

Pastoral Reflection
Feast of the Epiphany
January 7, 2024

This weekend we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany. The Prophet Isaiah says: "raise your eyes and look about". He does not want us to miss the riches of God's graces. Imitate the Wise Men and "look up". Don't let year head and your heart get buried.

Below is my favorite Epiphany poem:

Journey of the Magi

*All this was a long time ago, I remember,
And I would do it again, but set down
This set down
This: were we led all that way for
Birth or Death? There was a Birth,
certainly,
We had evidence and no doubt. I had
seen birth and death,
But had thought they were different; this
Birth was
Hard and bitter agony for us, like Death,
our death.
We returned to our places, these King-
doms,
But no longer at ease here, in the old
dispensation,
With an alien people clutching their gods.
I should be glad of another death.*

As T.S Eliot says, once one has a true and deep experience of Jesus one is "no longer at ease in the old dispensation". Let "alien people clutch their gods". The money, the things, the power, the status, the awards etc. just don't cut once the

taste of the true God is savored. What "grabs your soul?" May it be Christ.

And for your enjoyment (*Compliments of Barry Buchek*):

Three Wise **Women** would have....
Asked for directions,
Arrived on time,
Helped deliver the baby,
Cleaned the stable,
Made a casserole,
Brought practical gifts and there would be
Peace on Earth.

May 2024 be a Year of Health and happiness for you and those you love.



Parish Center Offices

Mon-Fri 9am-3pm
Phone: (314) 289-9384

Pastoral Administrator: Fr. Jack Schuler

jschuler@stcronan.org

Pastoral Associate: Diane Gozdziński

diane@stcronan.org

Church Administrator: Mary Ward

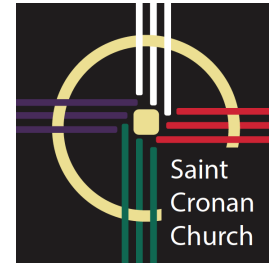
mary@stcronan.org

Music Director: David Dickey

dsdickery@earthlink.net

Food Pantry Director: Mary Solomon
(314) 533-0651

Bulletin Deadline: WED 12 noon



St. Cronan Catholic Church
Feast of the Epiphany
January 7, 2024

Mass Information

SUNDAY – 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

SATURDAY VIGIL – 5:00 pm.

Wednesdays – 8:00 am.

Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment.

Year-End Giving: It is that time of year when donors are thinking of their year-end giving and taxes. Every check for St. Cronan Church received dated by or before December, 31, 2023 will be credited to the 2023 calendar year. Please have your year-end gifts to the church office no later than January 2, 2024. Year-end contribution statements will be mailed out mid-January. If you do NOT wish to receive a statement, please let Mary in the office know before January 15. Thank you for your continued generosity!

Church Decoration We will be taking down Christmas decorations and transforming the church to Ordinary Time today, January 7, after the 10:00 Mass. Please plan to help if you can.

Issues and Inspirations: "Just Songs", a Concert of Susan Marting's Original Music Inspired by Catholic Social Teaching. February 11, 1:00 p.m., in the Church. A reception will follow in the Hospitality Room. Please save the date! More details to come.....



St. Cronan St. Vincent de Paul: The Giving Tree will be up during Christmas for your generous contributions, or you can give via the St. Cronan website www.stcronan.org

SVdP will no longer be receiving financial support from the St. Louis SVdP Council, so the need is greater than ever.





Prayers : Nancy Buck; Al Sprehe; John Gozdziwski

Nancy Buck underwent back surgery on January 2, Al Sprehe is in the hospital for tests, and John G. is in the hospital for urology treatment.

For the repose of the soul of Sr. Mary Lou Gavan, RSCJ, who passed away on December 19. Sr Mary Lou was very active at St. Cronan for many years.

Please note that our prayer list has been purged for the new year. If you would like your loved one or yourself to be placed on the list, please call the office: (314) 289-9384, or email Mary@stcronan.org

Immigration and Migrant Ministry. St. Cronan is part of the coalition of parishes working on this initiative. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact IRM Coordinator Kevin Kuehl, 772-1525, ext 204, MigrantMinistrySTL@gmail.com, or visit our office at St. Pius V Rectory. Envelopes are in the back of church should you care to make a donation. Make checks payable to St. Pius V.



St. Francis Community Services—After School Program Volunteers Needed!: DO YOU HAVE A FEW HOURS EACH WEEK TO MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE? St. Francis Community Services – Southside Immigrant Services Center, located at 4222 Delor St. (63116) needs tutors and helpers for their “After School Program”! Designed for youth in kindergarten through 5th Grade, the Program runs Mondays through Thursdays from 4:00 – 6:30 p.m. You will assist children with homework, reading, and other weekly assignments. If interested, contact Jazmin at Jpintor@ccstl.org (314) 632-6704.



Attention Bakers! We are in need of bakers for next year! This ministry is easy and requires little time commitment - one day a year. You can even include your children or grandchildren. The bread recipe is pretty simple, and had just a few ingredients. If you are interested in helping out with this ministry, please contact Laura Krueger. Lauramarie993@gmail.com

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



Please help welcome our newest parishioner:

Hopey Fink

Minivan for sale: Fr. George has a Honda Odessey for sale. It is on the St. Cronan parking lot if you would like to see it. If you are interested, please contact the office: (314) 289-9384. The proceeds will go to help support his school in Uganda.

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 19. Please join us!

Authentic Ukrainian Meal: Join St. Margaret of Scotland Living Justice Ministries Immigration Team for this authentic Ukrainian meal prepared by Ukrainian refugees. Proceeds benefit the Ukrainian Refugee Fund at St. Mary’s Assumption Ukrainian Catholic Church. Saturday, Jan. 13 | 6 p.m. Saint Margaret of Scotland Church Hall (Flad Ave and 39th. Entrance in on 39th.) Registration is required. wesharegiving.org/App/Form/7d163c80-e5e7-44c2-8178-f803c5949d23

Kairos Palestine Curriculum: "My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it." Luke 8:21 It is the ‘do’ part of Jesus’ comment that challenges us. What, where, when, how and why are not always easy to discern. We will offer you the US response to Kairos Palestine curriculum at College Church. The course will be 6 weeks, on Saturdays 3 pm-5 pm. January 20-February 24, 2024. More details to come. If you want to keep yourself informed and engaged through this study, please email: [Lea Koesterer at st.louisfriendsofbethlehem@gmail.com](mailto:Lea.Koesterer@st.louisfriendsofbethlehem@gmail.com)

December 2023 contributions	
General Fund	\$68,952.94
Building Repair Fund	\$150.00
Capital Maintenance	\$1,437.00
Christmas	\$720.00
Food Pantry	\$12,030.00
Fundraiser-Poinsettias	\$284.00
Human Development	\$250.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$660.00
Retired Religious	\$200.00
Seminary	\$60.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$20.00
Uganda	\$55.00