. Contact St. Mel Parish Office, 916-967-1229 or Karen, 916-966-0184.

BE AWARE!

Emails and text messages are being sent from people claiming to be Father Aldrin or a St. Mel parishioner. If you receive a text or an email asking you to buy gift cards DO NOT RESPOND. Father will never ask for help in this way. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the Parish Office. 916-967-1229.

DONATE YOUR CAR FOR CHARITY

The **Father Richard Doheny Religious Education Fund** partnered with Donate for Charity, Inc. to help donate your vehicle to support local religious education and vocations. It's easy, just go to <http://www.donateforcharity.com/car-donation-form/> OR call Donate For Charity directly at (866) 392-4483.



KNIGHTS CORNER

As we start May, we focus on a few special events. May 1st is Saint Joseph the Worker and May is dedicated to Our Blessed Virgin Mary. So we will remember both Saint Joseph and the Blessed Virgin Mary in our prayers this month as we remember our sick and distressed, including Deputy Grand Knight SK John Atilano and those who have passed from this life, including our esteemed PGK SK Jim Carlson.

Prayer to Saint Joseph

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,
and defend us from evil. Amen

Prayer to the Blessed Virgin Mary: The Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

As you crown Our Blessed Virgin Mary in your garden, or in your home, pray for her intercession in ending the pandemic.

Jesus, We Trust In You!
Danny
D. Styer Grand Knight Council 6066

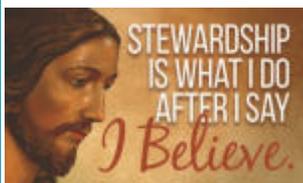
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EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

There's No Place Like Home

Where do you get the best night's sleep? For me, it's in my own bed. I don't even really know why.



There's something about the texture of the sheets, the groove I've worn in the pillow. The mattress seems to recognize my shape. I've got a job that sees me traveling often and I've stayed in plenty of nice places. But there's just no sleep like the sleep you get at home.

There's a feeling that we have when we're at home. Our bodies seem to recognize it when we walk in the door. There's a relaxation that kicks in, a peace that falls over us. I think that's what Heaven will be like. It won't be pleasure or happiness — those words aren't enough to describe what it feels like to be at home, are they? It's more than that.

If you ever wonder why there is pain in this world, it's because we're not at home.

That's not to say we don't belong here. Through God's mercy, this beautiful world is where we live out our earthly existence, and those existences can be filled with amazing relationships and profound experiences. In fact, we might enjoy our time here so much that we don't want to leave.

But there's a reason this life has so many things that don't make sense: loss, fear, anger, sickness, hatred. It's because we weren't made for this place. For our souls, it's like a never-ending night in a hotel bed.

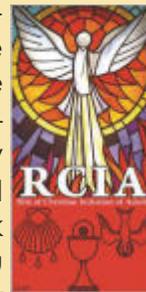
— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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RCIA (RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS)

Are you thinking of joining the Catholic church? Or do you know someone who is interested in learning more about the Church? St. Mel RCIA is re-starting its live classes on Sunday, May 2nd! Learn about the teachings and Doctrines of the Catholic Church, ask questions, grow in your faith! If you need to be baptized, or confirmed, or come from a Protestant Faith background and feel God is calling you to become Catholic, or perhaps you just want to know more, contact Michael Faber at (916)719-5565, or e-mail mfaber@elkgrove.net. RCIA is held every Sunday from 8:00AM until 10:45AM.



Tune in to hear inspiring and faith filled conversations with guests such as Fr. Robert Spitzer, SJ, from EWTN, Fr. Matthew Spencer, OSJ, from Relevant Radio and many more. Shows are on Comcast Channel 20, Consolidated 19 and AT&T 14. Sundays 7:00am, Tuesday 9:30am, Wednesday 8:30pm and Thursday 5:00pm. All episodes are also uploaded to YouTube and the Catholic Viewpoint website www.catholicviewpointfhl.com.

LOAVES & FISHES VOLUNTEERS

Want a great way to fulfill Christ's call to feed the hungry? St. Mel Parish needs volunteers to help in the meal preparation area at Loaves & Fishes on the first Friday of each month. This is a rewarding and humbling experience to help those who are hungry and less fortunate. It usually is about a 3-5-hour commitment. You do not need to serve every month. Volunteers are welcome to help when it fits into your schedule. If you are interested and would like more information, please contact Richard Phelps 916-807-0943 (phone or text). Email Richard at: wetduck33@gmail.com

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Where did he go? Many times when we think of those who have died, we imagine escape from this world to a purely spiritual place. Jesus' Ascension can leave us in a place of confusion. What happens to Jesus? And why does this matter to us?



The Ascension has been confirmed in the Creed for two millennia. In Jesus' Ascension, we're invited to consider our own ultimate end. Regardless of death's reality now, we believe in the resurrection of the body and the reunification of body and soul. One day, earth and heaven will meet perfectly and without end. We anticipate this "new heaven and a new earth" at every Mass and throughout the beauty, truth, and love of the Church and her members. Today, celebrate a foreshadowing of the fullness we all await!

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- ~ Go to formed.org/signup
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- ~ Check that email account for a link to begin using FORMED

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- ~ Go to formed.org/signup
- ~ In the upper right corner, select "Sign In"
- ~ A new "Sign In" screen appears and user enters their email address and selects "Next"
- ~ A message appears for user to "Check your email!"
- ~ Check that email account for a link to begin using FORMED

If you need help call the office, 916-967-1229.

What is the meaning of the letters that professed religious have after their names?

The Catholic Church includes hundreds of religious communities. The priests, religious brothers, religious sisters, and nuns of these communities (which are often referred to as "religious orders") are committed to particular spiritual traditions and often to a particular charism (such as teaching, healthcare, social work, or pastoral care).

To help identify a person as a member of a particular religious community, the custom developed of including letters that sort of short-name of the that the er, sister or So, for exam-



post-nominal provide a hand for the community priest, brother, nun is part of. ple OSB after

a person's name would indicate that they are a member of the Order of St. Benedict (the Benedictines), just as SJ would indicate that a priest or brother is a member of the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits) or RSM would show that a woman is a Sister of Mercy.

Other common examples include:

DC = Daughters of Charity

FSC = The Brothers of the Christian Schools/
Christian Brothers

OCist = The Order of Cistercians

OCD = Order of Discalced Carmelites

OFM = The Order of Friars Minor (the Franciscans)

OFM Cap = The Capuchin Franciscans

OP = The Order of Preachers (Dominicans)

OSF = Franciscan Sisters

SC = Sisters of Charity

SDS = Society of the Divine Savior (Salvatorian
Priests and Brothers and Salvatorian Sisters)

SSND = School Sisters of Notre Dame

SVD = Society of the Divine Word (Divine Word
Missionaries)



New Church Protocols Effective May 15, 2021

We are excited to announce that new protocols are now in effect in the Church. Bishop Soto has released new guidelines as follows:



- ~ All pews in the two center sections of the sanctuary will be open.
- ~ The two side pew sections will remain every other pew for those who would like to continue social distancing.
- ~ The vestibule doors will remain the main entry doors. However, handicapped access will be available through the northwest door.
- ~ Upon entering the church you will no longer need to have your temperature taken, but signing in and masks will still be required.
- ~ The Candle Room and Baptismal Room will now be open but the "Cry Room" remains closed.
- ~ Hand sanitizer will continue to be available.
- ~ The Holy Water tank and founts by each door to the sanctuary will now be available.
- ~ There will no longer be over flow seating in the Parish Center.

WHY SHOULD I REGISTER AT MY PARISH?

If you have been attending the same parish for a time and don't see yourself moving or attending elsewhere, you should absolutely register at your parish. Here's why:

- 1. Connectedness.** Once you register, you feel more at home in church. You become part of your church family in a tangible way. It gives you a sense of belonging and allows your priest to get to know you as well.
- 2. Accountability.** We are all responsible for helping the greater Church grow in strength and numbers. As a registered parishioner, it adds weight to that role. As an "official" member of the parish who is open to the voice of the Holy Spirit, you will feel led to contribute to the needs of the church.
- 3. Commitment.** Becoming a member of your parish is a promise to be active in your faith.
- 4. Access to parish information.** This gives your parish the ability to reach out to you and let you know about events, prayer and study opportunities and ways you can give back.



Bottom line – register at your parish. Declare your commitment to your faith proudly and officially join your church family!

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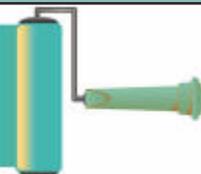
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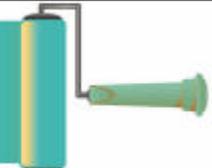
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