

Pastoral Reflection
26th Sunday, Ordinary Time
September 25-26, 2022

Today, we have the parable of the rich man and Lazarus. We can read this parable too quickly. We know it well, and we remember how it ends. As much as we would like to spiritualize this story, it is very difficult to explain away its central meaning, especially in the light of everything Luke says about money and possessions elsewhere in the Gospel.

You note that the rich man has no name. He is simply anonymous. By contrast, Lazarus is the only one who has a name in any of the parables of Jesus. Could this be saying to us that the poor are never invisible to God? And the rich man does nothing wrong. He is a believer. He does not abuse or mistreat Lazarus. What he does to deserve his fate is NOTHING. He ignores him and his needs. And then from the afterlife, true to his character, even though he now sees their contrasting outcomes, the rich man regards the poor as servant, seeking to send Lazarus on errands for his own selfish cause. “Bring me cool water.” “Go and warn my brothers.”

The parable of the rich man and Lazarus might be difficult for North Americans whose lifestyle stands in deep contrast with the majority of the rest of the world who have so much less. Like so much else that Luke says about money and possessions, it stands as a stinging indictment not only of the great confidence we place on financial security and the comfort of luxury but also of the drastic inequities between rich and poor we allow to perpetuate. I cannot help but recall the 47 people who were indicted in Minnesota last week for fraudulently acquiring a quarter of a billion dollars of COVID relief money destined for feeding hungry children missing school lunch programs. Recent estimates indicate up to eight billion dollars of relief money headed for the needy enriched the lives of scammers. And what of a church that would cut off free breakfast and lunch programs for students, some of which for whom these programs provide their only meals?

The message is clearly spoken in this parable. We thank God that we belong to a church community that is accustomed to responding to the poor, and that with our outreach efforts we call one another to continue making that generous response.

Sister Chabanel Mathison, O.S.U.



St. Cronan Catholic Church
Twenty-sixth Sunday,
Ordinary Time
September 25-26, 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, October 2, will be recorded and posted on our website on Saturday, October 1: <https://www.stcronan.org/>



Our St. Cronan listening sessions are scheduled for November 1st and 3rd in the evening. Mark your calendars! Parishioners must register to attend one of them. The following link will allow you to register and will also provide a way to study the proposed models for our area. We hope to have an assembly in October to prepare us for the sessions, so it is very important that you read the material and register for the listening sessions. <https://allthingsnew.archstl.org/Ways-to-Engage/Listening-Sessions>

Parish Assembly will take place on Sunday, October 23 in the Coffee and Donuts room. Food will be provided. Please plan to attend as we prepare for the listening sessions.



Permanent Deacon Collection: There will be a collection next week for permanent Deacons – there are no envelopes, so please place in one with “Deacons” on the outside, or put “Deacons” on the memo line of your check.

St. Cronan Anti-Bias/Anti-Racism Survey: The Survey is now closed. Thanks to all who participated. Information concerning next steps will be available soon. If you have any thoughts or questions, please contact Andrew Viragh, andrew.viragh@gmail.com or Justin Lorenz, jmlorenz@gmail.com

Tower Grove Pridefest St. Cronan is having a booth to welcome our LBGTQIA+ brothers and sisters Saturday, September 24 and Sunday 25. Please stop by our booth to say hello. Our booth is SD 90 (South Drive).

St. Francis Xavier College Church is holding a three-part exploration of the racial history of College church, integral to the story of the founding and development of the city of St. Louis, the Archdiocese, the Society of Jesus and St. Louis University, 12:00-1:30 p.m. at the College Church Lower Level. A light lunch is provided at 12:45. Upcoming sessions will occur on Oct. 16 and Nov. 20. Please see the flyer in the Chapel.

St. Louis Black History Bus Tour: Fr. Gerry has been leading these tours on select Saturday mornings for members of the Archdiocese. If there is an interest at St. Cronan’s, we will schedule one in the near future. The tour would leave St. Cronan’s parking lot on a Saturday at 9:30 a.m. and return to St. Cronan at 1:00 p.m., with an opportunity to eat lunch and discuss with Fr. Gerry at the Parish Center after. Please see the flyer in the chapel for details. To show your interest in a tour, please contact Paul.loida@bayer.com ; Berniesalmons@aol.com ; tulsabillw@gmail.com

St. Louis Friends of Bethlehem Trivia Night Fundraiser to benefit Palestinian farmers and families will take place September 30. All the details and registration info are in flyer in the chapel. You can come as an individual and join an existing team or bring your own team. We hope you can join us!

The Friends of Bethlehem will have Fair Trade Sale at St. Cronan’s the weekend of November 5-6. Be prepared to get Christmas Presents!

The Reclamation Center of the Archdiocese of St. Louis is holding an open house Wednesday October 26 and Monday November 7, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. For further information, please see the flyer in the chapel.

The Word Among Us: This daily meditation book is available free of charge in the Chapel. Feel free to take one for October.

Being Who You Are, Perfectly Well: An LBGTQIA+ Catholics, Families and Friends Retreat will take place November 18-20 at the Mercy Retreat Center. For further details visit this link: <https://marianistsjc.net/lgbtq-retreat>

SLUH Mothers Club 95th Annual Fall Social October 2nd Whether you are an alumni or current or future SLUH parent, or are just looking for a fun afternoon, all are welcome! Please join us in the Si Commons on Sunday, October 2 from 11 AM until 2:30 PM for games, food, shopping and a fashion show. Reservations are \$12 for the event with an optional lunch for an additional \$12. Buy a single ticket or request group seating. See old friends and make new ones! This long-standing event (formerly Card Party) is not to be missed! Please register at <https://tinyurl.com/SLUHFallSocial> by **September 26!**

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. Registrations are still available at archstl.org/jubilee or call (314) 792-7171

How Can the Church be Prophetic at a Time of Deep Polarization? What is the role of the Catholic Church? Of Catholics? Through the lens of Catholic Social Teaching and *Fratelli Tutti*, Bishop John Stowe (Lexington, Kentucky) will explore this topic – and respond to your questions. We welcome all interested community members to join us for this free, **in-person** event held at the SLU Center for Global Citizenship (3672 West Pine Mall, 63108). The Center is accessible by public transit, bike, and foot. If you arrive by car, visitor parking is available at the Laclede Parking Garage, located 0.2 miles from the Center. Doors will open at 6:30PM Central Time in advance of our 7:00PM start; the event will conclude by 8:30PM. Your registration is requested (with an opportunity to do so at the door). Masking is optional. For more information, see the flyer in the Chapel. This event is hosted collaboratively by Seeds of Justice Network, Catholic Campaign for Human Development – Archdiocese of St. Louis, Catholic Charities of St. Louis, Pax Christi USA, and Saint Louis University.

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; Nick and Shirley Ambrose’s cousin, Tammy Bayes; Tim and Else Hirzel’s great nephew, Cameron Russell; Barry Buchek, Claire and Alex Wallenda-Zoppe’and family; Kathy Hunn’s niece, Lisa; Judy Gallagher. Please pray for Fr. Jack as he recovers from Covid!