



Whoever acts in truth  
comes into the light.

John 3:20

### Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 11, 2018

#### March 11, 2018 – Our choice, His mercy

Today's First Reading gives an overview of the history of the Israelites, before and after the Babylonian exile. Since the people did not live in the ways of the Lord and did not listen to His prophets calling them back to righteousness, the Lord allowed their enemies to get the upper hand with them. All this was even foretold to them by the Prophet Jeremiah. God did not abandon His people; He sent them the emperor Cyrus, inspired by God to set them free. At the Lord's instigation, King Cyrus sent the captive Israelites back to their homeland. (Cyrus served the Lord without even knowing His name.) The Responsorial Psalm 137, is a lamentation from the time of the Babylonian exile. Dovetailing with the First Reading, this psalm teaches us, that like the exiled Israelites, we have forced ourselves into exile by our sinful choices. We created distance between ourselves and God, something God does not want. We have to choose to return to His love and mercy, remembering that our true home is with the Lord. In the Second Reading, St Paul continues the theme of our getting ourselves into bad situations by our own sins. In the First Reading it was exile, here, it's spiritual death. However, it is God's gracious mercy that overwhelms our sin and guilt, freeing us from this awful state. It is His love and generosity that purchased our freedom. We can show our gratitude by good deeds and generosity to others. The message of today's Gospel is, having almost killed ourselves by sin, our only salvation is faith in Jesus' death on the cross and His resurrection. We are saved by looking up to Jesus on the cross. The reason God came into the world is to reveal how much He loves us. We, for our part, *choose* to accept and live in that Love. Whoever accepts His love has already been rewarded, for now they have the possibility of living in His love for all eternity.

#### Mass Intentions for the Week

##### Sunday 3/11/2018

8:00 AM (I) Sally & Melanie by Nancy Bernal  
10:00 AM (R) Bill Mullin by John, Richard, Linda & Marilee  
4:30 PM (R) Mary Theresa O'Keefe by Her Many Cousins

##### Monday 3/12/2018

8:30 AM (I) Families that are suffering  
by Chris & Karen Juten

##### Tuesday 3/13/2018 \*MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA

\*8:30 AM (R) Richard Jaudes by Susan & Tim Baker

##### Wednesday 3/14/2018

8:30 AM (R) Clara Ann Moody & All Family Members  
by Gene Moody

##### Thursday 3/15/2018

8:30 AM (R) Calixto Yanguas by Family

##### Friday 3/16/2018

8:30 AM (R) Shirley Jones by Nathan & Betty Zanoni

##### Saturday 3/17/2018

8:30 AM (R) Dave Leinen by David & Mary Avila  
4:30 PM (R) Rosalie Fiorito by Joe Carnaroli

##### Sunday 3/18/2018

8:00 AM (I) Don & Patt Schaefer  
60th Wedding Anniversary  
10:00 AM (R) Bill Mullin by John, Richard, Linda & Marilee  
4:30 PM (R) Leon Szalkiewicz by Dave & Jenni Murray

As Lent is the time for greater love, listen to Jesus' thirst...He knows your weakness. He wants only your love, wants only the chance to love you.

~ Blessed Teresa of Calcutta

#### Commentators & Altar Servers March 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>

Mass Times	Commentator	Altar Servers
SAT 4:30PM	Wagner J / Wagner G	Trinity, Matthew & Ralph
SUN 8:00AM	Morrison / Ward	Will, Robbie & John Paul
SUN 10:00AM	Cantrall / Walsh	Ella, Ryan & Brady
SUN 4:30 PM	Estipular / Wagner M	Caden, Lucas & Kate

#### CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

The second collection this weekend, March 10th and 11th, will be for The Catholic Relief Services Collection. These funds are used in providing humanitarian aid, resettling displaced individuals and families, and advocating on behalf of victims.

#### ST. MEL YOUTH MINISTRY

The St. Mel Youth Group meets again this Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup>. All high schoolers are invited to come enjoy food, fun and fellowship in the Convent after the Sunday 4:30PM Mass. Any questions, contact Gigi at [ymstmel@gmail.com](mailto:ymstmel@gmail.com) or 916-936-2793.

#### ST. MEL YOUNG ADULTS

St. Mel Young Adults will be meeting every Wednesday during Lent for fellowship and Bible Study. Join us any or all Wednesdays at 7:00PM in the Convent. Bibles will be available. If you can't make Wednesday nights, please check the calendar for other dates at [www.catholicveritas.com](http://www.catholicveritas.com). For more information: [stmelsya@gmail.com](mailto:stmelsya@gmail.com) or 916-936-2793.

#### ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER CELEBRATION

It's almost time for the wearing o' the green! The Knights of Columbus will be hosting their annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner on Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup> after the 4:30PM Mass. Come for the delicious corned beef and cabbage, live Celtic Music, Irish Dancers, raffle prizes, and help support this annual fundraiser of the Knights of Columbus. Tickets on sale after each Mass this weekend or in the Parish Office.



#### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

##### Morning Stations

Every Friday during Lent, St. Mel School students will lead the Stations of the Cross at 11:00AM in the church. All are welcome.

##### Soup and Evening Stations

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be sponsoring "Soup and Stations" on all Fridays in Lent except for Good Friday. Bring a crock pot of soup or some bread and join us in the Small Hall at 5:30PM for dinner and fellowship before the Stations of the Cross at 7:00PM. St. Vincent de Paul will provide bowls and spoons. On Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, dinner will begin at 5:00PM with Stations of the Cross at 6:30PM followed by the Penance Service at 7:00PM.

#### HABITAT FOR HUMANITY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Fair Oaks Knights of Columbus Council 6066 is looking for a group of 4 to 5 volunteers to work regular shifts at the Habitat for Humanity ReStore facility. Volunteers will need to attend a ReStore orientation before being assigned a shift. Contact Deputy Grand Knight Michael Ochoa at 916-740-3178 or [mnkochoa@pacbell.net](mailto:mnkochoa@pacbell.net) for help in arranging your orientation. Hours are flexible, and this is a great way to give back to the community.

#### CATHOLIC FAITH FORMATION

CFF classes are in session this Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup>.

#### 6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEN'S DAY OF FAITH RENEWAL



The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Men's Day of Faith Renewal will be Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup> from 8:00AM to 3:15PM in the St. Mel Parish Center. Former mega church pastor, Allen Hunt, will share his journey into the Catholic Church, speaking on "The Eternal Treasures of the Catholic Faith: Have You Found Them?" Tickets are \$40 and includes a continental breakfast and a catered BBQ lunch. Register today at [smpevents.org](http://smpevents.org). For more information call, 916-635-7791.

#### SEMINARIAN DINNER

Mark your calendar for the St. Mel Vocation Ministry Seminarian Dinner on Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. Last year's dinner was a huge success! The dinner provides a time of fellowship with our Sacramento Seminarians and a chance to hear about their formation and life in the seminary. Tickets will be on sale soon. For more information call Jeanne Condon, 916-349-6936 or Jenni Murray, 916-600-6808.

#### DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Daylight Savings time begins today, Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to set your clocks forward one hour.

#### MASS CHANGE

Until further notice, the 12:00PM Mass will not be offered.

#### SEMINARIAN BIRTHDAY CARD CAMPAIGN

We have 5 Seminarians from the Diocese of Sacramento celebrating their birthdays in March. Eric Pereira celebrates on March 9<sup>th</sup> and Joseph Malinis on March 17<sup>th</sup>. They are both studying at St. Patrick's Seminary, 320 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park, CA 94025. Dean Marshall celebrates on March 26<sup>th</sup> and Steven Wood on March 28<sup>th</sup>. Dean and Steven are studying at Mt. Angel Seminary, 1 Abbey Drive, St. Benedict, OR 97373. Arturo Dominguez-Carlos celebrates on March 10<sup>th</sup> and he is at St. Peter & All Hallows, 6210 McMahon Drive, Sacramento, CA 95824. The seminarians and the Vocations Ministry greatly appreciate your support.

#### PLEASE NOTE!

\*\*\* SCHEDULE FOR BULLETIN ARTICLES \*\*\*  
Please send your typed articles, in MS Word - Times New Roman, font 10, via email to [stmeloffice@yahoo.com](mailto:stmeloffice@yahoo.com), no later than **NOON ON FRIDAY** to be included in the next bulletin. Thank you for your cooperation.

Bulletin Weekend Dates 2018	Articles DUE Prior To FRIDAY
March 10 - 11 March 17 - 18 March 24 - 25 March 31 - April 1	March 2 March 9 March 16 March 23

#### CHAPEL OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST



Perpetual Adoration  
**GREAT NEED FOR ADORERS:**  
Sunday: 5 - 6pm, 6-7 pm, 10 - 11pm  
Thursday: 11am - 12pm, 12 - 1pm, 2 - 3pm  
Friday: 2 - 3am, 6 - 7pm  
Saturday: 3 - 4am, 9 - 10am,  
1 - 2pm, 2 - 3pm, 4 - 5pm

If you would like to be in the Real Presence of Jesus and visit with Him for one or more of the above hours, or any Hour, or be a substitute, please call Marge, 967-0641 or Chris, 966-3266. God is "thirsting" for you to satiate "His thirst"

Talk given why Perpetual Adoration is so important to the world - Pope Benedict XVI, Feb.22, 2007. "In a world where there is so much noise, so much bewilderment, there is a need for *silent Adoration*, of Jesus concealed in the "Host".

Please remember to call if you can't make your assigned hour out of respect to those who are in the Adoration Chapel waiting for you to arrive.

## CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

This week, we are taking up The Catholic Relief Services Collection to respond to Jesus in disguise. This collection helps six Catholic agencies provide relief and support to struggling communities and to work toward peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters here and around the world. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection. Learn more at [www.usccb.org/catholic-relief](http://www.usccb.org/catholic-relief).



Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel. –Liturgy of Ash Wednesday

**Reflection:** Lent is the time when we learn more deeply why we are pro-life. Turning away from sin means we put God above our “freedom of choice.”

Believing in the Gospel means we believe in life and reject the forces of death, including abortion.

tion.

**Prayer:** Lord, I fully repent of all the times I have given my choices more weight than Yours. This Lent, renew my fidelity to You. May I be a living example of what it means to choose life.

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## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SEWING GROUP

The St. Vincent de Paul sewing group is expanding and inviting you to join us to sew clothes for children, knit/crochet prayer shawls and lap blankets and to share your creative talents to assist those in need. Beginning March 20<sup>th</sup>, the group will meet weekly on Tuesdays from 10:15AM to 12:30PM. If you would like to see us stitching, or to learn more about the group, please join us in the St. Jude Room. Questions? Call Jackie, 916-601-4475.

## HOLY HOUR EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

St. Mel will have a Holy Hour Eucharistic Adoration on Wednesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00PM. There will be the Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament with Taize Prayer Meditative Scriptural Passion of Christ. Taize is a candlelit prayer service that includes simple chants, rich moments of silence, meditation and contemplation, prayers of praise and intercession, all with the intention to aid us in our deeper encounter with the Divine.

## THEOLOGY OF THE BODY

An 8-week study of St. John Paul II's Theology of the Body will be offered at St. Mel beginning Tuesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. All those 18 years old and older are invited as we delve into the mysteries of what it means to be made as man and woman. Classes will meet in the Small Hall at 7:00PM on Tuesdays, March 13<sup>th</sup> through May 8<sup>th</sup>. Optional study materials will be available for order at the first session. The course we will be using is "Into the Heart" by Christopher West.

## PRAYER INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS



Please join the **Legion of Mary** in praying daily the intentions of Pope Francis for March. Please place special emphasis this month on...*formation in Spiritual Discernment.*

*That the Church may appreciate the urgency of formation in spiritual discernment, both on the personal and communitarian levels.*

Aiden Hulse	Diana Fischer	Jeannette Barron
Albert Souza	Diane Castonguay	Joe Hoffmann
Allene Blessing	Elaine Ervin	John English
Amanda Barron	Emma Moss	Jude Hoffmann
Bob Ahern, Sr.	Frank & Renee Weiss	Martinez Family
Carol Ellen Leever	Gene Fischer	Rudy Worthington
Danielle Hannon	Gerald A. Hoffarth	Victoria Hummer
Dawna Jones	Helen S. Worthington	Zaida Ackerson
Delores Bousliman	Helen Chilcott	

## NEW ADULT SCRIPTURE STUDY RESCHEDULED

The start of the Adult Scripture Study, “Priest, Prophet and King”, has been rescheduled to Tuesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Presented by Bishop Robert Barron, this is the perfect study for Lent as we discover Jesus as the Anointed One – the ultimate priest, prophet and king as foreshadowed throughout the Hebrew Scriptures. The study will be held in the John Paul II Room beginning at 6:30PM. We hope you will join us for this short 6-week presentation. To register call Karen, 916-202-0606 or Cheryl, 916-342-1336.

## ADORATION CHAPEL BOOKS

The books that are in the Adoration Chapel are for use in the Adoration Chapel only. Please leave them in the chapel so that everyone can use them. Thank you.

## Please Pray for the Sick of Our Parish

(Names will appear for 2 months unless a call is received by the Parish Office to extend the time or to remove the name.)

## St. Mel Parish Ministries & Social Groups

(REV. September 26, 2017)

<b>PARISH COUNCILS</b>		
Parish Pastoral Council	Denny Shunta	952-4502
Parish Finance Council	Jim Joyce	967-1229
<b>PARISH SCHOOL</b>		
St. Mel School:	Janet Nagel (Principal)	967-2814
St. Mel School Parents Club:	Contact the School Office	967-2814
St. Mel Youth Group	Giovanna Bellocci	Call the Parish Office
St. Mel Young Adults (ages 18-39)	Giovanna Bellocci	Call Parish Office
<b>RELIGIOUS EDUCATION</b>		
R.C.I.A. (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults):	Michael Faber	719-5565
Catholics Return Home:	Karen Fitts	966-0184
Catholic Faith Formation (CFF):	Sara Donnelly	966-4314
Scripture & Religious Study:	Cheryl Hoffmann / or Karen Fitts	966-1830 / 966-0184
Parish Library open after weekend Masses:	Joanne Wagner	967-0190
<b>LITURGICAL SERVICES</b>		
Altar Servers:	Dave Murray	338-5011
Music Ministry Director	Aaron Thompson	stmelmusic@outlook.com
Commentators:	Patrick Wagner	961-8652
Eucharistic Ministers:	Deacon Anthony Pescetti	704-0057
Ushers	Patrick Wagner	961-8652
<b>PRAYER ADVOCACY</b>		
Charismatic Prayer Group	Karen Juten / Chris Juten	712-3706 / 715-1162
Fiat Rosary Group	Peggy Grass	962-9244
Eucharistic Adoration Chapel:	Marge Della Villa / Chris Guzman	967-0641 / 966-3266
“D. J. M.” Disciples of Jesus and Mary	Joanne Hammett	765-4007
Legion of Mary (Day):	Joyce Savage	342-6179
Society of Our Lady of Guadalupe:	Dolores Leon	337-1800
Prayer Chain:	Dolores Moniz	962-0571
Fraternity of Fatherhood:	Mike Allison	834-6226
Men's Cursillo Group:	Chuck Friedrich	635-7791
<b>SOCIAL CONCERNS</b>		
Hospitality	Parish Office	967-1229
Loaves and Fishes Volunteers:	Kathy Yanez	967-1229
Knights of Columbus #6066:	Patrick Wagner	961-8652
St. Mel “Sip & Sup” Fellowship Dinner Program	Roelof & Claire Van Ark	802-1089
St. Vincent de Paul Society:	Bill Savage	967-1229
Sacramento Life Center: Pro-Life Pregnancy Support:	Joanne Hammett	451-4357
Bereavement/Grief Share	Rita Ecdao	408-903-6344
Fr. Richard Doheny Religious Education Fund:	Walt Schaff	961-4698
Bishop-Gallegos Maternity Home:	Mary Schaefer / or June Schott	988-3171 / 967-9158
<b>PARISH ORGANIZATIONS</b>		
Altar Society:	Parish Office	967-1229
Marriage Encounter:	John & Regina Ruport	987-5616
Boy Scouts:	Chris Herne / Don Jones	798-8493 / 606-1659
Cub Scouts	Chris Jones	390-4678
Girl Scouts:	Jill Dutra	217-3990
KKIS:	Laura Lumenta	718-2718
OPUS DEI:	Deidra Chapman	944-1356 or 425-4904
Children's Liturgy	Sara Lebeck / Serena Carleton	967-1229
Clara's House	Martha Rusnak	448-3976
Religious Articles:	Brenda McCollum / Dorothy Wagner	967-1229
Vocations Ministry:	Jeanne Condon	349-6936
Wedding Coordinator:	Karen Fitts	966-0184
For Any Changes to Ministry List	Parish Office	967-1229

**We welcome all new parishioners and ask that you complete this registration form and place it in the collection basket at Mass, or return it to the Parish Office.**

<b>Quick Registration St. Mel Catholic Church</b>		<b>Envelopes?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	
Last Name _____		First Name(s) _____			
Mailing Name (i.e. Mr. & Mrs. John Doe) _____					
Address: _____					
Street	City	Zip Code			
Phone # _____					
E-mail _____					
CONTACT ME BY:		<input type="checkbox"/> PHONE	<input type="checkbox"/> EMAIL		
Do you have any special request: _____					