

Pastoral Reflection
28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 15, 2023

One of the members of our Church Johnny Zokovich delivered a powerful message about the war in Israel. Needless to say that the situation there is extremely complicated and as usual our political leaders are using this opportunity to reduce the matter to black and white, good and evil. Certainly no one agrees with the atrocities but we need to examine why this extreme response has occurred. With Johnny's permission I offer his reflection for our weekly message.

Fr. Jack (he/him)

[At the time of the 2014 Gaza War, Pax Christi USA released a statement that said, in part:

"Pax Christi USA has been unequivocal in insisting that for peace to be possible, there must be an end to the Israeli occupation of Palestinian land, a dismantling of the barrier wall built on Palestinian land, and an end to the Gaza blockade. We have asserted that the policies of our own government have functioned to provide the support that enables the occupation and that we must continue to pressure our political leaders for a change in those policies..."

The bloodshed we see now, as horrific and heart-wrenching as it is, was utterly predictable. The seeds of the madness of the past few days grew from the soil of the past 75+ years. Contextualizing what is happening now in Palestine and Israel is work that all of us, especially those of us in the U.S. where the narrative from the mainstream press often lacks nuance and analysis, must undertake. We've had a small group of Pax Christi USA members who have been exploring that history together for the past few months; they're currently pulling together resources that we'll share on our website in the days to come. Making the effort to

search for additional avenues where you can hear or read the experiences of those most directly impacted is essential. On our website and social media we have been amplifying some of those voices who work closely with people on the ground, like this statement from Friends of Sabeel North America and this statement from Jewish Voice for Peace.

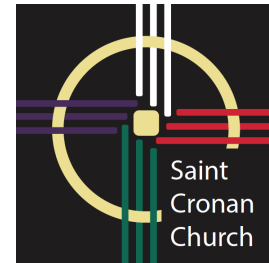
I'm also deeply and tragically aware of the U.S. government's complicity in the conflict, its tacit support of the ongoing occupation by frustrating efforts to apply international law, and the unchecked military aid. As members of Pax Christi USA, we bear a special responsibility to holding the U.S. government to account, speaking out against military aid that will only lead to greater bloodshed, and demanding action on behalf of a cease-fire and the painstaking work to create a just peace rooted in equality, human rights, and dignity for all.

Lastly, Pope Francis asked all Catholics and people of good will to pray for peace in Palestine and Israel. I hope you'll join me in taking up this prayer for peace and holding in tenderness the anguish and pain of all those who have died, who have lost loved ones, who fear for the safety and dignity of their friends and family. Words from the last paragraph of our statement from 2014, a hope that went unrealized, still echo today:

"Our hope for the Palestinian and Israeli peoples is for a future built in recognition of their shared humanity, where the security of all is rooted in the practice of justice for all. Let this be the last of the bloodshed in this region which has suffered for so long...(and may it) give way to the birth of a new day and a just peace for the Middle East."]

In peace,

Johnny Zokovitch, Executive Director, Pax Christi USA



St. Cronan Catholic Church
28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 15, 2023

Mass Information

SUNDAY – 8 a.m. and 10 am.

SATURDAY VIGIL – 5:00 pm.

Wednesdays – 8:00 am.

Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment.

Children's Book Collection: If you have any new or used books in good condition suitable for 5-10 year olds, please bring them to church for Dewey Elementary School. Miss Shannon, daughter of Glenn and Pat Eckert is creating a library in her classroom for children who do not have access to books. See the bin in back of church. You can also bring your book donations to the church office.



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 20. Please join us!

Order your Cronan Shirt Today: Cronan Shirts are now available to order



online. We have polos, t-shirts, hoodies and more! Order now in time for Christmas. Our on-line store will close on Nov. 6 at 10am sharp, so don't let this opportunity pass...order today! Ordering on-line is very easy, but if you need help, call us in the office and we can help you or order it for you. Visit our website at <https://stcronan.org/> to order or follow the link: <https://store.kickprint.com/StCronan/shop/home> Flyers are in the back of church.

Thank you to our Fundraising Committee for making this possible! Proceeds from all sales benefit St. Cronan.



Prayers Please: Kathy Bayless; Trish Curtis' brother; David Gaillardetz' father, Richard who has entered hospice; Nick and Shirley Ambrose's daughter, Brigid Costello; Varrietta Anthony; Fr. Jack's brother, Mike; 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; Kathy Hunn's niece, Lisa; Sr. Cathy's friends, Inga Casillo, Don Costello, and newborn baby, Giovanni Christopher Centerino; Judy Gallagher; Mary Truetkin; Marie and Roland Martir's daughter, Carrie, and granddaughter, Madi; John Gozdziwski; Michael Mason, former SVDP hauler; Michael Peterson; Linda and Jeff Caul's daughter, Kelly; Joe Connolly; Sam Vitale, friend of Father Jack and Mary Ward; John Derr, son-in-law of Alice Adcock; Bill Blow's daughter, Meg Shugarts; Roger Bailey, friend of Dom and Marcy Soda; Philip Anala; Bonnie Wimmer; Jon Ebner, nephew of Rocky Sieben and Ruth Hasser; the Krueger family; Nick Ambrose; Betty Newberry; Marty Spies; Judith Santamaria; Nick Ambrose's friend, John; Tom Farace, Brother-in-law of Mary and Dave Solomon; Theresa Jones, sister of Dave Solomon; Gary Johnson, brother-in-law to Madonna and Tom Kuciejczyk-Kernan and Sr. Janet Kuciejczyk; Janice Fairless; Leslie Conway; Mary Middendorf, Barry Buchek's friend, Alan Zagurski; Barry Buchek; Else Hirzel; Dede Coughlin; Fr. George; Madonna Kuciejczyk-Kernan. *If your loved one should be removed from the prayer list, please let the church office know.*

October Ministry of the Month: Faith Formation for Children and Adults St. Cronan's Children's Faith Formation is a unique, tailored religious education program for children from Kindergarten-8th Grade. We offer instruction in the Sacraments as well as grade-appropriate classes for all students. The children are instructed in the Catholic Faith with a Social Justice perspective. Emphasis is on what we believe, how we worship, how we live and how we pray occurs throughout all of the classes. **Adult Faith Formation** takes place through small group and large group offerings as well as resources provided for individual study through Cronantalk. Current small groups include Turtles women's reading group, adult reading group, Contemplative prayer group, and women's prayer group. If you are interested in any of these, or have other suggestions, please contact Diane G at diane@stcronan.org

Reception for Kathy Hunn: Let's come together **TODAY** after the 10am Mass for a Salad and Charcuterie Brunch in the Hospitality Room to honor Kathy Hunn for her many years of service as our Food Pantry Director. Please contact Maggie Hart-Mahon if you wish to contribute to the food; phone or text 314.749.1453 or email Ofccomp17@gmail.com



All Saints/All Souls Celebration: A "Memorial Wall" is located in the vestibule of church, that invites you to place the names of your loved ones whom you would like us to honor during the month of November. The "Table of Saints" will join the Wall the last weekend of October and remain in place throughout November. You can place pictures of close relatives and friends on the table. The weekend of **November 4-5**, we will celebrate those close relatives and friends who have passed on within the last year (November-November). If you have lost someone close that you would like to memorialize during the candle-lighting ceremony, please contact Diane – diane@stcronan.org – by November 1. Your loved one's name will be read and a candle lit in their honor.

Advent Reflection Book: It's that time again! The Advent Reflection Book Calendar will be in the back of church this weekend. Please take a post-it note that contains the readings of the day and write your name and contact information in the calendar square. We are not having an online calendar this year, because I wasn't savvy enough to keep up with it, but if you would like to write a reflection for a specific date and cannot make it to church, call or email Diane at diane@stcronan.org or (314) 289-9384 and I will add you to the calendar.



Weekend Mass Attendance For the weekends of October 14-15, and 21-22, we will be counting the number of people in church at each Mass for the Archdiocese. Please make sure you attend and bring your friends!



Special Thank you: A special THANK YOU to all of those who donated to the "Administrator's Wish List" The Wish List is now closed. Many items have already been purchased and are being put to use. Your generosity is always appreciated.

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!*

Parish Center Offices

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

Pastor: Fr. Jack Schuler
jschuler@stcronan.org
Pastoral Associate: Diane Gozdziwski
diane@stcronan.org
Pastoral Administrator: Mary Ward
mary@stcronan.org

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

Bulletin Deadline: Wed 12 noon