

January 2, 2022 • The Epiphany of the Lord



## THE EPIPHANY *of the Lord*

*"Since from you shall come a ruler,  
who is to shepherd my people Israel." - Mt 2:6b*

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



## ST. MEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

### **The Mission of St. Mel Parish**

We joyfully live our Catholic faith for the glory of God and the salvation of souls. We welcome and celebrate the gifts God gives His sons and daughters to build up the body of Christ and serve Him in the needs of one another.

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

[stmeloffice@yahoo.com](mailto:stmeloffice@yahoo.com)  
 Parish Office: 4748 Pennsylvania Avenue  
 Monday - Thursday 9:00AM to 1:00PM  
 Closed Friday and Holidays  
 Website: [stmelchurch.org](http://stmelchurch.org)

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

**PARISH STAFF**

**Parochial Administrator:**  
 ..... **Father Aldrin Basarte**

**Priest in Residence:**  
 ..... **Father Alfredo Tamayo**

**Deacons:**  
 ..... **David Lehman**  
 ..... **Jack Roland**

**St. Mel School Principal:**  
 ..... **Megan French**

**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**  
**Sunday 8:00AM and 10:30AM**

*The Sunday 8:00AM is the only live streamed weekend Mass.*

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:30AM**

*All weekday Masses will be live streamed*

*Please go to the St. Mel Facebook page to view the live stream.*

**CONFESSIONS**

Saturday from 9:00-10:00AM in the Baptismal Room and "Cry" room inside the church or by appointment.

**BAPTISMS**

Call the office to make appointment

**CATHOLIC FAITH FORMATION (CFF)**

Email.....[ccd@stmelschool.org](mailto:ccd@stmelschool.org)

**ST MEL SCHOOL**

916-967-2814.....[www.stmelschool.org](http://www.stmelschool.org)

**Visit Jesus!**



The Eucharistic Adoration Chapel has several openings. Visit <https://stmel.weadorehim.com> to see the full schedule. All are welcome!

Contact Scott Crow at 916-204-0949 or [stmeladoration@yahoo.com](mailto:stmeladoration@yahoo.com) for more information.

**PLEASE NOTE!**

**NEW BULLETIN SUBMISSION DEADLINES**

Send typed articles, in MS Word - Times New Roman, font 10, via email to [stmeloffice@yahoo.com](mailto: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
January 8 - 9	December 31
January 15 - 16	January 5
January 22 - 23	January 12
January 29 - 30	January 19

**Commentators & Altar Servers  
 January 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>**

Mass Times	Commentator	Altar Servers
SAT 4:30PM	Mammano N	Garrett
SUN 8:00AM	Abi Nader P	Dylan & Lillian
SUN 10:30AM	Juten K / Juten C	John Michael & Luke

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

January 2, 2022

**Sunday:** Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf.11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

**Monday:** 1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

**Tuesday:** 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44

**Wednesday:** 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk 6:45-52

**Thursday:** 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/Lk 4:14-22a

**Friday:** 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 5:12-16

**Saturday:** 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b/Jn 3:22-30

**Next Sunday:** Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22 or, Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

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



Joann Buckman  
Joanne Frances Miller  
Joanne & George Kim  
John Atilano  
John Lubecki  
Jonathan Hayes  
Jonathan Rassmussen  
Jorges Gonzales  
June McKenderich  
Kaitlyn Doyle  
Kathy Houser  
Kathryn Hesia  
Larry Williams  
Linda Lambrite  
Louella Mortensen  
Maggie Harrington  
Margaret Hesia  
Marvin Schluttenhofer  
Mary Jane Rocha  
Marylou Tavera  
Melanie & Sally Edwards  
Mike Browning  
Mike Tompkins  
Nick Oakes  
Norma Kaufman  
Pat Woods  
Patti Stevens  
Paul & Marti Gohring  
Rhonda Morgan  
Rita Vicory  
Ron Barbour  
Ron Barton  
Ron & Judy Martinez  
Ronnie Denton  
Rosemary Easter  
Rudy Rodoni  
Sara Donnelly  
Susan Arthur  
Talon Bonanno  
Teresa Lee  
Tracy Kent  
Victoria Hummer  
Walter Thompson

## TODAY'S GOSPEL MEDITATION ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

In his Apostolic Exhortation, *The Joy of the Gospel*, Pope Francis references a thought from Pope Benedict XVI: "Being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction." Today we celebrate an encounter with the Person of Jesus Christ! This simple but holy event in time dramatically changes human life, pointing it toward a new horizon and giving it a decisive direction. This is a message and truth that is not meant to be shared with only a select few who qualify but with the entire world. Pope Francis continues saying, "Thanks solely to this encounter or renewed encounter with God's love, which blossoms into an enriching friendship, we are liberated from our narrowness and self-absorption. We become fully human when we become more than human, when we let God bring us beyond ourselves in order to attain the fullest truth of our being."

Look around at people. Where is life heading for them? What gives them direction? Even we who are people of faith can get distracted and lose our focus. God, in all of His fullness, is revealed in Jesus Christ and we can encounter Him! God is tangible, real, vulnerable, poor, and full of wonders, surprises, and opportunities. For those who are struggling and lost, today is a day of great joy. All they have to do is reach out and touch the truth of Christ. This presence is revealed in the poor, exploited, and vulnerable ones who cry out for compassion and love. But it is also found in the faithful ones who see in the Epiphany of God a liberation from structures and systems that hurt us, a narrowness of mind and heart that constricts us, and an absorption in our self-agenda that prevents us from seeing anything other than ourselves as important.

We have been given the charge of preaching this Good News. If only we could find a way to be more effective, it might stand a chance of doing what God intended it to do. There is always tomorrow and our memory of that bright new light that shone so brilliantly that Bethlehem night pointing us to truth and reminding us that we are loved.



### Sunday, January 2

- 8:00am (I) Matt & Sara Donnelly and  
Vince & Nancy Mammano  
29th Wedding Anniversary
- 8:00am (I) Alisia Ocon by St. Mel School
- 10:30am (R) Greg O'Neill by Johnson Family
- 10:30am (R) Deceased Members  
of Goveas Family

### Monday, January 3

- 8:30am (R) Clare Anne & Mike Moody  
by Gene Moody
- 8:30am (R) Edward Santos & Sinforoso C  
by Amelia Santos

### Tuesday, January 4

- 8:30am (R) Bob Gilligan by Audrey Swiderek
- 8:30am (R) Gloria Burgett  
by Don & Mary Pat Jones

### Wednesday, January 5

No Mass

### Thursday, January 6

- 8:30am (R) Pat Schaefer by Don Schaefer
- 8:30am (R) Terry Hunt by Pugno Family

### Friday, January 7

- 8:30am (R) Helen Kirkish by Delano Kirkish
- 8:30am (R) Denise Haddad by Delano Kirkish

### Saturday, January 8

- 4:30pm (I) Family of Gloria Burgett  
by Don & Mary Pat Jones
- 4:30pm (I) Jo Morrison  
by Vic & Carol Warmerdam

### Sunday, January 9

- 8:00am (R) Carl Bjorn by Audrey Swiderek
- 8:00am (R) Deceased Members of the  
Williams Family
- 10:30am (I) Mass for Parishioners



Women play a unique and decisive role, in thought and action, in the conversion of culture to be pro-life. Theirs is the task of promoting a "new feminism." –The Gospel of Life, 99

**Reflection:** The early feminist leader Susan B. Anthony said, "Abortion is child murder."

Women are equal in dignity to men because all human beings are equal in dignity. And "all" includes the human beings still living in the womb.

**Prayer:** Lord, help us to truly understand the meaning of "equality." Free the legitimate efforts for women's advancement from the mistaken notion that this includes abortion.

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## PRAYER INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS



Please join the **Legion of Mary** in praying daily the intentions of Pope Francis for January-**For true human fraternity**

*We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.*

## MASK WHILE AT MASS

We kindly ask that everyone respects Bishop Soto's request to wear a mask while attending Mass. Many of us do wear a mask. **Thank you!**

Your fellow parishioners will appreciate your compliance to this minor inconvenience. Consider it a small act of kindness to others.

### Please Pray for the Chronically Ill of Our Parish

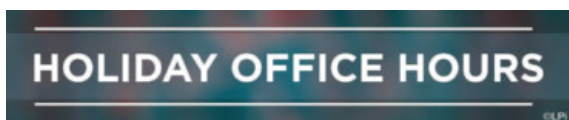
Albert Gonzales	Gianna Atilano	Louis Patterson
Auroa Deese	Howie Hoel	Lynn Warner
Betty Cerato	James English	Ralph Virgen
Bruce King	Jody Martinez	Sara Donnelly
Charles J. Ortner	Kathy Houser	Veronica Saenz

## ST. MEL MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT FUND

There will be a collection this weekend, January 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>, for the St. Mel Maintenance & Improvement Fund. These funds are used for taking care of our facilities. Thank you for your generosity.

## RECOGNITION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wedding anniversaries for the month of January will be recognized at all Masses this weekend.



The Parish Office will be closed for the New Years Holiday on Monday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Office will reopen on Tuesday, January 4<sup>th</sup> at 9:00AM.

## eGIVING WITH FAITH DIRECT

Please consider online giving through Faith Direct. With Faith Direct, parishioners can make Church contributions through either direct debit from your checking/savings account or your credit/debit card. No more writing checks or searching for envelopes on the way out the door. Visit [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net) to enroll securely online. Our parish code is **CA731**. Our parish is grateful for your continued support at this time.

## CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

The Charismatic Prayer group is now meeting on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:00 PM in the Church. Please enter from the upper parking lot. Join us for praise, worship, and healing prayer. For information please call Chris 916-715-1162 or Karen Juten 916-712-3706.

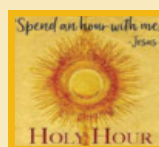
## REMINDER

Please do not leave valuables in your car when you go to Mass. There have been break-ins in the parking lot.

St. Mel Choir rehearses Thursday evenings at 6:30PM in the church. **New voices are always welcome!** Looking forward to gathering, singing, and praying with you again. Please arrive 5 or 10 mins early so that we can start on time. Questions? Contact Aaron Thompson, Director of Music, at [stmelmusic@outlook.com](mailto:stmelmusic@outlook.com).



The Usher Ministry is looking for men and women to help during all weekend Masses. If you would like to find out more about this important ministry, contact Jack Valle at [jvalle@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jvalle@sbcglobal.net) 916-397-9920 or Bruce Kuban at [bkuban123@aol.com](mailto:bkuban123@aol.com) 916-390-9836.



Join Deacon Jack and Deacon Dave for Holy Hour with the Blessed Sacrament- Exposition, Adoration and Benediction the First Friday of each month. The next Holy Hour will be January 7<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 7:30PM in the Church. Just before the Holy Hour, from 6:00 to 6:30PM, the Rosary for an increase in Vocations is said. Please join us.

## SACRED ENVIRONMENT

During Christmas and Easter, the Sacred Environment Ministry asks for help to supplement the yearly flower budget. Your generous donations will help the ministry to beautify the church during Christmas, Easter, and throughout the year. Flower Offering envelopes can be found in the vestibule. Thank you for your support."



Attention Parents and Godparents. The next scheduled Baptism Preparation class is Wednesday, January 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM in the Parish Center. Please call the Parish office to register to attend. 916-967-1229

## ST. MEL SCHOOL AND CFF NEWS

### CFF Classes

CFF will be a homeschool format for at least the first 6 months of the 2021-22 School Year. Registration is open now. The registration form is available on [stmelchurch.org](http://stmelchurch.org) under Faith Formation - Religious Education for Children. If you have any questions please email Sara Donnelly, [ccd@stmelschool.org](mailto: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](mailto:Edwardsfamily@Reagan.com). You can also order online at [ShopwithScrip.com](http://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!



### REGINA CAELI ACADEMY

We are pleased to invite you to our Open House at Regina Caeli Academy - 6365 Douglas Blvd. Granite Bay, January 24th at 1pm.

RCA is a hybrid academy, serving students in grades Preschool-12<sup>th</sup> grade in the Catholic tradition. RCA provides fully accredited academic and extracurricular classes for homeschoolers. Students attend classes using the Socratic method two days per week and are homeschooled the remaining days. For more information visit [www.rcahybrid.org](http://www.rcahybrid.org) or call Hannah Hollcraft, Center Coordinator, of Education at 530.444.2133 We look forward to welcoming you to RCA!

### THANK YOU BULLETIN SPONSORS

Thanks to all of our bulletin advertisers. Because of your sponsorship, our bulletin is made possible at no cost to the Parish. We ask all parishioners to patronize these advertisers and thank them for their support.

## KNIGHTS CORNER

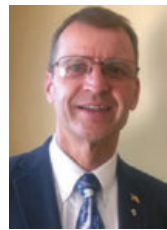
### Happy New Year!



Welcome to 2022! Are you a New Year's Resolution maker? Is this the year to exercise more or lose weight? Or is it time to become more active in your Faith Community? St. Mel Parish has so many ministries to become a part of, meet fellow parishioners, build wonderful friendships, and strengthen our faith in the process. Whether it be St. Vincent de Paul, RCIA, Legion of Mary, Cursillo, Knights of Columbus, or one of the many others, you will find that working with others to achieve a common goal will accomplish more that you could have imagined. I'm reminded of a phrase the Knights have used for years: "You get more out of it than you put in." Your time is valuable, but the time you donate is more precious because it's given to others.

The Knights of Columbus will be conducting an Exemplification Ceremony to welcome new candidates into our Order, and to join our Fair Oaks Council on January 2<sup>nd</sup> after the 10:30am Mass in the Church. Everyone is welcome to attend and learn more about the Knights of Columbus.

Are you a Catholic gentleman, 18 years of age or older, and interested in becoming a Knight of Columbus? Visit our website: [www.KofC.org](http://www.KofC.org) and click on "Join" at the top. The Knights of Columbus is a family-oriented organization, helping bring communities together.



Please contact me if you have any questions.  
John Brennan - 916-548-4962, [JPBrennan7262@gmail.com](mailto:JPBrennan7262@gmail.com)

## 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.



## EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

### The Light of the Moon

If you own a television that has been turned on at any point in the last month or so, chances are you've caught at least a scene or two of the 1946 classic film "It's a Wonderful Life."

If you're not familiar with the movie, it follows the life of George Bailey from childhood through adulthood. A dreamer by nature, George has big plans for himself that involve world exploration and adventure — but family and community obligations keep him tethered to the same spot on the map, leading an altogether ordinary life.

One of the most memorable scenes from that movie is of George dancing with his sweetheart Mary while they sing "Buffalo Gals — Won't you come out tonight/And dance by the light of the moon?"

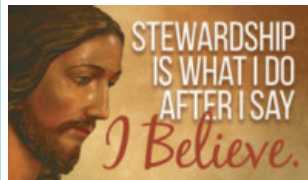
That lyric always catches my ear. Of course, the moon doesn't have any light of its own. All the moon has is the ability to reflect the light that shines upon it.

The same holds for us, doesn't it? Our stewardship is purely a reflection of the grace granted to us by another. "Upon you the LORD shines," writes Isaiah, "and over you appears his glory." Every good action we will ever take begins in the mind of God. The fact that we have the honor of carrying it out on His behalf is a beautiful gift. It is God that makes our ordinary lives extraordinary.

In the end of the movie, George Bailey realizes that he had a far greater life because, instead of being the hero of his own story, he allowed himself to reflect goodness onto others.

Remember — the magi didn't chart their own course. They merely followed the star.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



On Monday, January 3, as a Church we celebrate *The Most Holy Name of Jesus*. The Third Commandment demands (more than suggests) we NOT take the Lord's Name in Vain. How casually Jesus' name is tossed about, oh! that we should grieve!

Action item: commit to defending the names of the Trinity, and teach your children how wonderful it is to bless and praise Jesus Christ!

### SEMINARIAN BIRTHDAY

St. Mel's own Victor Amador is celebrating his birthday on January 6th. Cards can be sent to Victor at Mount Angel Seminary, 1 Abbey Drive, St. Benedict, OR 97373.

Thank you for supporting our seminarians.

## Dale Barngrover Memorial Book Fund Collection

SEE DISPLAY IN THE VESTIBULE



Dale converted to the Catholic Faith in June, 2020. He was a proud member of the Knights of Columbus. He passed to his eternal reward on Oct. 16, 2021.

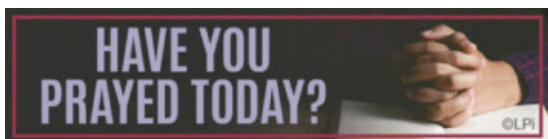


Dale's family would like to share his religious collection with you.

Please help yourself to a book for a suggested minimum \$5 donation (or what you are able from your generosity.)

All collected donations will go to the Knights of Columbus to assist St. Mel in new technology and security improvements at the parish.

Please place your donation in the collection box labeled "DALE BARNGROVER MEMORIAL BOOK FUND COLLECTION"



## ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON

### Feast Day January 4

The patron saint of Catholic schools, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (August 28, 1774 – January 4, 1821) was born in New York City to a prominent family of the Episcopal faith. When she turned 19, she married a wealthy businessman with whom she had five children. He later died of tuberculosis in 1803, leaving her a young widow. After discovering the Catholic faith in Italy, where her husband had died, she returned to New York and converted to Catholicism in 1805.

After several years struggling as a single mother, Elizabeth moved in 1809 to Emmitsburg, Maryland, where she founded the Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph, the first community for religious women established in the United States. She also began St. Joseph's Academy and Free School, which started a chain reaction of Catholic-based education in the United States that continues today.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton was canonized September 14, 1975 in St. Peter's Square by Pope Paul VI and was the first citizen born in the United States to be given the title of "saint."



## CHRIST THE KING PARISH RETREATS

The 2021-2022 Christ the King Parish Retreat theme is "**God's Dream for Our World**" to ponder God's dream for our world, though the lens of sacred scripture and storytelling. We invite all to come and probe the depth of God's Love for us in Christ as we gather in prayer, study, meditation, sacraments, and rest. The **WOMEN'S retreat** for St. Mel will be **MARCH 4-6** (but also available: March 25-27, April 1-10 and 22-24) and the men have several options (Feb 4-6, 11-13, 25-27 and April 1-3). Please reserve your spot today by calling your Parish Coordinator Martha Styer at 916-962-3307 or the CTK at 916-725-4720 Ext 301. You can also register online at <http://christthekingretreatcenter.org> If you're unable to attend our parish date, sign up for other date. *Accept this invitation as a precious gift to yourself as you awaken and rejuvenate the spirit within you.* Please know: no one is refused because of inability to pay full amount.

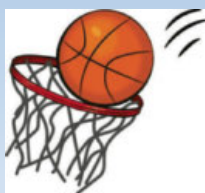


## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 6066 PRESENTS

The Annual Free Throw Contest and Pancake Breakfast!  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 9TH

### FREE THROW CONTEST

DOHENY HALL  
9:00AM to 12:00 Noon



For Boys and Girls, Ages 9-14  
Show off your Skills!

All Participants receive a  
Participation Certificate!

PreRegister at [wardchrisj@hotmail.com](mailto:wardchrisj@hotmail.com)  
Or on the day of the event!

### PANCAKE BREAKFAST

In the Small Hall after the 8:00AM and  
10:30AM Masses

Join us for a delicious breakfast of  
Eggs, Bacon, Sausage and  
Pancakes! \$5 donation requested.





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