

Pastoral Reflection
33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time

“O God, hear us. Hear our prayer. O God, hear us. Hear our prayer.”

—Bob Hurd

Last Sunday Martha Stegmaier and I were talking about praying this song as a community to help us remember God is with us in these difficult times in our country and world. We have used the song at St. Cronan in past liturgies. Its expression of longing and hope and its plaintive melody expresses well the hope of our Advent longing for Emmanuel, God-with-us.

This prayer-song seems to also express well the readings for this Sunday. Malachi (the name means *my messenger*), is believed to have prophesied around 420 BCE. He is addressing the age-old question: why do good people suffer and wicked people prosper? He reassures those who are faithful to God that God will send “the sun of justice with its healing rays.”

The author of the second letter to the community in Thessalonika finds a disorderly situation that needs attention. While the author says that those who don’t work should not eat, the issue is not about laziness. The writer sees busybodies destroying the Christian community. Anyone who has lived in a similar situation recognizes the need for this behavior to be eliminated for the sake of the group. “O God, hear us.”

Luke composes this Gospel account after the fall of Jerusalem, so he knows the destruction of the Temple and the suffering of the people. Luke’s community also knows well the persecutions of the Jewish and Christian faithful by the Roman leaders. In this Gospel Jesus tells the disciples about the terrible

things to come, of the persecutions and martyrdom, of betrayal by family and friends, and of the hatred they will experience. But he tells them that he will be with them when they are called to be witnesses, to give testimony to the Good News. Jesus assures them that by their endurance, their perseverance, they will be saved.

Each of the readings calls for trust in God and endurance in being faithful to God. They can offer us a message for our time. As we move into Advent we might listen to this song on YouTube or sing it to ourselves. Perhaps we can also pray it as a Cronan community. The words of this song can help alleviate some anxiety and identify ways to respond to today’s issues. The melody expresses our deep longing for God. The verses ask God to give us the mind of Mary (the Mary of the Magnificat) and to let us be God’s justice, kindness, and truth. “O God, hear us. Hear our prayer. O God, hear us. Hear our prayer.”

—Lynne Schmidt, SSND

Church Center Offices

Mon-Fri 9am-3pm

Phone: (314) 289-9384

1202 S. Boyle, St. Louis, MO 63110

Community Life Coordinator: Johnny Zokovitch

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Retired Priest in Residence: Fr. Jack Schuler

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Pastoral Associate: Diane Gozdzialski

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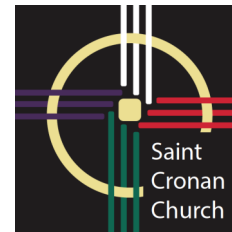
Church Administrator: Mary Ward

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Music Director: David Dickey

Dsdickey@earthlink.net

Food Pantry Director: Mary Solomon



St. Cronan Catholic Church
November 16, 2025

33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time



Mass Information

SUNDAY – 8 am. and 10 am.

SATURDAY VIGIL – 5 pm.

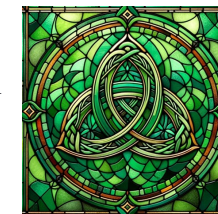
Wednesdays – 8 am.

Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment.

Bulletin Deadline: Noon Tuesday

TRINITY, 4”x4” WINDOW STATIC CLINGIE, \$18 each

The annual St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Gift Fundraiser will begin after Masses on the weekend of November 15-16, and will continue until the 4”x4” Celtic Trinity window static clingies, like the one on the church wall behind the choir, are sold out.



Fair Trade Coffee: We are ordering Fair Trade coffee for Sunday mornings. If we order in bulk, we get a cut on shipping. If you care to order some coffee and add to the Cronan order, please contact call Al Sprehe and give him your order. 314-607-7188. Order forms are located in the church vestibule. We will have the coffee at Church or in the office for pick up..

Poinsettia Fund Raiser: Every Christmas season, St. Cronan’s Church sells red, white, and pink poinsettias. This year we are selling them at three price points, by size: (4” - \$10) (6” - \$20) (8” - \$30). Christmas poinsettia order forms can be found in the back of Church. The last day to order your poinsettias for the Christmas season is November 30. And poinsettias purchased can be picked up after each Mass on December 6 and 7. Ordering these poinsettias from St. Cronan’s also helps our Church, as it is a fundraiser. So please consider helping our Church through your order this Christmas season. At the time the online store has not yet been set up. If you wish to purchase with a credit card, please call the office 314-289-9384.

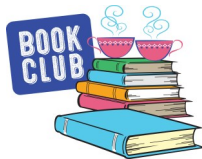




Prayers Please: Nick and Shirley Ambrose and Family; Elisabeth Byrne's mom, Denise Siebold; Joe Connolly; Yvonne DeHart's daughter, Cathy Hebert; Nancy Buck's daughter, Jeanne Oberle; Trish Curtis' sibling, Skip; Joe Fairless; Rob Barnicle, who has been placed on hospice; Judith Santamaria, Leslie Conway; 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 daughter, Carrie and their granddaughter, Madi and their dear friend, Robert Screace, who has been placed on hospice; Judy Varias' husband Gene Krebs; J.T. Fowler; Grace Mueller; and Joe Kuciejczyk, brother of Madonna and Janet, and brother-in-law of Tom and Jude Michael Sullivan, new born son of Mariah Byrne Sullivan and Connor Sullivan.

Advent Scripture Study begins Nov. 17th: Join Community Life Coordinator Johnny Zokovitch for an Advent scripture study in which we'll look closer at the gospel readings for the four Sundays of Advent. We'll meet in person at St. Cronan's five Monday nights from 7-8:15pm beginning November 17 and ending December 15. To register, go to this link: <https://forms.gle/we2wSxUgjSUwAZzA6> or let Johnny know by email. johnny@stcronan.org

Advent Reflection Booklet Thank you to all who have signed up to write a reflection for this year's Advent Reflection Book. Please send your reflection to Diane (diane@stcronan.org) by **November 16 (today)**.



St. Cronan Social Justice Book Club meets on the 2nd Sunday of each month in the 1st floor conference room after the 10am mass from 11:30am-12:30pm. Our December 14 book is "Cherished Belonging: The Healing Power of Love in Divided Times" by Gregory Boyle. Our January 11 book is "Welcoming the Stranger: Justice, Compassion and Truth in the Immigration Debate" by Matthew Soerens & Jenny Yang. We invite you to join us in person or to simply read with us.

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, Nov. 21. Please join us!



Holiday Food Drive: St. Cronan Food Pantry, in conjunction with Catholic Charities, will be collecting funds to purchase turkeys for the holidays. A suggested donation of \$20 will cover the cost of a turkey and a pie from Aldi. Please use the envelopes provided in the church vestibule, or purchase an Aldi gift card and drop it by the office or in the collection plate. Contact Mary Solomon or Kelly Collins with questions.

Catholic Campaign for Human Development Please be generous in this week's special collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. In the United States, over 11% of the population lives in poverty. Through this collection, you support programs that address the root causes of poverty and provide a sustainable future for those struggling across the country. In addition, 25% of the funds we collect remain in our diocese to fund local anti-poverty projects. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this collection and those working on the margins. More information about the Catholic Campaign for Human Development can be found at www.usccb.org/cchd. *Please use the envelopes provided, or write CCHD in the memo line of your check. Thank you!*



You are cordially invited!

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2025

6:30 PM | THE CHRISTY

5856 Christy Boulevard, St. Louis, MO 63116

COCKTAILS 6:30 pm

DINNER & PROGRAM 7:30 pm

DANCING 8:30 -10:30 pm | DJ O

TICKETS \$100/person | \$800/table of 8

ATTIRE Semi-Formal

PARKING Complimentary Parking in The Christy Parking Lot

To order tickets online or view sponsorship information, please visit midtownstl.org/holiday-gala

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.