

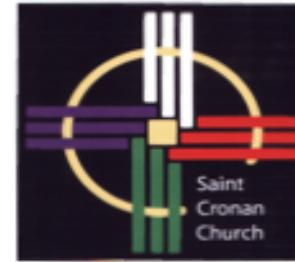
Pastoral Reflection
August 7, 2022
19th Sunday, Ordinary Time

I'm going to go out on a limb, and ask a question. Should Christians not have a "bias" about hunger? It is possible to be neutral about starvation? For that matter, is it possible – say-- to be neutral about lead pollution in public housing or lengthy detentions in overcrowded cages, a shutdown on convenient voting processes or reproductive health options? Ironically that reveals a different kind of "bias" that is uncomfortable to admit, that some people are more valuable than others. We have another "bias" grounded in a tendency to picture Jesus as a peace-loving soft spoken teacher with a sheen of light around his head bathing everyone in his gentle loving presence. That's not what we see in today's gospel.

For a little background on this text, it's good to call to mind the state of the world when Jesus was walking it. The vast majority of the Palestinian population – his people—were poor or working class – 70 percent. One in ten were in constant danger of starvation. Slavery of various sorts was rampant. And here comes Jesus, promising relief from all of this. But it wouldn't come easily. It would require setting fire to the earth, challenging systems in place. Jesus brings a refining fire that burns away social orders, habits and practices that create permanent unfairness. And yes, getting involved in this WILL cause divisions, even in some families. It pits a new vision against fossilized viewpoints, and family members will fall on different sides of the issues. If we were to study Luke's Gospel, we would find three things that he sees standing in the way of following Jesus into this radical vision: wealth, status, and fear. Luke is very specific about what it takes to "Go and do likewise," and we can see these obstacles in what our national leaders are struggling with these days in Washington, just to cite one example.

Joan Chittister has written in *THE TIME IS NOW*, that "the ideal of Christian life is personal goodness, of course, but our faith requires that we be more than pious, more than followers of the system, more than mere card-carrying members of the Christian community. It requires that we each be so much a prophetic presence that our corner of the world be a better place for our having been there." This will require that we be more than neutral. Perhaps it would be doable for us to just select one issue in our daily lives on which we would be willing to begin taking a stand . . .

Sister Chabanel Mathison, O.S.U.



St. Cronan Catholic Church
Twentieth Sunday, Ordinary Time
August 13-14, 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, September 4, will be recorded and posted on our website on Saturday, September 3: <https://www.stcronan.org/>



Questions for parishioners: Can be found on Cronan Talk from Mary Ward and on papers in the chapel. Please send your answers by August 14 to Mary in the Office: mary@stcronan.org

Young adults, ages 18-39, single or married, with or without children, are invited to take the young adult survey. Take this opportunity to inform the church of St. Louis about your experience, hopes and needs.

<https://allthingsnew.archstl.org/Ways-to-Engage/Young-Adult-Survey>
Connect to young adults: <https://stlyoungadults.com/>

Seeds of Justice Network: Interested in social justice activities in our area? Visit www.seedsofjusticenetwork.org or use the QR code on the flyer in the Chapel to sign up for the Seeds of Justice Network newsletter! The weekly email features a justice-focused article of the week, a listing of local events, and a few national events & trainings.

History of St. Cronan's: The Archives Committee will present the first 53 years of St. Cronan's history through a series of posters that will hang for one month on the north and south walls of the church, plus a table with displays in the back of the church. This will begin on Saturday and Sunday, August 6th and 7th. Any questions, please see Bill Blow or Al Sprehe.

St. Cronan Anti-Bias/Anti-Racism Survey: The St. Cronan Parish Council would like you to complete a survey regarding our work toward becoming an anti-racist parish. For further information, please read Andrew Viragh's letter on Cronan Talk. The Survey can be accessed here: [ABAR Survey](#)

Sock Angel Campaign: Starting this Sunday, you will have the opportunity to contribute to the St. Peter Claver Sock Angel campaign by providing adult-sized socks to be distributed to St. Louis homeless people in September. A bin and a sign will be in the chapel to receive your socks. Please see the attached flyer for further information.

Welcome Neighbor Dinner will be held at St. Margaret of Scotland, 3854 Flad Ave. on Friday, September 23, at 6:30 pm. Cost: \$35 per person. For the menu and details, please see the flyer in the chapel. To register, please see the link on CronanTalk.

Archdiocesan Wedding Jubilee Mass will be celebrated Sunday, October 9, at 2:30 p.m. at the Cathedral Basilica. Archbishop Rozanski will preside. This Mass is for married couples celebrating 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 years of marriage in 2022. Please register by September 9: archstl.org/jubilee or call (314) 792-7171

Black Lives Matter Vigil: Continues on the third Friday of each month at the corner of Manchester and Kingshighway. We will meet from 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. on Friday, August 19. Please join us.

Children's Faith Formation: Classes begin at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, August 28. We normally meet on the first Sunday of the month, but changed this time due to Labor Day. Further information will be shared via email. If you have not yet registered your children, Registration forms are on the table in the chapel, or contact Diane diane@stcronan.org.

St. Pius V Anti-racism & Equity Working Group is sponsoring The Slavery, History, Memory, and Reconciliation Project with Fr. Jeff Harrison, SJ, a workshop presented on Sunday, Sept. 18, 3:00-4:30 p.m. at St. Pius V Singler Hall. For further information, please see the flyer attached.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE If you're looking for a way to make a positive difference in the lives of immigrant or refugee families in the St. Louis area, read on....IHELP (Immigrant Home English Learning Program) and the former ETP (English Tutoring Project) are merging time and talent to teach English in the homes of immigrant and refugee families. More volunteers are needed two days a week for one-hour sessions, during the day or in the evening. Training and materials will be provided. If you are curious and would like to know more, please contact Christina Rumbold at 314.390.5706, or send in a volunteer application on the website at <http://ihelpstl.org/volunteers>.

National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows Visitor Center – IN PERSON
The Well: Encountering Jesus and Finding Ourselves. Presenters: Fr. Mark Dean, OMI, Fr. Sal Gonzalez, OMI, Karen & Scott Seaborn Friday, September 9 – September 11 5 pm Fri– 2 pm Sun Come join us as a couple, to ponder, through the lens of the story of Lazarus, how Jesus once again steps into our world of loss and death and calls us to new life, while also entrusting us the continued task of unbinding and setting free...tasks which will lead us to a better future.
Cost: \$350 per couple (includes lodging and meals).
Register online at snows.org/programs, or call 618-394-6281 to register.

National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows – Guild Center *A History of Sin: From Adam – Augustine* Presenter: Mark Etling, Ph.D. Saturdays, August 31, September 3, 10 & 17, 10 a.m. – 12 Noon At first glance it may seem odd to think that sin has a history - but it does. The saga of sin is a long journey with many twists and turns. In this series we'll see that there are several different meanings of sin in the Old Testament. And we'll trace the evolution of sin through some of the important theologians of the early Church. Join us for the history of sin from Adam to Augustine. Cost: \$40 for series; \$10 per session For more information, call 618-394-6281. Register online at <https://snows.org/ministries/spiritual-programs/>

Prayers Please: Kathy Bayless; Barry Buchek's wife, Mary; Trish Curtis' mother and brother; David Gaillardetz' father, Richard; 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; Natalie Johnson and the Johnson family; Diane Calcaterra; Sr. Lynne's friend, Jan Berberich, SSND; Barb Sopp's friend, Joe Sinibaldi; Bob Barnicle; Paul Schmitt., Sr. Chabanel.

Rest In Peace: Willie Knighten, our wonderful custodian, passed away on Tuesday. Please keep his family, especially his daughter, Nina, in your prayers.

