



PENTECOST SUNDAY

“But when he comes, the Spirit of truth, he will guide you to all truth. He will not speak on his own, but he will speak what he hears, and will declare to you the things that are coming.” - Jn 16:13

St. Mel Catholic Church
 4745 Pennsylvania Avenue
 P.O. Box 1180
 Fair Oaks, CA 95628
 916-967-1229
 stmelloffice@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**

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 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.

PLEASE NOTE!
NEW BULLETIN SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Send typed articles, in MS Word - Times New Roman, font 10, via email to stmelloffice@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 29 - 30	May 19
June 5 - 6	May 26
June 12 - 13	June 2
June 19 - 20	June 9

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

May 23, 2021

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

Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14/Ps 87:1-2, 3 and 5, 6-7/Jn 19:25-34

Tuesday: Sir 35:1-12/Ps 50:5-6, 7-8, 14 and 23 [23b]/Mk 10:28-31

Wednesday: Sir 36:1, 4-5a, 10-17/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13 [Sir 36:1b]/Mk 10:32-45

Thursday: Sir 42:15-25/Ps 33:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [6a]/Mk 10:46-52

Friday: Sir 44:1, 9-13/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Mk 11:11-26

Saturday: Sir 51:12cd-20/Ps 19:8, 9, 19, 11 [9ab]/Mk 11:27-33

Next Sunday: Dt 4:32-34, 39-40/Ps 33:4-5, 6, 9, 18-19, 20, 22 [12b]/Rom 8:14-17/Mt 28:16-20



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
Eve Waggerman
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George Stevens
Gerald Hoffarth
Gerry & Paul Parker
Gloria Payne
Gretchen Cahill
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Rudy Rodoni
Sara Donnelly
Susan Arthur
Talon Bonanno
Tracy Kent
Victoria Hummer
Walter Thompson

TODAY'S GOSPEL MEDITATION ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

Begin by taking a moment to calm yourself, focus on your breathing and become aware of the life force that flows through your veins. Center yourself in the words and affections of St. Augustine's Prayer to the Holy Spirit, "Breath in me, O Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy. Act in me, O Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy. Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit, that I love but what is holy. Strengthen me, O Holy Spirit, to defend all that is holy. Guard me, then, O Holy Spirit, that I may always be holy." Sanctifying, bringing things to wholeness, blessing, restoring and creating are just some of the fruits of the presence of the Holy Spirit. Being filled with the Holy Spirit is not always about proclaiming loud cries of praise or singing alleluia from a roof top. It is about unfolding and encountering the ordinary in an extraordinary way. Being filled with the Holy Spirit means being filled with the fullness of God's life and in touch with the power and wonder of God's presence. It's about becoming holy.

It is not just for saints or people who have a religious vocation. Holiness is for the ordinary, simple run-of-the-mill person who desires to love God, others, and all of creation. When an ordinary, humble person becomes connected with life and the wondrous power of God's love, they begin to live life more deeply, a bit more reverently, desire a simple fare and find themselves relishing in ordinary beauty. Their senses become attuned to the Author of life and they realize that they are not alone. The Holy Spirit connects all of the dots of human experience and existence, bringing everyone to center on the Divine Presence. The Holy Spirit does not just breathe "on me" but "in me" and is the force behind every breath I take. Take a moment to soak that thought in. There is the Divine Presence of the Holy Spirit in me, right now. When a person becomes in touch with truth, they know that when inspired by the Holy Spirit, his or her actions are not solely their own. They realize that they are moved by Divine Grace and drawn to things not found in secular affairs.

We live in a world where it is hard to discover truth. Real truth is veiled by so many imposters that it is hard to find, especially for those who are young. It is easy to get fooled and duped and often, without full conscious awareness of doing so, we choose to walk down a path of self-absorption and destruction. It is only the Holy Spirit, through the ministry of the church most especially, who guides us to truth and shows us the way to be the graced and holy human beings God made us to be. The wonders and inspirations of today's Feast of Pentecost are necessary to share with both those we love and those who only casually cross our paths. The first disciples, touched by the Holy Spirit, brought the Gospel to the ends of the earth one step at a time. Is it unrealistic to ask that we assist in that same mission by helping people understand who they are and who God is one at a time? Ask the Holy Spirit to alleviate the fear in your heart that prevents you from doing so.

MONTHLY FOOD DRIVE

The Knights of Columbus Monthly Food Drive to support the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry, is next weekend May 29th & 30th. All donations are welcome, but this month SVdP is asking for some items to help them in their efforts to safely feed the homeless.



They would appreciate individually wrapped or bagged items such as peanut butter/cheese crackers,

granola bars, fruit cups, small boxes of raisins, or trail mix. Cans that don't require an opener such as Vienna sausages, pull top tuna or chicken and water bottles or juice boxes.

Small travel size toiletry items such as tissue packs, antibacterial wipes, deodorant, toothpaste and toothbrushes would be appreciated as well.



Donations can be left in the plastic containers in the church vestibule or dropped off at the Parish Office Monday - Thursday between 9:00AM and 1:00PM. Thank you for your generosity.

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.

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

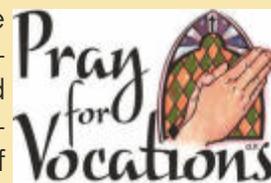
The practice of making a "spiritual communion" dates back several centuries and St. Thomas Aquinas described it as "an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Holy Sacrament and a loving embrace as though we had already received Him." Traditionally, a prayer of spiritual communion has been used by those 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

The pandemic dragged us into a deep hole this past year and we are starting to make very positive steps to climb out. While we no longer are taking your temperatures as you attend Mass and you can set closer together, we still need our volunteers more than ever. We appreciate your positive response this past year, most especially the brave souls that have done the heavy lifting. That includes standing in the rain with Father Aldrin, Deacon Dave, Deacon Jack, and Bill Savage so our parishioners could receive Holy Communion. We also appreciate those volunteers that have helped greet, sign-in, and seat parishioners as well as sanitizing the church after Masses. Now we need the second wave of volunteers to greet people at the door, as we welcome our community back to our church. Come be one of the smiling faces saying "**Hi and Welcome.**" It's not the time to relax, it's time to double down and make sure each and every one of our parishioners know we missed them and value them. Come to Mass and share in your Catholic community.

As we move forward from the darkness, depression, and sadness of this past year of pandemic, let us be guided by the Light of The Holy Spirit.

Prayer to The Holy Spirit

*Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.
And kindle in them the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.
And you will renew the face of the earth.
Lord, by the light of the Holy Spirit
you have taught the hearts of your faithful.
In the same Spirit
help us to relish what is right
and always rejoice in your consolation.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Please continue to pray for those who are still fighting to recover from the scourge of COVID. Also, keep DGK SK John Atilano and his wife Rosalie in your prayers.

We need greeters and ushers more than ever. Please call me at (916) 730-7340 and let me know which Mass you can volunteer to help.

Jesus, We Trust In You!

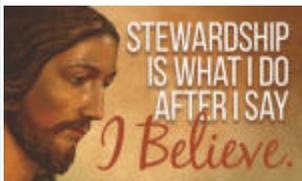
Danny

D. Styer Grand Knight Council 6066

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

You Don't Have What It Takes — but You Will

Those of us in ministry love this saying: God doesn't call the equipped. He equips the called.



We all know that sort of queasy feeling we get in the pit of our stomachs when it becomes clear what we're supposed to do, in any situation. It's that

feeling of: Oh, no. Not me. Not now. I can't.

We've all got our list of reasons why not, don't we? We do it for everything, from big life problems to small everyday choices. I'm not going to invite my neighbor to church because I don't want to come across as pushy. I'm not going to make amends with my cousin because she'll just walk all over me again. I'm not going to say a Rosary tonight because I'm tired and it'll just stress me out.

However, even if we all put our lists of "reasons why we can't" together, I don't think any of us have reasons quite as valid as the apostles. Their job was to convert the nations — and here they are, a bunch of fishermen who haven't been out of Judea, who speak only their own languages. Were they supposed to preach the Gospel via a particularly compelling game of charades?

But even that big, giant, stop-you-dead-in-your-tracks Reason Why We Can't was nothing, because God had a plan. He didn't call a bunch of equipped men. He called them, and He equipped them. Cue the tongues of fire!

God doesn't call us to do His will because we have what it takes. He calls us because He's ready to give us what it takes. Being a good steward is to answer the call of Christ knowing he will provide.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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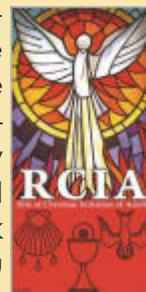
VOCATIONS MINISTRY

Welcome to **Vocation Ministry Minute**, a new feature of your St. Mel Catholic Church in Fair Oaks, CA, bulletin. Every week-end you will get a new fact, story, or point of view about Vocations with a big "V", which is your personal holiness OR vocations with a small "v" which is how you live out the life that God gave you. When we as a parish pray for vocations, we are praying for YOU! We pray for YOUR holiness first because from that holiness is how you live out your life and that makes all the difference.



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 restarting 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.



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



Attention Parents and Godparents. The next scheduled Baptism Preparation class is

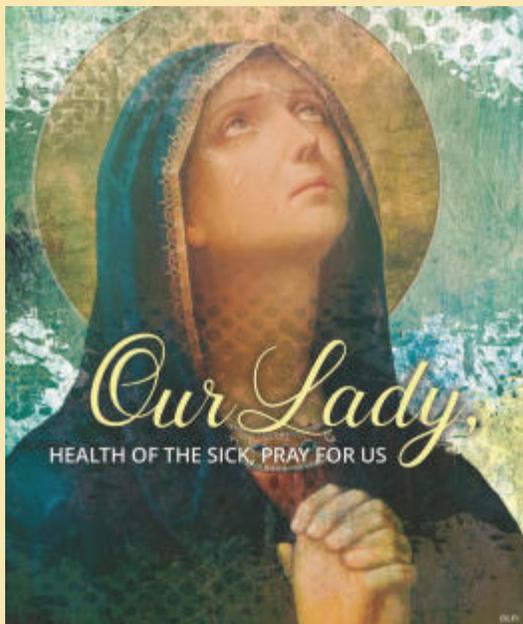
Wednesday, June 2nd at 7:00PM in the Parish Center. Please call the Parish office to register to attend. 916-967-1229



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.

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Why do we celebrate Pentecost when we do?

The book of Acts unpacks the events immediately following Jesus' ascension into heaven. The Apostles and other disciples were told to pray in Jerusalem and outpouring of the Holy Spirit. As the weeks of the Jewish Festival of Weeks approached. This festival took place 50 days after Passover and celebrated the giving of the law on Mount Sinai. The Festival of Weeks (or "Pentecost" in Greek) was a great pilgrimage feast, with Jews from all over the ancient world convening on Jerusalem for the celebration.



It was on Pentecost that God chose to send the Holy Spirit. Here, the new law of love was etched into the hearts of the disciples. As he burst out onto the balcony above the multinational crowd, Peter proclaimed the message of the resurrection, and the Holy Spirit enabled every listener to hear in their native language. 3,000 people were baptized that day! The disciples — and every baptized person — receives the gifts and zeal necessary to bring a new message of salvation to the people of God.

PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT

Holy Spirit, fan into flame the gifts
I received in my Baptism and Confirmation.
I want to receive the fire of Your love
as Your disciples did at Pentecost.
Come with wonder and awe,
with wisdom, understanding, and counsel,
with courage and faith in You.
Holy Spirit, may my actions witness
to Your presence in my life.
Help me to see the ways my strengths
can serve others in their weakness.
In all my interactions, I want to radiate
love, joy, peace, patience, kindness,
generosity, faithfulness, gentleness,
and self-control.
Breathe new life into the world through me.
Amen.

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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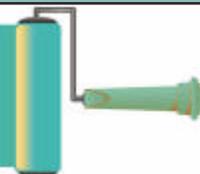
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