

Pastoral Reflection
Second Sunday of Lent
March 13, 2022

Our readings during this Second Sunday of Lent are filled with unusual images – of animals being split in two for sacrifices, of darkness hovering over Abram and bringing on a trance-like state, of Jesus’s face and clothing spontaneously changing before the eyes of his disciples and of a cloud coming down to earth with a great Voice speaking from it. In the midst of these strange images, we are being given the message that when we covenant with the Lord, when we “wait for the Lord with courage,” as we are instructed in the Psalm, when we “listen to Him,” as instructed in the Gospel – we are invited to join in His glory. This is our Lenten path.

We are journeying together toward Lent during a time when unusual images and experiences surround us. Although we may be taking refuge in the current time of respite that we’re having from the Covid pandemic, we hold close in our hearts the possibility for further surges and the images of those we know who have been so deeply affected by the impact of Covid over these last two years – and we bear witness to the strangeness of living through this time in human history. We may be accustomed to the practices that have kept us safe, but how unusual it has been that our images of each other have been altered by our need to wear masks and that our distance from each other has been a necessary safety measure. The image of animals being sacrificed may seem harsh, yet these sacrifices that we have and continue to endure render harsh impact as well.

The images and stories from the war in Ukraine are also heartbreaking to bear witness to, as we are aware that innocent men, women and children are being turned into victims and we live in fear of the potential of world war and the threat of nuclear attack. In our local church, we are embarking upon a call to change that will undoubtedly create new images and experiences of what it means to be Catholic in St. Louis – and it forces us to look at our current circumstances and understandings and ready ourselves for newness and change.

As we continue our journey in Lent, toward Easter, we are reminded to “wait for the Lord with courage.” We can be tempted to think that this waiting is passive, simply waiting for the Lord to arrive and our worries and harsh images to fade. Waiting with courage is active, being courageous takes effort and energy. We are invited this Lenten season to listen to and wait on the Lord with courage. What will that mean in your life as you contemplate living in this unusual time, ripe with opportunities to take courage in prayer and in action? Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good that we are here.” Our challenge and call this Lent, and always, is to find courage in the midst of our experiences – strange as they might be – and to seek and discover the goodness they bring as we reach toward union with our Lord.

Teresa Sullivan



St. Cronan Catholic Church
Second Sunday of Lent
March 12-13, 2022

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

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



ALL THINGS NEW

Archdiocesan Survey: Instructions for completing the Archdiocesan Survey were sent out on Cronan Talk and are available in the Chapel. The Surveys themselves became available Wednesday, March 2. These surveys are very important to our Parish, so please complete it as soon as you can and encourage others to do so. Online is best, and if you require assistance you can make an appointment to complete it in the parish office. The link is: <https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/y2xk8y> If you need a paper copy, they will be available in Church. If you would like further information, you can visit the Archdiocese’s website <https://allthingsnew.archstl.org/> or call our office at 314-289-9384. You can also leave comments about the process at this website.

CronanTalk: As we begin the journey for “All Things New,” it is important that we are able to communicate with each other online. CronanTalk is our way of sharing information as a community. We understand that it can be overwhelming to have so many emails when people are commenting on prayer requests and other issues. Please, if you feel the need to comment, do so to the person who sent the request by using “reply” instead of “reply all.” If I sent the request, send your reply to me (Diane) and I will forward to the person involved. This will cut down on needless email streams and keep CT for important business.

To be included in Cronan Talk, please email Mary, mary@stcronan.org

LBGTQIA+ Listening Session: The Pope Francis Synod Committee will hold a listening session for the LBGTQIA+ Community at St. Cronan's on Sunday, March 27, 1:00-2:30 p.m. Nancy Werner, Chancellor of the Archdiocese, will attend. Registration is required: [LBGTQIA+ Listening Session](#)

Preparing for Lent: This week's theme is Sustainability. In preparation for Lent, please pick up the reflection sheet for this week on the tables near the Bulletins, take it home, and prayerfully consider some of the suggested actions. It is available online as well. If you would like to share some of your reflections or actions with the Community, please write them on the index cards and place them in the basket. I will see that they are attached to the wall. If you have reflections and are not attending Church, email them to me at diane@stcronan.org and I will share them with the community.

The Word Among Us has sent us FREE booklets for Lent and Easter. Please pick up copies in the Chapel.

Coffee and Donuts is back! Please join us in the Hospitality Room in the Parish Center after the 10:00 Mass.

Help Me With Vital Statistics We are updating our data bases in the Parish Office and we need your help. We have noticed that many parishioners do not have a "joined date" entered in their profiles. If you remember the date you joined St. Cronan as an active parishioner, please shoot Mary a short email mary@stcronan.org or give her a call 314-289-9384. Even if it's just the year. That way we can update our data base. We don't know if we will need this important info for "All Things New" or not, but certainly, these vital statistics are needed for other purposes. Thank you so much for your assistance.

Do You Use Your Church Giving Envelopes? Thank you so much for your generous contributions to St. Cronan. We are conducting an audit of our giving envelope system. If you are no longer using your giving envelopes in the collection basket, or you are giving only on-line, please let Mary know. We can remove you from the paper envelope mailings and cut down on the paper use. Thank you.

Join Us!!! Bill Bommarito with St. Peter Catholic Church's Racial Unity team would like to invite you to join St. Peter and the Archdiocese of St. Louis at this very special Mass on Wednesday, March 16 at 7:00 p.m. The main celebrant for this Mass will be Archbishop Mitchell T. Rozanski. The Mass will take place at St. Peter, 243 W Argonne Dr, St. Louis, MO 63122. To view the live-stream, click one of these links: <https://stpeterkirkwood.org/todaysmass>
<https://www.youtube.com/stpeterkirkwood>
<https://www.facebook.com/STPKirkwood/live>

Human Trafficking Program –Join St. Margaret of Scotland Living Justice Ministries Immigration Team and the Archdiocese Office of Peace and Justice , co-hosts, for a two-night, virtual presentation on human trafficking. Participants will learn about its impact on victims & society, hear how area organizations are addressing the problem, & discover opportunities to personally take action in St. Louis & beyond. March 15 | 6:30-8pm | “It’s Here, It’s Now” March 22 | 6:30-8pm | “It’s Here, Let’s Act” Visit the event website or scan the QR code in the Chapel to register & learn more! You need to register for each night.

[HUMAN TRAFFICKING: It's Here, It's Now, Let's Act Registration, Multiple Dates | Eventbrite](#)

Welcome Migrants On Monday March 21st from noon-1pm Archbishop Rozanski and other faith leaders are hosting a webinar on ways to welcome migrants and refugees to our region. There will be short presentations by 10 different organizations on volunteer/donation/family sponsorship opportunities in the St Louis metro area. The webinar is being sponsored by the Archdiocese of St Louis and the Interfaith Partnership of Greater St Louis. For further information, please see the flyer in the chapel. Registration at: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_CM47INm5SEWc4_yp5V0IFg

Live Meetings: We are opening up for live meetings. If your committee or organization would like to meet live in the Coffee and Donut room or conference room at the Parish Center, please contact Mary, mary@stcronan.org to schedule your date and time.

Donations for Ukraine: Ukrainian Children's Aid and Relief Effort, Inc. or UCARE, Inc., is a charity serving the needy and orphaned children of Ukraine. If anyone wants to financially help the Ukrainian situation, please consider this charity. The website is www.ucareinc.org. Bob Hoffman has worked with this group for years.

Compassionate St. Louis: St. Cronan has become a member of this movement to help make our city a more compassionate place. You will be seeing their logo on our bulletins and signs. For further information, please visit their website: <https://www.compassionate-stl.org/about-us>

HELP IN THE GARDEN. The crocuses are blooming! You may not know that St. Cronan's started and now maintains the garden at Norfolk and Boyle, a few steps from our church and rectory. It started about 25 years ago when Trish Curtis and others wanted to show the neighborhood that good things could happen south of Manchester. Two of us are currently working. We meet most Wednesday mornings from 9:30 to 11:00 or so from late March to early October. But we are flexible and could let others know what needs to be done and they could work at their convenience. If you can help contact me, Mike Forst at 314-533-0182 or maforst@sbcglobal.net. Thank you!

Prayers Please: Laurel Hayes; Laurel Hayes' parents, Jerry and Nancy; Bill's brother in law, Dave Rose; Robert Nathe's Mother, Eileen; Colleen Wallace's godson, Lachlan; Michelle Frank; Jennifer Lyle and Krista Rakers; Jessica; Nick Ambrose; Al Sprehe; Phil Milner; Leslie Conway; Mike's grandson, Jack; Jim Gorman; Andrew Virough's Father,; Sharon Orlet's sister, Betty; Nancy Buck's daughter, Jeanne; Kathy Bayless; Tom Kuciejczyk-Kernan's brother, Steve; Barry Buchek's wife, Mary; Trish Curtis' mother and brother; Gaven Hayes-Barrett; Barb Sopp's cousin, Patty Struckhoff; Marie and Roland Martir's granddaughter, Maggie; David Gaillardetz' father, Richard; Fr. Gerry's classmate, Fr. Pat O'Laughlin.