

SAINT MEL

Catholic Church

14436 Triskett Road • Cleveland, OH 44111-2263

Reverend Mark Q. Fedor, J.C.D., *Pastor*



SAINT MEL

Mel is said to have been the son of Conis and his wife, Darerca, the sister of Saint Patrick. Mel accompanied his uncle to Ireland and helped to evangelize in that country. Mel is said to have had no fixed diocese, which might be explained by his being a missionary. Saint Patrick himself built the church at Ardagh and to this he appointed his nephew, Mel. The cathedral at Ardagh is dedicated to Saint Mel. Acting upon the counsel of Saint Paul, Mel supported himself by working with his hands, and what he gained beyond bare necessities, he gave to the poor. The Feast of Saint Mel is on February 6th.

PARISH INFORMATION

PHONES

Rectory Office: 216-941-4313
Fax: 216-941-1093
Email: church@stmel.net
Website <http://www.stmelparish.net>

Weddings: Couples need to make arrangements at least six months prior to the wedding date. No date may be reserved until after a discussion with the priest of the parish.

Funerals: Arrangements must be confirmed with the rectory office by the funeral director before any publication in the newspaper.

Baptisms: On the first and third Sundays of the month, following the 11:30 AM Mass. Arrangements should begin to be made about three months before the birth of the child.

Rite of Christian Initiation: Persons interested becoming members of the Catholic Church are asked to call the rectory office for information.

Anointing of the Sick: In the case of an emergency, please call the rectory office immediately. Please notify the rectory office for communion calls to the homebound, or visits to parishioners in the hospital.

Registration: New parishioners are asked to call the rectory office to register. Please call if there is a change in address or when moving out of the parish.

Rectory Office Hours: Monday through Friday: 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon; 1:00 to 4:00 PM

Hall available for catered events. Call Catered Affairs of Cleveland at 216-671-9833.

Share-a-Meal Program: Sponsored by St. Ignatius Church and supported by St. Mel Parish. Meal is held on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at St. Ignatius Church, 10205 Lorain Avenue, Cleveland. Doors open at 5:00 PM. Dinner is served at 5:30 PM.

MASSES

Sunday Masses:

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 PM
Sunday: 7:00, 9:30, 11:30 AM

Weekday Masses

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 6:45 AM
Thursday 5:45 PM

Holy Day Masses other than Christmas & New Years

Weekday evening before the Holy Day: 5:45 PM
Holy Day: 6:45, 10:00 AM

Confessions: Thursdays 5:00 - 5:30 PM
Saturdays 3:00 - 4:00 PM

MASS INTENTIONS**MONDAY DECEMBER 24 - Vigil of Christmas**

4:30 PM Jerome Smyke - Family
 10:00 PM Henry Hout, Sr. - Family

TUESDAY DECEMBER 25**- The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)****NOTE SPECIAL CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES**

8:30 AM St. Mel Parishioners
 11:00 AM Amelio, Maria, & Salvatore Leanza - Family

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 26 - St. Stephen

6:45 AM James Hosaka - Family

THURSDAY DECEMBER 27 - St. John

5:45 PM Jack & Marcia Marrie - Family

FRIDAY DECEMBER 28 - The Holy Innocents

6:45 AM Fui Hosaka - Family

SATURDAY DECEMBER 29**- Vigil: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph**

4:30 PM Henry Hout, Sr. - Family

SUNDAY DECEMBER 30**- The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph**

7:00 AM St. Mel Parishioners
 9:30 AM Msgr. S. W. Staud - Sister
 11:30 AM Thomas McCann - Family



*Blessed are you among women,
 and blessed is the fruit of your
 womb. Luke 1:42*

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79
 Tuesday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]
Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14
Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]
 Wednesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22
 Thursday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
 Friday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18
 Saturday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35
 Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52

LECTORS - CHRISTMAS

4:30 PM Tim Armstrong 10:00 PM Lucky Varouh
 8:30 AM Rich Beil 11:00 AM Eileen Mangan Stull

**ST. MEL CHURCH
 CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE****Christmas Masses:**

December 24: 4:30 PM & 10:00 PM
 December 25: 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

December 31: 4:30 PM
 January 1: 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

**OPLATEK (OPLATKI) CHRISTMAS WAFER**

*Available in the St. Mel Card Shop located off the
 Gathering Area of the church. Free Will Donation.
 Each envelope contains 4 wafers (3 white and 1 pink).*

HYMNS AT ST. MEL**Opening Hymns for Masses**

12/23 #198 The King Shall Come
 12/25 #212 O Come All Ye Faithful
 12/30 #216 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

**Memorial Acclamation**

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection, until you come again.

Communion Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel

Communion Refrain (Christmas Season)

Noel, Noel, Born is the King of Israel.

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF
 HOLY COMMUNION - CHRISTMAS**

4:30 PM Paul Filippi, Kathleen Hough, Pauline Joseph,
 Susan Sekerak
 10:00 PM Rich Beil, Carol Kerrigan, Lois Wincek
 8:30 AM John & Doris Colombo, Michael George
 11:00 AM Lori Hardony, Deborah Roscoe,
 Eileen Mangan Stull

SERVERS

4:30 PM Sunday December 24 Christmas Eve
 Emma & Zoltan Nagy

10:00 PM Sunday December 24 Christmas Eve
 Audrey, Curtis, Dylan, & Spencer Harrington

8:30 AM Monday December 25 Christmas Day
 Michael Prcela

11:00 AM Monday December 25 Christmas Day
 Chiemela & Daberechi Onunkwo

4:30 PM Sunday December 29 Timothy Tinnirello

7:00 AM Sunday December 30 Mary Adkins

9:30 AM Sunday December 30
 Erin, Julia & Mark Houghtling



11:30 AM Sunday December 30 Emma & Zoltan Nagy

PARISH CALENDAR

- MON. 24 Christmas Eve Masses: 4:30 & 10:00 PM.
- TUES. 25 Christmas Masses: 8:30 & 11:00 AM.
- WED. 26 Parish Office Closed
- THUR. 27 Confessions: 5:00-5:30 PM.
- SAT. 29 Confessions: 3:00-4:00 PM.



A WARM WELCOME TO ALL who have come to worship with us this Christmas. Christmas presents all of us with the opportunity to renew friendships, to celebrate with family, and to give thanks to our God who has blessed us so richly.

On this glorious feast of the birthday of Christ our Lord, we wish you from God, good health, happiness and abundant blessings. May it be yours to enjoy comfort from your children, salvation for your soul, the kingdom of heaven after your death, and for the family's welfare, may you have whatever you ask of God. *St. Mel Staff*

May the peace of the newborn Savior be with you during the coming year.

LOOKING FOR NEW LECTORS FOR 2019

You might wonder how lectors stand before you during Mass and proclaim the word of God, even those who are terrified of public speaking. This is the Holy Spirit at work, guiding us and providing a calming sense as we read God's message. Don't think of it as public speaking, because the words are right there in front of us, and we have heard them repeatedly through the years, so we are already familiar with them. Could the Holy Spirit be calling you be a lector in 2019? If so, please call Ann at 440-334-4361 for more information.

**WRAPPING PAPER! HOLIDAY CARDS!
HOLIDAY CATALOGS! PACKAGING & BOXES!**

RECYCLE ALL of your Holiday Paper!
Bring it to the St. Mel recycle bin in the parking lot!

AM 1260 THE ROCK PROGRAM CHANGES

Tune into AM 1260 The Rock to hear the exciting new additions to the program schedule. Enjoy timeless wisdom from *Life is Worth Living* with Venerable Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen, Monday-Friday 10:00 PM, followed by a different program each weeknight at 10:30 PM, including *Dare Great Things* with Fr. Nathan Cromly CSJ. For the full schedule visit www.am1260therock.com.

**THIS WEEK'S ADVERTISER
DONLON FUNERAL HOME**

The parish staff extends a special "Thank You" to all the merchants who use our bulletin to advertise.



Growing in FAITH

Discovering **hope** and **joy** in the Catholic faith

Q & A **Where did we get the Nativity Scene?**

The tradition of the nativity scene started in Greccio, Italy. St. Francis of Assisi was amazed that God, out of love for us, would allow himself to be born in a lowly stable. He wanted to illustrate the humility of the Bethlehem scene for those around him. Three years before his death, he had the chance to do just that. The chapel his order usually used was too crowded to celebrate Midnight Mass indoors, so St. Francis set up an altar in a nearby cave and celebrated Mass there.

With the permission of the Holy Father, St. Francis also set up a manger in the cave and brought in an ox and a donkey. The nativity scene was powerful in rekindling the faith of the people of Greccio. A former soldier even reported seeing the wax figure of the baby Jesus come to life! Whether the figure came to life or not remains a mystery. Today, it reminds us God "*was made flesh, and dwelt among us*" (John 1:14).

Q & A **Who are the Church Fathers?**

The Church Fathers were the early Christian writers and teachers of the faith who lived after the Apostles and preserved and handed on their teachings. At the Last Supper, Jesus told his Apostles, "*[The Holy Spirit] will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you*" (John 14:26). This collection of teachings—called Tradition—was handed on by the Apostles to their followers, the Church Fathers.



The Church Fathers include bishops, writers, thinkers, and martyrs. The most important thing the Fathers did, and why we still look to them today, is that they preserved "the written proof" of what the Apostles taught and handed it on. By the grace of the Holy Spirit, on essential points of doctrine, the Fathers agreed with each other and with the Apostles on principles such as Jesus' divinity and humanity, Mary's sinlessness, the Eucharist as the Body of Christ. Thanks to the Church Fathers, we can know what the Church believed—and still believes to this day.

One Minute Meditations **St. Gertrude the Great** Born in 1256 in Germany, St. Gertrude was raised and educated by the Benedictine nuns. Eventually, Saint Gertrude became a nun herself. When she was about twenty-five, she began having visions of Christ, which continued until her death. She recorded them in a book called the *Herald of Divine Love* for her fellow nuns. She was known for her personal holiness, her kindness to the rich and poor, and her prayers for the souls in Purgatory.