

Pastoral Reflection

4th Sunday of Advent

In Matthew's Infancy narrative Joseph has four dreams. The first one is in today's Gospel. He is about to divorce Mary "quietly" when the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream and tells him not to be afraid to take Mary into his home. The second dream is in Mt.2:13ff where, during his sleep, he receives a message to flee Bethlehem for Egypt. The third one is in Mt. 2:19ff. Here he dreams that it is time to leave Egypt and return. The final dream is in Mt.2:22ff. During this one he is warned not to return to Judea but instead to head to the region of Galilee. Heavy stuff! This guy had some pretty wild dreams.

In our day and age we approach dreams from a psychological point of view. In the ancient world dreams were often viewed as means of divine communication. Joseph's dreams are messages as to how he was to cooperate in the work of salvation by guarding and protecting the child and his mother. Hence Joseph is called "man of dreams" which is a title that had previously been given to his namesake, the patriarch Joseph.

Have you had any dreams lately? When our lives seem like a nightmare we can't forget to dream! It is not that dreams alone can save us but they can spur us on. They help us to image a future filled with

a better life. If we can dream it then we can start to fulfill it. Remember Martin Luther King's famous "Dream Speech". That dream has animated millions to seek a world where color doesn't matter. What's your best dream? Have you shared it? Can we dream together here at St. Cronan, dream of an even more exciting community, dream of an even better approach to justice etc. Come on dreamers. Let's allow God to bring us dreams that help us "cooperate in the work of salvation" like Joseph did!

Be safe and be blessed,
Fr. Jack (he/him)

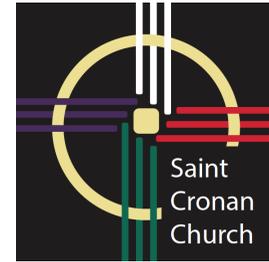


MEALS PROGRAM AT STS. PETER & PAUL

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.



St. Cronan Catholic Church

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 17/18, 2022

Mass Information

SUNDAY – 8 a.m. and 10 am.

SATURDAY VIGIL – 5:00 pm.

Wednesdays – 8:00 am.

Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment

Masks are suggested for all Masses

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

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



Live streamed Masses: Christmas Eve Mass will be live streamed. PLEASE BE ON TIME! This live-streamed mass will be available on our Facebook page LIVE or any time after 10:00 pm when Carols begin. <https://www.facebook.com/StCronan>

St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Tree: The Christmas Tree containing cards for donations to St. Vincent de Paul is in the Chapel in Church. Please consider taking one of the cards, placing your donation in the envelope enclosed, and returning it through the collection basket or to the church office. This is the SVdP biggest fund-raiser of the year and it helps to finance all of the many clients that they help with rent, utilities, and other expenses. Please be generous.



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 for information. *You are always welcome!*



Prayers Please: Kathy Bayless; Trish Curtis' 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; Carolyn Coyne's daughter, Molly Maryan; Kathy Hunn's niece, Lisa; Sr. Cathy's friends, Inga Casillo, Don Costello, Mike [Bowen](#), Michelle O'Rourke; Judy Gallagher; Sharon Orlet; Bonnie and Warren Wimmer's daughter, Anne; Barry Buchek's friends, Jim Bruno and Jim's daughter Courtney; Peggy Banks, friend of Mary Ward; Mary Truetkin; Marie and Roland Martir's granddaughters, Carrie and Madde, and friend, Craig. *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.



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, January 20. Please join us!

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.

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. 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.



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 Center Offices

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

Pastor: Fr. Jack Schuler

jschuler@stcronan.org

Pastoral Associate: Diane Gozdziwski

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Pastoral Administrator: Mary Ward

mary@stcronan.org

Music Director: David Dickey

Food Pantry Director: Kathy Hunn

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kathyfoodpantry@gmail.com