

Pastoral Reflection
27th Sunday of Ordinary Time
October 5, 2025

Ordinary Time sounds rather strange these days. In the church this is the time when we have no major feasts. The name comes from the Latin *ordinalis*, meaning numbered. Our Sunday readings during this time focus on the life and teachings of Jesus and the call to discipleship.

However, in English, Ordinary Time sounds strange at this point. Nothing about our world today is ordinary – not the shootings, the lies and intimidation, the denial of aid to those in need, the caging and deportation of people (almost exclusively people who do not have white skin) who are assumed to be breaking the civil law of being here without papers, the disregard for promises made during the campaign, the soldiers in the streets of our cities, the lack of a consistent and relevant foreign policy, the violence against and disregard for women, the hostility and violence toward LGBTQIA+ and transgender people, the elimination of personnel from government departments that are established primarily to serve people, etc. This list is not exhaustive.

With Habakkuk I find myself praying “How long, O God? I cry for help, but you do not listen. I cry out, ‘Violence!’ but you do not intervene.” When I pray, “Give us this day our daily bread,” I question if God grasps how dire the situation is in our world today. I want to see some action! So I wait, and wait, and wait.

God’s response to Habakkuk, a prophet living in the 600’s BCE, does little to address the Jewish people’s fear of a Babylonian invasion. Nor does it seem to address our immediate conflagration. God’s response to the prophet: “Write down the vision clearly upon the tablets so that one can read it readily. For the vision still has its time, presses on to fulfillment, and

will not disappoint. If it delays, wait for it. It will surely come; it will not be late. The rash one has no integrity, but the just one, because of her or his faith, shall live.”

I need to reflect on this response. Like the apostles, I ask Jesus to increase my faith, to increase the faith and hope of all of us. We are called as disciples to act. The act may be as small as the mustard seed, but the mustard seed has life within it. We can nourish the seeds among us and trust/hope God will provide good soil, sunshine, and water to entice the seeds to grow. Each act of faith, in spite of the chaos and exhaustive crises that seem to envelop us, is an act of resistance and creativity. Each act of faith enables God to act with and through us. Each act of faith brings the vision to us who can also respond in faith and be open to God acting through us. We can bring, with God’s help, the vision to fulfillment: a time of love, joy, and peace for all God’s people and for all of creation.

—Lynne Schmidt, SSND

Church Center Offices

Mon-Fri 9am-3pm

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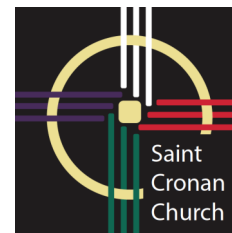
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Music Director: David Dickey

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Food Pantry Director: Mary Solomon

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St. Cronan Catholic Church
October 5, 2025

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Mass Information

SUNDAY – 8 am. and 10 am.

SATURDAY VIGIL – 5 pm.

Wednesdays – 8 am.

Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment.

Bulletin Deadline: Noon Tuesday

**World Day
of
Migrants &
Refugees**



Immigrant & Refugee Ministry—join our community today, Oct. 5—as we observe the World Day of Migrants and Refugees after 10:00 Mass. The action will involve a pilgrimage by members of all of the participating churches to St. Pius on South Grand. St. Cronan’s will have a rite of sending at the conclusion of the 10am Mass then walk or drive (as you are able) to the public rally and prayer service at St. Pius.

What's Happening with Immigration?

Wednesday, October 22, 7:00 - 8:15 at Christ Prince of Peace School Cafeteria
The Catholic Church does not support open borders but does advocate for caring for the stranger/immigrant in our midst. Our speakers will summarize the principles that guide the Church’s response to immigrants, outline the current legal environment, and share their experiences working to protect the dignity and human rights of the immigrant community.

Speakers:

Kristine Walentik, Catholic Legal Assistance Ministry’s Immigration Law Project.

Kevin Kuehl, Immigrant and Refugee Ministry Coordinator.

Belem Gómez Cruz, DACA Recipient, member Archdiocesan Immigration Task Force



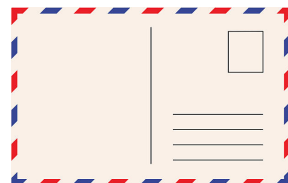


Prayers Please: Nick and Shirley Ambrose and Family; Elisabeth Byrne's mom, Denise Siebold; Joe Connolly; Yvonne DeHart's daughter, Cathy Hebert; Nancy Buck's daughter, Denise Oberle and her granddaughter, Danielle Oliveros; Trish Curtis' siblings, Skip, Teree, and Ray; Joe Fairless; Sr. Cathy Doherty's friends, Lina Tackas and Tim; 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; Laura Krueger's mom, Evelyn Puleo; Marie and Roland Martir's granddaughter, Madi and their dear friend, Robert Screace, who has been placed on hospice; Judy Varias' husband Gene; J.T. Fowler; Grace Mueller; and Fr. Thomas's sister, Faustina.

If you would like your loved one or yourself to be placed on the list, please call the office at (314) 289-9384, or email Mary@stcronan.org

Midtown: Midtown is holding their Fall Festival October 17, 4:00 to 6:30 p.m. Bring the family to enjoy a pumpkin walk, bounce house, food and drinks, trick or treating and more. On the church center parking lot.

Save the date for Midtown's Holiday Gala on Friday, Dec. 5! This night of fun includes dinner, open bar, awards ceremony, and dancing to the music of DJ O! For more info or to purchase tickets visit <https://www.midtownstl.org/upcoming-events-1>



Feed the Children of Gaza: Postcards will be available again this weekend. For those inclined, you will be invited to sign a postcard and leave it in the basket in the back of church. These will be delivered or mailed to the offices of US Senators and our Representatives for Missouri.

St. Cronan Social Justice Book Club meets on the 2nd Sunday of each month in the 1st floor conference room after 10am mass from 11:30am-12:30pm. Our October 12 book is "James" by Percival Everett. Our November 9 book is "Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants" by Robin Wall Kimmerer. We invite you to join us in person or to simply read with us. For more information please contact Charlene Zeni Connolly at 314-308-0056.

Thank you to all who ordered Mums for Fall. Thanks to you, we netted about \$700! These proceeds go directly to the programs of St. Cronan Church. Thanks Sr. Cathy Doherty for your efforts. Keep an eye on the bulletin for news about our poinsettia sale happening in November/December.



Seeds of Justice Network Presents Dignity of Work



and Rights of the Worker

with Brother Ken Homan, SJ

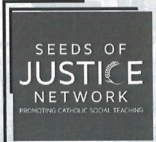
Monday, November 10, 2025 at 7:00 PM
IBEW Local 1 - 5850 Elizabeth Ave. | St. Louis, MO 63110
No fee to attend; registration is required

"Workers are fundamentally community members. They are our neighbors, and we work alongside each other for the good of our communities."

A newly appointed professor at SLU with a Ph.D. in Labor History from Georgetown, Br. Ken brings both scholarship and lived experience supporting unions and worker movements. His engaging voice and Jesuit formation make him the perfect guide for reflecting on the sacredness of work in St. Louis today.



Br. Ken will speak to **The CALL**—what our faith asks of us in upholding the dignity of work. The gathering will also address **The NEED** and explore **Our RESPONSE**, with local opportunities to get involved, advocate, and stand against the threats workers face each day.



SCAN TO REGISTER

REGISTER HERE : [HTTPS://BIT.LY/DIGNITYOFWORKEVENT](https://bit.ly/dignityofworkevent)

MORE DETAILS AT WWW.SEEDSOJUSTICENETWORK.ORG

PLANTING SEEDS:
Growing the Seven
Themes of Catholic
Social Teaching

FAMILY, COMMUNITY,
& PARTICIPATION
SEPT 26, 2024

HUMAN DIGNITY -
IMMIGRATION
APRIL 10,
2025

WORKERS'
RIGHTS
FALL 2025

SOLIDARITY
RACE/HOUSING
TBA 2026

CARE FOR
CREATION
TBA 2026

RIGHTS &
RESPONSIBILITIES
TBA

CONCERN FOR
THE POOR
TBA

COMMUNITY SERIES



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.