

Pastoral Reflection
27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 8, 2023

*“Therefore, I say to you,
the kingdom of God will be taken away
from you
and given to a people that
will produce its fruit.”*

We have a beautifully aligned motif throughout our first reading, psalm, and gospel of a vineyard. I have always loved this image and the beautiful setting it evokes in my mind’s eye of a picturesque landscape; fitting then as a metaphor for the Kingdom of God.

A bit of context first on this Gospel reading from Matthew: Jesus had just the other day majestically and disruptively entered Jerusalem, where he then proceeded to overturn the tables of the money changers, and curse a fig tree—one of the two “destructive miracles” Jesus is documented to perform.

This then appropriately sets our parable today of the vineyard as a rebuttal to the indignation and challenge of the chief priests and elders who continued to feel threatened by Jesus’ works and growing influence. The religious leaders in

power felt that Jesus had begun to usurp some of what was rightfully theirs—influence, admiration—and they were not willing to stand by and let that happen. The parallels between the characters in this parable and the situation in which Jesus finds himself with the chief priests becomes apparent: God as the landowner, the prophets as the servants that had been sent, Jesus as the heir, and the tenants as the chief priests and those in power.

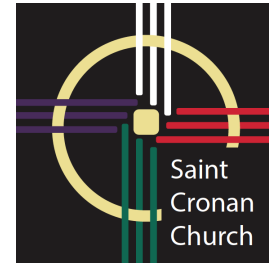


I think it is easy to feel shocked by the actions of the tenants in this parable, but I wonder what spiritual fruits could be found in our envisioning ourselves in the persons of the tenants. How have we been threatened by what others have gained?

We do not often relinquish power, influence, privilege, easily. But that may be exactly what is required of us, so that the kingdom of God may be allowed to produce fruit. In what ways are we clinging desperately to that which we ought to let go of? What obstacles to the “in-breaking” of the kingdom of God are we allowing to persist?

May we be good stewards of the vineyard God has given us.

—David Gaillardetz



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Mass Information

SUNDAY – 8 a.m. and 10 am.

SATURDAY VIGIL – 5:00 pm.

Wednesdays – 8:00 am.

Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment.



Sock Angels: The Knights and Ladies Auxiliary of St. Peter Claver are holding their annual “Sock Angel” campaign. Today is the last day to make a donation at church, but if you have socks to donate, you can bring them to the church office tomorrow between 9am-3pm.. For further information click here: www.knightsofpeterclaver.org Look for the box in the back of church!

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!



Midtown Community Services news: The Midtown Lip-Sync Battle will take place Friday, Oct. 13, 7-9 p.m. at the Schlafly Tap Room, 2100 Locust. For more information, visit <https://www.midtownstl.org/>

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!***



Prayers Please: Kathy Bayless; Trish Curtis' brother; Nickand 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 SVPD 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; Rocky Sieben's father; 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; Judy Varias; Else Hirzel; Dede Coughlin; Fr. George; Diane Gozdziwski and Madonna Kuciejczyk-Kernan *If your loved one should be removed from the prayer list, please let the church office know.*

Please offer additional prayers for Richard Gaillardetz, David's father, who has entered hospice.

Rocky Sieben's father, David Sieben, passed away this week. May the Angels lead him to Paradise.

Reception for Kathy Hunn: Let's come together on Oct. 15 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



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

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

Weekend Mass Attendance For the weekends of October 7-8, 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!

The next Black History Bus Tour will take place on Sat. Oct. 14. The tours leave St. Cronan at 9:45 and will return at 1 pm. There is one rest stop in the middle of the tour at a service station for rest rooms and snacks and water. If you bring a brown bag lunch, you can stay to participate in Q & A and further sharing. The cost of the tour is \$10.00 to be Send questions to Paul Loida at Paul.Loida@Bayer.com

September 2023 contributions

General Fund	\$17,638.00
Building Repair Fund	\$125.00
Wish List	\$2,625.00
Capital Maintenance	\$20.00
Food Pantry	\$1,755.00
Maui Wildfire	\$811.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$455.00
Uganda	\$55.00
Catholic University	\$216.00