

**Pastoral Reflection**  
30th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
October 29, 2023

When I was six years old, my sister Bonnie came home from college and announced that the story of Noah and the Ark is a teaching story; it's not meant to be taken literally. As a six year old I was riveted to the dinner conversation about this revelation. When I was seven, two of my dad sisters lost their young husbands. My dad took literally that he needed to take care of the orphans and widows. I then realized that there were things in the Bible that were meant to be taken literally.

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**“WE ENCOURAGE ONE  
ANOTHER THROUGH  
EXAMPLE AND STORIES OF  
HOPE.”**

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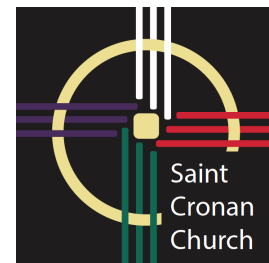
In today's readings a number of passages struck me as meant to be taken literally: you shall not oppress a refugee, you shall not wrong any widow or orphan, you shall not extort your poor neighbors, for I (God) am compassionate. And in the Gospel, Jesus says, “you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind” and, “you shall love your neighbor as yourself.” These are the “greatest commandments” because they express the essence of living God's way, God's reign.

So then, how do we live these guiding truths? Uncovering our way to embody loving God and our neighbor wholeheartedly is our life journey. We support one another through community. We stand where we are and do what we can. We encourage one another through example and stories of hope.

My heart has been heavy as I grieve the killing of the innocents in Palestine and Israel. So many orphans and widows, how will we respond? For years I've been aware of the suffering of the people in Gaza and Israel through a mind/body healing program operating in both countries, and through the work of Hedy Epstein, a survivor of the Holocaust who spent her life advocating for justice for the Palestinian people. I travelled in Israel with Peace Through Pyramids, which brought together Jewish, Arab, and St. Louis teens of multiple races and religions to create circus together showing that peace is possible. While in Israel I became friends with both Jews and Arabs. I have been inspired by their commitment through Women Wage Peace, a collaborative effort of Jewish and Arab women to bring justice to the Palestinian people and peace to Israel and Palestine.

These people, tenaciously loving wholeheartedly against and in the midst of violence, inspire me to hope and action, to do what I can to embody God's reign of Love in my life in this world.

- *Madonna Kuciejczyk-Kernan*



**St. Cronan Catholic Church**  
**30th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**October 29, 2023**

**Mass Information**

SUNDAY – 8 a.m. and 10 am.

SATURDAY VIGIL – 5:00 pm.

Wednesdays – 8:00 am.

Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment.

**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, November 17. Please join us!

**Prayer Cards:** We ran out of cards with the “Prayer for Palestine and Israel” on them. We have printed more and they will be available today in church.

**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; Nick and Shirley Ambrose's daughter, Brigid Costello; Varrietta Anthony; Fr. Jack's brother, Mike; Diane Calcaterra; 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; Dede Coughlin; Fr. George; and Madonna Kuciejczyk-Kernan. *If your loved one should be removed from the prayer list, please let the church office know.*

*Theresa Solomon, beloved sister of David and sister-in-law of Mary, passed away on Sunday. Please keep her family in your prayers. .*



**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](mailto:diane@stcronan.org) – by November 1. Your loved one's name will be read and a candle lit in their memory.

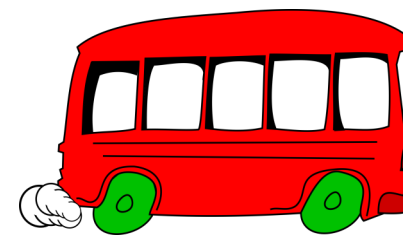
**Parish Ministries:** If you would like to add your talents to any of our ministries, and meet a great bunch of people, please call the church office or visit our website [www.stcronan.org](http://www.stcronan.org) for information. *You are always welcome!*



**The November Ministry of the Month is the Food Pantry:**

The Food Pantry has approximately 30 volunteers who do several tasks. They shop the food, shelf the food, bag the food for our families, carry the food to the clients cars, and all with the biggest, warmest smiles on their faces. We treat the clients with the respect they deserve and need. The food pantry is making a difference one client at a time. The Food Pantry Director is: Mary Solomon. Please contact Mary with any questions, or if you are interested in helping or donating. [solo40baby@yahoo.com](mailto:solo40baby@yahoo.com)

**Advent Reflection Book:** Thanks to all of you who stepped forward to write a reflection for Advent! All of the post-its have been taken. Remember that reflections are due **November 10**. You can email your reflection to Diane at [dianegoz1951@gmail.com](mailto:dianegoz1951@gmail.com) or [diane@stcronan.org](mailto:diane@stcronan.org)



**A ST. Louis Black History Bus Tour** on November 11th, 2023 will begin at St Cronin's Parish at 9:45 AM and end at 1 PM at St Cronin's Parish. Each participant is asked to contribute \$10/person to cover the cost of the bus and driver. For those interested, there will be a brown bag lunch and discussion following the tour from 1 to 2:30 PM. The bus stops only one time in the middle of the tour at a filling station for a rest stop and refreshments. In order to hold a seat, please contact Paul Loida at [paul.loida@bayer.com](mailto:paul.loida@bayer.com) or 314-825-1603 with a text message. Paul will need your name, phone, email address and date of the tour.

**Lectors** if you did not attend the commissioning with Bishop Rivituso, please see Diane or Fr. Jack for your Bible.

**Parish Center Offices**

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

**Pastor:** Fr. Jack Schuler

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

**Pastoral Associate:** Diane Gozdziwski

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

**Pastoral Administrator:** Mary Ward

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

**Music Director:** David Dickey

**Food Pantry Director:** Mary Solomon

(314) 533-0651

**Bulletin Deadline: Wed 12 noon**