

## The Baptism of our Lord January 11, 2026

“You Are My Beloved”

Jesus’ Baptism was a touchstone moment in his life. From that moment on he knew that he was deeply loved by God, and that he was called to mission. My understanding of what happened at Jesus’ Baptism has been informed by Richard Rohr, O.F.M. in *Jesus’ Plan For A New World*. Two points have stuck with me as most significant throughout the decades since I first read them.

The first is how revolutionary was John’s baptizing. Let’s put this in context: for centuries, the Jewish priests have mediated between God and the people. As John baptizes in the Jordan, he proclaims that God is as available to us as water in the river, available to all who come for it. He is defying the religious institutions and leadership of his time. He’s saying they are not needed for people to reach God and to receive God’s forgiveness. Jesus affirms this in requesting baptism by John, as he seeks his own direct and right relationship with God.

The second is how deeply affecting is God’s immediate, direct and affirming response. The skies open and the dove of God’s Presence descends near and a voice proclaims, “This is my beloved Son.” From this moment on Jesus knew who he was and what he was called to do. To the very depths of his being Jesus heard God speak, “You are my beloved” and to the depths of his being he

took that in, embraced it, accepted it, and lived by it. That’s what gave him the courage to proceed in the ministry of his revolutionary Gospel, proclaiming – as did his cousin John – that God’s healing Love is available to everyone: the marginalized, the poor, and those ostracized by religious institutions.

I wonder how much we could learn from Jesus’ awareness that he was God’s beloved, for we too are God’s beloved. Our spiritual life is not about perfection, or how much we do, or how much we accomplish, but fundamentally is living in the knowledge that we are loved by God and then allowing God’s loving grace to flow through us.

—Madonna Kuciejczyk-Kernan

“You are exactly what God had in mind when (God) made you.” Fr. Greg Boyle, S.J.

### Church Center Offices

Mon-Fri 9am-3pm

Phone: (314) 289-9384

1202 S. Boyle, St. Louis, MO 63110

**Community Life Coordinator:** Johnny Zokovitch

[Johnny@stcronan.org](mailto:Johnny@stcronan.org)

**Retired Priest in Residence:** Fr. Jack Schuler

[Jschuler@stcronan.org](mailto:Jschuler@stcronan.org)

**Pastoral Associate:** Diane Gozdzalski

[Diane@stcronan.org](mailto:Diane@stcronan.org)

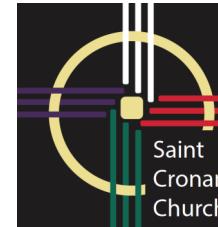
**Church Administrator:** Mary Ward

[Mary@stcronan.org](mailto:Mary@stcronan.org)

**Music Director:** David Dickey

[Dsdickey@earthlink.net](mailto:Dsdickey@earthlink.net)

**Food Pantry Director:** Mary Solomon



## St. Cronan Catholic Church January 11, 2026

### The Baptism of Our Lord



### Mass Information

SUNDAY – 8 am. and 10 am.

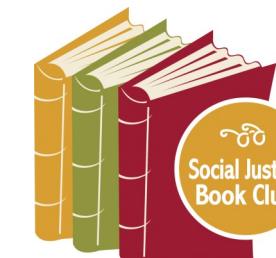
SATURDAY VIGIL – 5 pm.

Wednesdays – 8 am.

Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment.

**Bulletin Deadline:** Noon Tuesday

**Year End Statements:** 2025 Contribution Statements will be going out Mid-January. If you have had any recent changes to your mailing address, please email them to [mary@stcronan.org](mailto:mary@stcronan.org) as soon as possible. We want to make sure we do not get any returned mail. If you have had any changes to email or phone, please send those as well. Thank you!



**St. Cronan Social Justice Book Club** meets on the 2nd Sunday of each month (TODAY) in the 1st floor conference room after the 10am mass from 11:30am-12:30pm. Watch the bulletin and Monday notes for the February Book choice.

**Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of St. Louis** is dedicated to bringing the healing, help, and hope of Jesus Christ to those in need through a compassionate and caring presence. One of the ways we live out this mission is through the service of dedicated volunteers who walk alongside individuals and families facing difficult circumstances. As you consider your New Year’s resolutions, make volunteering more part of your year by serving with Catholic Charities. New volunteer opportunities are available across a variety of programs, including disaster recovery, food assistance, mentorship, and family support. Whether you can serve once or on an ongoing basis, your time and talents can make a meaningful impact throughout our community. To learn more and view current volunteer opportunities, please scan the QR code. For additional information, contact your Parish Ambassador Kelly Collins at [kelly.collins60@gmail.com](mailto:kelly.collins60@gmail.com).





**Prayers Please:** Nick and Shirley Ambrose and Family; Elisabeth Byrne's mom, Denise Siebold; Joe Connolly; Yvonne DeHart's daughter, Cathy Hebert; Nancy Buck's daughter, Jeanne Oberle; Trish Curtis' sibling, Skip; Joe Fairless; Rob Barnicle, who has been placed on hospice; Judith Santamaria, Leslie Conway; Madonna and Tom's friend, 3-1/2 year old Juliette Braren; Jane Sykes; Mary Proot's sister, Terry Jacks, and Mary's son, Tim Proot; Madonna Kuciejczyk-Kernan; Ken Ladd; Fr. Gerry Kleba; Marie and Roland Martir's daughter, Carrie and their granddaughter, Madi and their dear friend, Robert Screase, who has been placed on hospice; Judy Varias' husband Gene Krebs; J.T. Fowler; Grace Mueller; Joe Kuciejczyk, brother of Madonna and Janet, and brother-in-law of Tom, John Ross and Maria, daughter of Marci and Dominic Soda.

*Laura Krueger's mom, Evelyn Puleo, hasd passed away. May the Angles lead her to Paradise. Please keep Laura and her family in your prayers.*

**TRINITY, 4"x4" WINDOW STATIC CLINGIE, \$18 each** The annual St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Gift Fundraiser is underway, and will continue until the 4"x4" Celtic Trinity window static clingies, like the one on the church wall behind the choir, are sold out.

Dec. 2025 Contributions	
Thank You!	
General Fund	\$54,877
Building Repair Fund	\$100
Food Pantry	\$16,500
Campaign for Human Devel.	\$350
St. Vincent de Paul	\$3,253
Uganda	\$15
Retired Religious	\$300
Seminary/Christmas	\$775
Envelope Costs –1st offering	\$42
Fundraiser—Poinsettias	\$1,400

**Black Lives Matter Vigil** takes place the third Friday of the month at the corner of Manchester and Kingshighway, 4:30-5:30 p.m. The next vigil will take place on Friday, January 16. Please join us!



**Fair Trade Coffee:** We are ordering Fair Trade coffee for Sunday mornings. If we order in bulk, we get a cut on shipping. If you care to order some coffee and add to the Cronan order, please contact Al Sprehe and give him your order. 314-607-7188. Order forms are located in the church vestibule. We will have the coffee at Church or in the office for pick up.

## St. Vincent de Paul Christmas giving opportunity!

The annual SVdP Giving Tree is up in the vestibule of church. Please take an ornament and return it to church with your donation. You can drop your donation in the collection basket, mail it in or drop it by the church office. Please make checks out to "St. Cronan St. Vincent de Paul". Thank you for your generosity. The need is great!



**Caroline Leibman, Spiritual Enrichment through Embodiment:** Caroline offers a practice grounded in Authentic Movement, weaving aspects of mindfulness practices to accompany the process. Individual sessions are 45 minutes and take place in the Church Vestibule. Caroline offers these sessions free of charge. If you would like to take advantage of this opportunity, please register at <https://cutt.ly/authentic-movement>. See Monday Notes for more info.



## St. John's Church Football Raffle WINNERS:

As the regular Football Season comes to a close we want to thank all those in our community who took part in the Football Raffle Fundraiser. We have been very lucky here at St. Cronan to have winners throughout the season. Please remember this when the raffle comes around again this year. Below are our big winners from the last year! Ollie Schuler, Dede Coughlin, Justin Lorenz, Kate McCoy, Faye Branum, Tim Hirzel, Linda Caul and Johnny Zokovitch. Congratulations!

**Check Requests:** Per the directives from the St. Louis Archdiocese, anyone requesting a reimbursement for any items purchased for the church or any church organization, must accompany a check request form. We have been receiving many requests for reimbursement that are not being properly submitted. Forms are available in the church office, on the church website or we can email you a form. Also, please remember to use your tax exempt letter whenever making purchases for church. Thanks so much!

## St. Cronan Catholic Church Land Acknowledgement.

We respectfully acknowledge that St. Cronan Church stands on the ancestral lands of Native American and Indigenous peoples. We honor their enduring presence and acknowledge the historical and ongoing impacts of colonization. We are committed to learning, dialogue, and fostering reconciliation with Native American and Indigenous communities.

*For the full land acknowledgment, visit [stcronan.org](http://stcronan.org).*