



# St. Cronan Catholic Church

## 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

### November 27-28, 2021

#### Mass Information

SUNDAY – 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. SATURDAY VIGIL – 5:00 p.m. Wednesdays – 8:00 a.m. Masks are required for all Masses to keep our unvaccinated children safe

**Recorded Mass** will take place the first Sunday of each month and will be available December 4<sup>th</sup>. It can be accessed on our website: <http://www.stcronan.org/>

**Live-streaming** continues at the 10:00 am Mass the other Sundays of the month. PLEASE BE ON TIME! Masses will be live streamed at 10:00. Live-streamed masses are available on our Facebook page any time after the 10:00 Mass, <https://www.facebook.com/StCronan>

**Confirmation:** This Sunday, at 10:00 Mass, we welcome Analise McKenna and her family as she receives the sacrament of Confirmation. The McKennas left St. Louis for Notre Dame shortly after Analise was baptized, but the children have all returned to St. Cronan to receive the Sacraments. Congratulations, Analise!

#### Prayers Please

Bill Barrett, Mary Truetken, Laurel Hayes, Laurel Hayes' parents, Jerry and Nancy, Bill's brother in law, Dave Rose, Bill's friend, Jim Forest, Robert Nathe's Mother, Eileen, Colleen Wallace's godson, Lachlan, Michelle Frank, Martha Stegmaier, Diane Calcaterra, Jennifer Lyle and Krista Rakers, Marilyn Leong, Jessica, Nick Ambrose, Al Sprehe, Phil Milner, Fr. Gerry's nephew, Steven Bueltman, Leslie Conway, Mike's grandson, Jack, Madonna Kuciejczyk-Kernan, Jim Gorman, Andrew Viraugh's Father, Sharon Orlet's sister, Betty, Nancy Buck's daughter, Jeanne.

**Coffee and Donuts** continues on Zoom and is a great time to catch up with the community. The meeting ID is 810 7478 0423, password: cronan

**Black Lives Matter Vigil:** The St. Cronan Social Justice Committee is hosting a Vigil as a way of atoning for past racism. It will be held every third Friday evening of the month - 5:00 -6:00 pm at the corner of Kingshighway and Manchester. Nextmonth's will be Friday, December 16. Please feel free to bring your own signs. If you have questions, please contact Trish Curtis: [trishquita1952@gmail.com](mailto:trishquita1952@gmail.com)

Marianist Retreat Center is holding an Advent Retreat. "Voices in the Wilderness: A Call to Re-Engage" Friday, December 10 through Sunday, December 12 at the Marianist Retreat Center. Cost is \$243/person for program, meals and accommodations. To register, copy this address in your browser: <https://marianistretreat.com/events/voices-in-the-wilderness-advent-retreat-2021>

St. Cronan St. Vincent de Paul Adopt-A-Family As in past years, we hope to offer our neighbors in need some Christmas gifts for the holidays. If you would like to participate in adopting a family for Christmas this year, please sign up in the church vestibule, or call Kathleen Johnson, (314) 822-7517 or email [johnsonkath2@gmail.com](mailto:johnsonkath2@gmail.com) and let her know the size of family you prefer.

**Poinsettia Sale:** St. Cronan is again selling poinsettias as a fund raiser. These flowers are so much bigger and prettier than what you find in the box stores. We are selling:  
6" Pot (16" -17" tall 5-7 blooms) in Red or White = \$22  
8" Pot (20" -22" tall 12-15 blooms) in Red or White = \$30  
10" GIANT Pot (28" -30"+ tall 16-20 blooms) in Red Only = \$40

Each poinsettia includes a gold pot cover. Orders may be placed until noon on Tuesday 11/30. All orders should be placed online if possible. Look for the online information on Cronantalk later this week. Customers may call the Office, (314) 289-9384, to place an order if they can't do it online, but must either provide a credit card so we could place the order online for them or pay via check. Customer Pickup at St. Cronan on Saturday 12/4 from 10 AM - 1 PM. People could pick up after Sunday Mass if necessary.

**Advent Reflections for the First Week of Advent** are available online on CronanTalk, and on the Website. If you would like a paper copy, some are available in the Chapel. We still need reflections for the rest of Advent, so if you signed up, please send them to Diane ASAP. Thanks!

**Winter Coats for Immigrants:** We are collecting gently used winter coats to take to the Mission in Laredo, TX for those who will be quickly traveling to northern climates from the border. Please place coats in the bin provided in the Chapel.

**Food Pantry Volunteer Opportunities:** Driver for Food Pick up at St. Gerard Majella, Kirkwood on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 11:00 am. Food is delivered to St. Cronan and unloaded by volunteers and driver. We have another driver so each driver picks up 6 Sundays a year. You can use your own vehicle but would need a larger SUV or can use the St. Cronan truck. Time involved is approx. 1 hour. Volunteers to help unload vehicle of food from St. Gerard Majella Church on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 11:30 am. We are in need of 2-3 volunteers. Time involved is about 10-15 minutes depending on the number of volunteers we have. Volunteers needed to help with our Homebound Food Delivery on the 3rd Sunday of each month after the 10 am Mass. Each volunteer delivers to 2 households. We are looking for 2 regular volunteers plus 2 standby volunteers. Time involved is about 15-25 minutes depending on where the clients live. We really appreciate your consideration of these needs!  
Kathy Hunn, Director~St. Cronan Church Food Pantry~314-704-9934 or [kathyfoodpantry@gmail.com](mailto:kathyfoodpantry@gmail.com).

**Pastoral Reflection  
First Sunday of Advent  
November 27-28, 2021**

**Our Lady, Undoer of Knots**

This year, for our Advent Theme, we are focusing on some of the problems our society encounters, how they are reflected in the Advent readings, and how we can look to our Mother Mary to intercede for us and help us to find ways to contribute to the untangling of these knots during this Advent season and beyond.

Our Lady, Undoer of Knots, is a Marian Devotion that began in Germany in the 17<sup>th</sup> century when a couple appealed to Mary to help them save their marriage. As they and their spiritual guide prayed, their wedding ribbon, which contained the knots of their many arguments, was untied and smoothed, and their marriage was saved. Of course, there seems to be some legend at work here, but the point is that nothing is impossible with God, and through Mary, we can find ways to undo our own societal knots, or at least contribute to their unraveling in some way.

We have chosen four issues for our focus in the four weeks of Advent: the knot of Climate Change, the knot of Clericalism, the knot of Prejudice, and the knot within families.

In the first Sunday readings, God calls on the elements and warns us of how they will "ravage nations." We see this firsthand in the increasingly destructive fires, storms and flooding that have ravaged our world. We ask Mary, undoer of knots, to help us find ways to stem the tide of Climate Change before it is too late.

The Second Sunday readings tell us that we have a partnership in the Gospel and that the Church was not built on Clericalism and Hierarchy, but rather started in people's homes. We ask Mary to help those in Church authority to be more inclusive of the Laity and more respectful of what we have to offer our Church as followers of Jesus.

The Third Sunday readings admonish us to treat everyone equally and to respect all humanity as children of God. No one deserves more or less than anyone else. We need to celebrate our differences to end all forms of prejudice.

On the Fourth Sunday, as Mary greets her cousin, Elizabeth, we look at the knots within our own families and reflect and act on ways to unravel our differences to respect and love each other.

As we await the coming of Christ this Advent, let us be mindful of the many ways in which our world has failed to follow Jesus' teachings. Let us ponder these issues in our hearts and ask Mary, Undoer of Knots, to help us unravel these issues to bring about God's reign on earth.

*Diane Gozdzialski*