

Monday Notes October 3, 2022

Mass Schedule

5:00 p.m. Saturday
8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Sunday
8:00 a.m. Wednesday

We are still counting people at the weekend Masses for the Archdiocese – please come and bring your friends!

The Masses for October will be live-streamed at 10:00 on Sundays and posted on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/StCronan/>

The Mass for Sunday, November 6, will be recorded and posted on our website on Saturday, November 5: <https://www.stcronan.org/> If anyone is available to read for the recorded Mass on November 3 at 8:30 (please note time change) please contact Diane diane@stcronan.org

Masks are suggested for all Masses.

All Things New:

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 parish workbook with information on our parish. We will 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>

For further information, please see the information attached.

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. Look for a flyer on Cronan Talk later this week with details.

Bishop John Stowe Lecture: 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. Thursday, October 13, SLU Center for Global Citizenship (3672 West Pine Mall, 63108). 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 bit.ly/BishopStoweTalk (with an opportunity to do so at the door). Masking is optional. For more information, see the attached flyer. 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.

Blessing Bags Children's Faith Formation will be assembling Blessing Bags this year for us to give the homeless we meet at street corners. We will be collecting items for the next four Sundays and assembling the bags on November 13, after the 10:00 Mass. A list of suggested items is attached. Please help us by donating any of these items. There will be a bin in the back

of Church for your donations. Once the bags are assembled, we will have them available in Church for you to take and distribute.

Midtown Community Center Fundraiser: Lip Sync Battle, Friday, October 14, Schlafly tap room, 2100 Locust. Tickets \$40, includes all-night appetizer buffet, one free beer, full night of entertainment, cash bar. Free parking on site. To sign up your team or purchase tickets: www.midtownstl.org/lip-sync-battle or call 3140534-1180. For further information, see the flyer attached.

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. Upcoming sessions will occur on Oct. 16 and Nov. 20. Please see the flyer attached.

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. For information, please contact Paul.loida@bayer.com ; Berniesalmons@aol.com ; tulsabillw@gmail.com Please see the attached flyer for details.

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

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.

St. Louis Friends of Bethlehem 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

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>

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, October 21. Please join us!

Wills: Please remember Saint Cronan's in your will. Title is St. Cronan's Catholic Church-1202 South Boyle Ave.- St. Louis, MO 63110. Our Federal I.D.# 43-0653457

Dear ones: please check through the prayer list, and if there is anyone who has recovered and can be removed, please let Diane know. Of course, we will keep anyone in need of prayers, but

the list is getting rather extensive and we wanted to update. If I have taken someone off that should still be on, please don't hesitate to tell me. Thanks!

Prayers Please: Kathy Bayless; 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; Nick and Shirley Ambrose's cousin, Tammy Bayes; Tim and Else Hirzel's great nephew, Cameron Russell; Barry Buchek; Clare and Alex Wallenda-Zoppe' and family, Carolyn Coyne's daughter, Molly Maryan; Kathy Hunn's niece, Lisa; Fr. Gerry Kleba.

Homily:

This past week, we celebrated the Feast of St. Wenceslaus. In Prague in the Czech Republic, there is a statue of St. Wenceslaus on a horse hanging from the ceiling upside down. It reminds me of what Jesus did. He turned holiness upside down. The Pharisees threatened people to follow the rules – they believed in a merit system. Jesus flipped that. Matthew and Zacchaeus and the woman caught in adultery grew spiritually after they did the wrong thing. Spirituality is more of imperfection than perfection. When you make a mistake or things don't go right, who do we handle that? That's when holiness comes in. Msgr. Hellriegel was a pioneer of the Liturgy movement and he did the wrong thing. He celebrated Mass in English. That got him banned to the country in O'Fallon, near the Precious Blood Mother House. The Archdiocese banned him, but he taught all the sisters liturgy and they brought that refreshing pioneer spirit to grade schools and high schools in St. Louis. He did the wrong thing, but look at what happened, that spirituality just grew and grew. St. Francis of Assisi did the wrong thing. Poverty was a no-no at that time, because of the Waldensians – a heretical group who believed in poverty. St. Francis and his brothers lived in poverty, and the Franciscans grew. We all have imperfections can they lead us to a holier life and deepen our spirituality as opposed to merit? We see the cross of Christ and celebrate that cross in the Eucharist. Let us be united. (From Fr. Jack's homily)

There are some obstacles in the readings today. On occasion the institutional Church doesn't get things right. Today's presentation of scriptures is a good example. In Habakkuk, the order would lead us to believe that that God's answer is to Habakkuk's complaint about violence and injustice, but it's actually God's second response to a different complaint of the prophet. Today's reading skips God's first response as well as the second complaint that Habakkuk registers to God's first answer. This is a big no-no. You don't skip around stringing verses together, picking and choosing what you think is relevant and re-arranging them to get at some point you want to make. The same thing is done in today's Gospel. The reading from Luke starts with the Apostles asking the Lord, "Increase our faith." What follows is the famous aphorism about the mustard seed and an unsatisfying parable that seems to suggest that God thinks of us as servants who better do as we're told. The problem is that it starts with the ending of the passages that immediately precede it – hard sayings from Jesus about forgiveness and the inevitability of sin, and parables that put money and unjust economic systems squarely at the center of what followers of Jesus struggle with. To all this the disciples asked to increase their faith and not without some degree of exasperation. The compilers of the Lectionary have done us no favors. Perhaps the Holy Spirit can save us by bringing something wholly unlooked for out of this conundrum. At the Catholic Worker house, part of our communities practice was to study scripture as the intersection between three primary stories: the story from Scripture, our personal stories and the story of the culture in which we live.

Scripture is written by and for people on the underside of history. The Bible is the great exception to the rule that history is written by the winners. Habakkuk, Luke, the Early church, Israel were losers in history's great game, continually finding themselves on the margins of power, oppressed and persecuted by the great powers of their age. When we study scripture, we often study a book or a lengthy section of a book from scripture because context is important. Passages build on and interpret each other. Rearranging the story or starting a passage at the end shapes the meaning of the story. When we have passages like today, we're going to have to accept that we have homework to do. We need to see that the greater context changes the meaning of what we heard in Church. Our readings at Mass are just a tease – they beg for greater illustration. We have an innate ability to understand stories, but we are sometimes missing the full story. It's like reading redacted government files. But we do have the unredacted version, the fuller version in the canonical Scriptures in our Bible. We may doubt our ability to understand the Bible, but like a TV show or a novel, when we pay attention we usually can figure out what's going on. Stories have power. They help tell us who we are, what we value, what is worth living and dying for. The stories of Scripture should be the foundational stories for us. These are the stories our ancestors passed down to us. There is something here they want us to discover, something good, important, and transformative. It can be our great joy to listen and understand what that something is. Sometimes those who write the Lectionary do us no favors. We need to complete the task ourselves, crack open the unredacted version and go down the rabbit hole. Maybe what the mangling of today's readings can do for us is to invite us into a deeper study of these stories that define for us who we are and how we choose to live. The Holy Spirit works in mysterious ways. Maybe this is one. (From Johnny Zokovich's homily)

Also attached is Justin Lorenz's Pastoral Reflection

Blessings!

Diane

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Diane Gozdziński, she, her

Pastoral Associate

St. Cronan Church

diane@stcronan.org

(314) 289-9384

(314) 941-4933