




The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul

Psalm 19:8

Third Sunday of Lent

March 4, 2018

March 4, 2018 – Lord, strengthen our faith in You

The First Reading, recounts the reception of the Ten Commandments. The first three commandments deal with our obligation to God. We are not to create idols or worship strange gods which includes participating in pagan religions or practices that question God's control over our destiny; e.g., horoscopes, palm readings, etc. God's name and the Sabbath are to be treated with *sacred respect*, for the Sabbath harkens back to the days of creation, when God, after working six days, rested on the seventh. The Jews rest from sunset Friday through sunset Saturday; while Christians rest the next day, Sunday, in honor of Jesus' resurrection. The other seven commandments regard our obligations to others. Only the absolute minimum is recommended. Even if we observe them all, we are not necessarily good Christians, since charity to others could still be lacking. The Beatitudes are like commandments for Christians, asking more of us, inviting us to generosity. Today's Responsorial, the second half of Psalm 19, celebrates the goodness of the Law using different synonyms to describe it. The Psalmist prays that his words and meditation will please the Lord. The Law cannot really be perfect until it is interiorized in one's heart and professed with one's life. The Second Reading addresses the concerns of the Jews and the Greeks. St Paul explains that in reality, Christ is God's power (the Jewish concern for power) and He is also God's wisdom (the Greek concern for wisdom). God's wisdom, power and love are incarnate in Jesus, God's Son. He is above and beyond the ephemeral power and wisdom the world (the Jews and the Greeks) seeks. Today's Gospel rests on Jesus' words. He lays out an analogy between Himself and the temple. His entire ministry is a revelation of the Father's love for us that can only end up on the cross. Jesus speaks of the destruction of the temple of His body, which His listeners mistook as a reference to the actual building. Many of His followers had superficial faith, being only interested in miracles and what *they* could get out of the relationship. They did not want to commit their lives or love to Jesus. Since Jesus knew all this, He did not trust them. On the other hand, when Jesus rose from the dead, His Apostles remembered His words about destroying the temple, and this fortified their faith in Him, and the Scriptures, as well.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sunday 3/4/2018
 8:00 AM (R) Teresa Baker by Tom Baker
 10:00 AM (R) Bill Mullin by John, Richard, Linda & Marilee
 4:30 PM (I) Cindy Maldonado by St. Mel Faculty & Staff

Monday 3/5/2018
 8:30 AM (I) Gabe De Guzman by St. Mel Faculty & Staff

Tuesday 3/6/2018 *MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA*
 *8:30 AM (R) John Baker by Susan & Tim Baker

Wednesday 3/7/2018
 8:30 AM (I) Judy Spinelli by Carol McNelly
 8:30 AM (I) Mike & Jo Goff by Tom Baker

Thursday 3/8/2018
 8:30 AM (R) John Baker by Tom Baker

Friday 3/9/2018
 8:30 AM (R) Mark O'Brien by Matt & Sara Donnelly

Saturday 3/10/2018
 8:30 AM (R) Foledad Voss by Cospere Family
 4:30 PM (I) Frontiera Family by Gwen Gaulke

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

Fasting and almsgiving are "the two wings of prayer" which enable it to gain momentum and more easily reach even to God.

~ St. Augustine

Commentators & Altar Servers March 10 th & 11 th		
Mass Times	Commentator	Altar Servers
SAT 4:30PM	Nagel / Faber	Zach, Austin & Ralph
SUN 8:00AM	Abi Nader / Kreamer	Matthew, Sarah & Abbie
SUN 10:00AM	School Mass	School Mass
SUN 4:30 PM	Ricaforte / Handy	Andrew, Andrew & Vincent

CHAPEL OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Perpetual Adoration
GREAT NEED FOR ADORERS:
Sunday: 5 - 6pm, 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"


ST. MEL YOUTH MINISTRY

The St. Mel Youth Group meets again on March 11th. 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 or 916-36-2793.

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. For more information: stmelsya@gmail.com or 916-936-2793.

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.

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 23rd, dinner will begin at 5:00PM with Stations of the Cross at 6:30PM followed by the Penance Service at 7:00PM.

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 17th 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.



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 mkochoa@pacbell.net for help in arranging your orientation. Hours are flexible, and this is a great way to give back to the community.

Let us pray for all those in our community who have passed away.


Emma Moss

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

CATHOLIC FAITH FORMATION

CFF classes are in session this Sunday, March 4th.

6TH ANNUAL MEN'S DAY OF FAITH RENEWAL

 The 6th Annual Men's Day of Faith Renewal will be Saturday, April 14th 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. For more information call, 916-635-7791.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Daylight Savings time begins next Sunday, March 11th. 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 9th and Joseph Malinis on March 17th. They are both studying at St. Patrick's Seminary, 320 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park, CA 94025. Dean Marshall celebrates on March 26th and Steven Wood on March 28th. Dean and Steven are studying at Mt. Angel Seminary, 1 Abbey Drive, St. Benedict, OR 97373. Arturo Dominguez-Carlos celebrates on March 10th and he is at St. Peter & All Hallows, 6210 McMahan 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, 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

**ST. MEL
MAINTENANCE & IMPROVEMENT FUND**

The second collection this weekend, March 3rd & 4th, will be for the St. Mel Maintenance and Improvement Fund. These funds are used for taking care of our facilities. Thank you for your generous support.

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

Next week, our parish will take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection (CRSC). Funds from this collection help provide food to the hungry, support to displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to all people here at home and abroad. Next week, please give generously to the CRSC, and help Jesus in disguise. Learn more about the collection at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

RECOGNITION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wedding anniversaries for the month of March will be recognized at all Masses this weekend, March 3rd & 4th.

**NEW ADULT SCRIPTURE STUDY
RESCHEDULED**

The start of the Adult Scripture Study, "Priest, Prophet and King", has been rescheduled to Tuesday, April 3rd. 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.

Please Pray for the Chronically Ill of Our Parish

(Names of those with long-term illnesses will appear on this list and be printed in the Church bulletin on the first Sunday of each month.)

Albert Gonzales	Garrett Heisinger	Louis Patterson
Auroa Deese	George Snyder, Sr.	Lynn Warner
Betty Cerato	Gerrie & Paul Parker	Manuel Ybarra
Bill Jones	Howie Hoel	Maria Erickson
Bruce King	James English	Marie Lofgren
Cecelia Beviacqua	Jody Martinez	Mary Hoel
Charles J. Ortner	Kathy Houser	Ralph Virgen
Connie McKie		Veronica Saenz



Hannah wept much and prayed to the Lord... "Remember me, and not forget your servant but give her a son..." -1 Sam 1:10-11

Reflection: The people of the Old Testament regarded barrenness as a curse, a source of great shame and sorrow. Fertility, on the other hand, was a blessing and a sign of God's favor.

Many people who suffer from infertility are very close and faithful to God. The attitude of a culture that aborts children, however, increases their anguish all the more.

Prayer: Lord, may we again see children as a blessing. Give that blessing to all who long for a child.

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YOUNG WOMEN'S DISCERNMENT RETREAT

There will be a Young Women's Discernment Retreat on March 10th, from 9:00AM to 7:00PM at the Newman Catholic Center Sacramento. The retreat is for young women ages 18-35 who have questions about religious life. The Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist, will share, guide, and help in furthering discern the call to serve God. Register now at www.catholic.formstack.com/forms/discernment Cost is \$40 and scholarships are available.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SEWING GROUP

St. Mel's St. Vincent de Paul Society started a sewing group 2 years ago. The purpose of this group is to make little girls dresses using pillow cases. The sewing group has been tremendously successful, sending over 2,000 dresses to those in need in the Philippines. The sewing group is looking for a new leader, as well as more members to help sew dresses. If you are interested in joining this ministry, please call 916-967-1229.

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.)

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 Leeever	Gene Fischer	Rudy Worthington
Danielle Hannon	Gerald A. Hoffarth	Victoria Hummer
Dawna Jones	Helen S. Worthington	Zaida Ackerson
Delores Bousliman	Helen Chilcott	

St. Mel Parish Ministries & Social Groups (REV. September 26, 2017)

PARISH COUNCILS		
Parish Pastoral Council	Denny Shunta	952-4502
Parish Finance Council	Jim Joyce	967-1229
PARISH SCHOOL		
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
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION		
R.C.I.A. (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults):	Michael Faber	719-5565
LITURGICAL SERVICES		
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
PRAYER ADVOCACY		
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
SOCIAL CONCERNS		
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
PARISH ORGANIZATIONS		
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.

Quick Registration St. Mel Catholic Church		Envelopes?	Yes	No
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: _____				