

Pastoral Reflection

6th Sunday of Easter

“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.”

Last week’s reading from the Book of Revelation reiterated God’s covenant revealed in the Book of Jeremiah, “I will be their God, and they shall be my people (Jer. 31:31-33). The author of Revelation expresses this overwhelming love of God in the words: “Behold. God’s dwelling is with the human race. God will dwell with them and they will be God’s people and God will always be with them...” Likewise, Jesus tell his disciples that those who keep his word shall have God dwelling with them. He further promises them peace and the coming of the Spirit, the Advocate, who will teach them everything and remind them of all that Jesus told them.

Often I feel dissonance when I hear Christ’s promise of peace. The amount of violence among us – wars, trafficking, poverty, gun availability and use, rejection of particular groups of people, complacent or willful destruction of the earth’s resources, and many other situations – causes me discomfort when I consider how peaceful my life is compared to the lives of so many others. I am grateful...and recommit myself to do what I can to bring Christ’s peace to our world.

The reading from the Acts of the Apostles reminds us that the early Christian community struggled with difficult decisions and efforts to welcome all people into the community. They too struggled with crises that could have destroyed the fledgling Jesus movement. They too needed to reflect on how they were called to enact the Word of God in their world. Today’s reading describes a group trying to impose the Mosaic practices on the community in spite of the Gospel being preached by Paul and Barnabas. This sounds very familiar to us 2000 years later. We too can get caught in rules and practices that someone else imposes or that we think are essential for being Christian our way. We may even do this to one another in the name of the Gospel.

I find that I need a reminder now and then to get centered in the belief and hope that God dwells among us and calls me to new life – again and again and again. At those times I find this prayer by Walter Brueggemann challenges me and brings me into new life in Christ Jesus.

Let Us Pray...

For those of us too much into obedience, birth us to the freedom of the gospel.
For those of us too much into self-indulgence, birth us to discipleship in your ministry.
For those too much into cynicism, birth us to the innocence of the Christ child.
For those of us too much into cowardice, birth us to the courage to stand before principalities and powers.
For those of us too much into guilt, birth us into forgiveness worked in your generosity.
For those of us too much into despair, birth us into the promises you make to your people.
For those of us too much into control, birth us into the vulnerability of the cross.
For those of us too much into victimization, birth us into the power of Easter.
For those of us too much into fatigue, birth us into the energy of Pentecost.

We dare pray that you will do for us and among us and through us what is needful for newness. Give us the power to be receptive, to take the newness you give, to move from womb warmth to real life.

Awed to Heaven, Rooted in Earth: Prayers of Walter Brueggemann. Fortress Press, 2003

Lynne Schmidt, SSND



St. Cronan Catholic Church Sixth Sunday of Easter May 21-22, 2022

Mass Information

SUNDAY – 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.
SATURDAY VIGIL – 5:00 p.m.
Wednesdays – 8:00 a.m.
Masks are suggested 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>

The Mass for Sunday, June 5 will be recorded and placed on our website: <https://www.stcronan.org/> If anyone is available to serve as lector on Thursday, June 2 at 9:30, please contact Diane G. diane@stcronan.org



ALL THINGS NEW

Our leadership team is awaiting the next meetings of the Archdiocese and will keep us posted on upcoming events as they are scheduled. 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.



Archbishop's Visit: Archbishop Rozanski will join us at 10:00 Mass on Sunday, May 29. There is no reception.

Are You Called to be a Sister? The Sisters of St. Joseph Vocation Team invites women interested in religious life to join them at a weekend event June 10-12, 2022. For more information contact vocation@csjlife.org or see the flyer in the Chapel.

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

Retrouvaille-St. Louis weekend, August 19 – 21, 2022 - Healing Your Marriage--
Retrouvaille (French for “Rediscovery”) is a 3-phase program designed to give you the tools to restore your marriage and rebuild a loving relationship. For more information or to register, call **314.453.0110** or visit website: www.HelpOurMarriage.org Fully Confidential and affordable. Space is limited with Covid-19 precautions. Register early. Questions: Tom & Kerry Marsh 314.753.2022

Mid-life Singles: Are you looking for a renewed sense of purpose & belonging? Register today for a life-changing REFLECT weekend retreat at King's House Retreat Center, Belleville, IL (20 min from downtown St. Louis), on June 3-5, 2022. Cost is \$215 including meals and a single room. Visit www.ReflectRetreat.com, e-mail reflect.stlouis@gmail.com, or call (314) 283-0044 for details.

Black Lives Matter Vigil, takes place the third Friday of the Month at the corner of Manchester and Kingshighway, 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. The next vigil will take place on Friday, May 20. Please join us!

News from MCU: Does your congregation have a committee working on care of creation? The MCU Interfaith Environmental Justice Task Force meets on Tuesday, May 10, 6:30-7:30 p.m. This is a great way to multiply the impact that your congregation can have by partnering with others. Registration is at [THIS LINK](#).

Red Cross Volunteers: The Red Cross is in need of volunteers in the St. Louis Area. Please see the flyer in the Chapel for more information.

Gospel Call to be Neighbor: St. Pius V Parish has invited members of St. Cronan and other parishes to join them to determine how to best engage to serve refugees and immigrants to our neighborhoods. Several from St. Cronan attended an initial listening session. We received information concerning the plight of refugees and immigrants as they settle in St. Louis, and what their needs are. As this opportunity develops, we will be sharing information concerning future meetings. If you have any interest and time to help, please contact Diane diane@stcronan.org. We will keep you apprised as the community effort develops and we find ways you can help.

Donations for Ukraine: If you would like to help, please give to the Ukrainian Children's Aid and Relief Effort, Inc. or UCARE, Inc., which 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>

Day-Long Women's Retreat: Mark your Calendars! Women's Day Long Retreat planned for Saturday, June 25, 2022. Tentative time from 8:30am to 4:30pm. In person and outdoors. Centrally located near Hampton and Hwy 44. Theme and details to follow. Donna Moromarco, Kim Madden, and Mary Middendorf are in the planning stages. Express your interest in attending by emailing mary.middendorf@gmail.com as soon as possible. Space is limited.

Erastus Brown Historical Marker Unveiling Ceremony There is a group in our area who have been working on memorializing lynchings that occurred in Missouri. The next remembrance will take place in Union, Missouri, on Saturday, July 9 at 11:00 a.m. and will honor Mr. Erastus Brown. Please see the flyer in the Chapel for further information.

Prayers Please: Laurel Hayes; Laurel Hayes' parents, Jerry and Nancy; 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 Viraugh'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; Gavin Barrett-Hayes; Barb Sopp's cousin, Patty Struckhoff; Marie and Roland Martir's granddaughter, Madie, and great-grandson; David Gaillardetz' father, Richard; Fr. Gerry's classmate, Fr. Pat O'Laughlin; Nick and Shirley Ambrose's daughter, Brigid Costello; Shelly Kurtz; Varrietta Anthony; Teresa Sullivan's friend, Caroline Bucci; Kathy Stock's niece, Jill, Fr. Jack's brother, Mike.

A Prayer for Today

Creator God, you have called us to another day.

Wake us up to your presence and to your glory all around us.

Let our hearts beat in sync with yours so that all we meet this day on our journey will recognize you within and among us.

Give us the courage and hope we need to be eucharist, to be bread shared for the life of the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus, firstborn of all creation. Amen.