

## Pastoral Reflection

3rd Sunday of Advent

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel...”

We have many songs for Advent, but this one is essentially Advent for me – the longing, the hope, the trust. But mostly the longing expressed so well in the chant. The music seeps into the very core of one’s person, to that place we often fill with extraneous busyness and stuff. In Advent, in the winter’s sparse environment, we can pause and touch that longing, deep within us, that only God can fill.

We can share in the longing of Israel as they yearned for the Messiah. We can share in the hope for the fullness of life that called to them. We can share in the song’s “Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel” sung by Christians since the 8th century. Christians, like us, hoping to fill the emptiness within them: Emmanuel.

Isaiah promises that when the Messiah comes the desert will bloom and flowers will be in abundance. People will be healed of their infirmities. Jesus uses this passage to respond to his cousin John the Baptist: “...the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them.” This is the Messiah who has come among them. John had preached repentance and expected a strong ruler who would deliver the people from foreign rulers, the Romans. Jesus describes his mission, not as one of sovereignty and judgement as had been expected, but as blessing on those in

need. John had his call to challenge people to repentance. Jesus’ call was to respond to those in need with compassion and fullness of life.

We celebrate a Messiah, Emmanuel, who calls us to mission, to be Christ in our time and place. A compelling aspect of that mission can be found in Amanda Gorman’s “An Ode We Owe.” She challenges us to care for our planet and all the people living on it. We can work together to conquer the future: “And say that today a new dawn we wrote. Say that as long as we have humanity, we will forever have hope.”

May this Advent be filled with hope for all humanity and for us as a community. “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.” May the longing that lodges deep within us spur us to deeper intimacy with Love, the Mystery of God among us now.

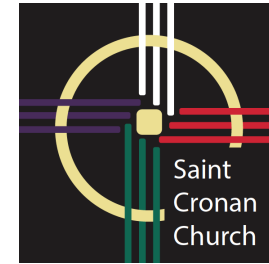
—Lynne Schmidt, SSND

## MEALS PROGRAM AT STS. PETER & PAUL

### Service Opportunity

The Meals Program at Sts. Peter & Paul serves the homeless & needy from the 2nd through the 21st of each month. We currently have 2 days a month needing coverage. This service includes preparing and serving the meal to those in need.

For more information please contact Rachel Schoenberger at 314-231-9923 or [office@stspeterandpaulstl.org](mailto:office@stspeterandpaulstl.org).



## St. Cronan Catholic Church

Third Sunday of Advent

December 10/11, 2022

### Mass Information

SUNDAY – 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

SATURDAY VIGIL – 5:00 pm.

Wednesdays – 8:00 am.

Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment

Masks are suggested for all Masses

**Live streamed Masses:** December 18 will be live streamed. PLEASE BE ON TIME! Live-streamed masses are available on our Facebook page LIVE or any time after the 10:00 Mass, <https://www.facebook.com/StCronan> Masses for the first Sunday of each month are available on <https://www.stcronan.org/> at 5pm the first Saturday of each month.



### Christmas Mass Schedule:

10:00 p.m. Carols, 10:30 p.m. Mass – December 24 (Live Streamed)

Please note there will be no 5pm mass on Christmas Eve.

8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, December 25

**All Things New Survey:** By Now, anyone who attended a listening session should have received a link for the newest survey emailed to the email address you used for registration. If you attended a listening session and did not receive a link to the survey, please contact Mary Ward in the church office and she will email the link to you. You have until Dec. 31 to complete the survey.



**Reflections from the St. Cronan Community:** Hard copies of the St. Cronan Advent Reflection Booklet are now available in church. A digital copy of the reflection booklet is available on the St. Cronan website homepage.

**Parish Ministries:** If you would like to add your talents to any of our ministries, and meet a great bunch of people, please call the church office or visit our website [www.stcronan.org](http://www.stcronan.org) for information. *You are always welcome!*



**Prayers Please:** Kathy Bayless; Trish Curtis' mother and brother; David Gaillardetz' father, Richard; Nick and Shirley Ambrose's daughter, Brigid Costello; Varrietta Anthony; 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; Tim and Else Hirzel's great nephew, Cameron Russell; Barry Buchek; Carolyn Coyne's daughter, Molly Maryan; Kathy Hunn's niece, Lisa; Sr. Cathy's friends, Inga Casillo, Don Costello, Mike Bowen, Nora Camacho. Judy Gallagher; Sharon Orlet; Mary Proot's grandson, Silas; Bonnie and Warren Wimmer's daughter, Anne; Mary Truetkin, Barry Buchek's friends, Jim Bruno and Jim's daughter Courtney. *Please let the church office know if your loved one should be removed from the prayer list, or if you would like us to add anyone who needs our prayers.*

**Rosaries Needed:** The Marianist Retreat & Conference Center in Eureka is looking for non-plastic rosaries for their "Rosary Wall" that they've created to provide rosaries for folks who are on retreat. If you have any rosaries that you are not using and would like to donate to a good cause, they would be very grateful. There will be a designated box in the back of Church for the month of November and will take them to the Retreat Center the first of December. If you have any questions, contact Kathy Hunn at kmhunn@aol.com.



**Hello from your Hospitality Committee.** We now have pronoun stickers for your name tags, thanks to Erin O'Connell. Please pick the pronouns you prefer and put them on your name tag. We'd also love to see more people use their name tags at mass so we can all get to know each other by name. If you don't have one on the board in the back of church, contact Mary Ward at mary@stcronan.org and she'll have one made for you. Questions, contact Christine Lakey at 314-239-2204 or christine.lakey@yahoo.com.

November 2022 contributions	
General Fund	\$15,765.00
Building Repair Fund	\$155.00
Restricted Funds	\$1,500.00
Camp. Human Dev.	\$1,692.00
Food Pantry	\$2,501.00
Poinsettia Fundraiser	\$789.00
Hurricane Relief	\$748.00
Mission Sunday	\$50.00
Retired Religious	\$4,403.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$170.00
Capital Campaign	\$40.00

**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, December 16. Please join us!

**Assisi House Opportunities:** As many of you know, we are currently working to open an Assisi House on Spring Ave. in North St. Louis. We are aiming to open the house in January or February, 2023. Spring House needs a lot of work, and we intend to have volunteer workers there every Wednesday and Saturday for the foreseeable future. If you have questions or are interested in cleaning, painting, scraping, carpentry, drywall work, etc., send an email to our volunteer director, Megan, at megan@assisihouse.org and let her know how you can help. It is very exciting to see this house transforming into a warm, safe living space again. Please consider helping us.



**City Greens Market** (<https://www.stlcitygreens.org/>) reached out to ask for help with volunteer shifts around the upcoming holidays. Shifts are two hours on Wednesday-Sunday and include help with stocking, inventory, data entry, cleaning, gardening, and staffing community events. They are especially looking for help on Wednesdays! If you are interested, you can sign up here: [volunteersignup.org/Q97J7](https://volunteersignup.org/Q97J7). City Greens is located on Manchester near Tower Grove Ave. Mariah Byrne and Cathy Hartrich have been volunteering with City Greens regularly and love it there. The market has o all sorts of native produce and has super high quality local ingredients. Bonus--if you volunteer at least four hours a month, you qualify

for a membership and get to buy food at cost! If you have any questions, please contact Mariah at mariah.e.byrne@gmail.com.

**Blessing Bags** Thanks to the parents and children in Children's Faith Formation who assembled Blessing Bags this year for us to give to the homeless we meet on the street. The bags are ready to be picked up in the Church vestibule, for you to place in your car.

**Please make note:** There will be no donuts and coffee on Christmas Day.



**Parish Center Offices**

Mon-Fri 9am-3pm  
www.stcronan.org  
Phone: (314) 289-9384

**Pastor: Fr. Jack Schuler**  
jschuler@stcronan.org  
**Pastoral Associate: Diane Gozdziwski**  
[diane@stcronan.org](mailto:diane@stcronan.org)  
**Pastoral Administrator: Mary Ward**  
[mary@stcronan.org](mailto:mary@stcronan.org)

**Music Director: David Dickey**  
**Food Pantry Director: Kathy Hunn**  
(314) 533-0651  
kathyfoodpantry@gmail.com