

Pastoral Reflection

34th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Christ the Healer

November 26, 2023

*Ez 34:11-12, 15-17 * Ps 23:1-3,5-6 *
1Cor 15:20-26, 28 * Mt 25:31-46*

The formal church title of today's feast is The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, or Christ the King, No wonder the community of St. Cronan opted to reference this beautiful feast as one of healing many decades ago. The Scriptures are filled with the promises and images of the good shepherd.

The history of the Christ the King Feast was established in 1925 by Pope Pius XI in his encyclical "In the First". It was in response to what he saw as a growing secularism and atheism. The solemnity is to remind us that while governments come and go, Christ reigns forever. Pope Pius XI went on to write "Jesus Christ is very truth, and it is from him that truth must be obediently received from all humankind." There is a lot to explore here if we put it in an historical context which I will not do here.

It seems to me very appropriate to explore these Scriptures in the context of our cultural and political world in 2023. How we long for the image of a benevolent ruler/shepherd in our daily lives. How we look for those places and people where loving presence and healing touch can encourage and nurture us no matter where we are or what we are experiencing. On a very personal note I was recently quite ill and almost unable to care for

myself. As the word got out the response of folks in my life to care for me was rich and adequate. The sense that there were shepherds in my life was real and helped me stay peaceful knowing that I was cared for. One of the unexpected gifts came from a cousin who lit a candle at St. Philippine's Shrine for my intentions.

All those people who reached out whether in prayer or active intervention were performing works of mercy, the key to touching one another's lives with healing love. The black and white separation of the goats and sheep is simply a reminder that we get to make choices every day. Pope Francis says it beautifully: "Life, we come to see, is a time for making robust, decisive, eternal choices. Trivial choices lead to a trivial life: great choices to a life of greatness. Indeed, we become what we choose, for better or worse."

—Kathy Stock

Parish Center Offices

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

Pastoral Administrator: Fr. Jack Schuler
jschuler@stcronan.org

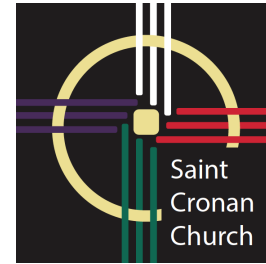
Pastoral Associate: Diane Gozdziński
diane@stcronan.org

Church Administrator: Mary Ward
mary@stcronan.org

Music Director: David Dickey
dsdickery@earthlink.net

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

Bulletin Deadline: WED 12 noon



St. Cronan Catholic Church

34th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Christ the Healer

November 26, 2023

Mass Information

SUNDAY – 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

SATURDAY VIGIL – 5:00 pm.

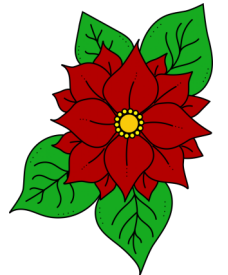
Wednesdays – 8:00 am.

Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment.



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

POINSETTIA SALE! It's that time of year again for the annual Poinsettia Sale Fund-raiser. Poinsettia Sales have begun and will run through Monday, Nov. 27. No orders can be taken after that date. Pick up is in the coffee and donuts room on Saturday, Dec. 2 after the 5pm Mass and Sunday, Dec. 3 after the Masses until noon. Beautify your home for the Christmas season and support St. Cronan! Available sizes, prices and colors: Red, Pink or White: 6" (\$22), Red, Pink or White 8" (\$30) and Red 10" (\$40) Purchase on line by following this link: https://bit.ly/St_Cronan



Don't need a poinsettia for your home? Call the church office to find out how you can donate a poinsettia to beautify the sanctuary this Christmas!

If you have any trouble, please call the office and Mary can help you place your orders. If you are not computer savvy, an order form will be available in the back of church, or we can mail or email one to you.



Prayers Trish Curtis' brother; 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 brother Jon, Sr. Cathy's friend Don Costello, Judy Gallagher; Mary Truetkin; Marie and Roland Martir's daughter, Carrie, and granddaughter, Madi; John Gozdzi-alski; 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; Roger Bailey, friend of Dom and Marcy Soda; Philip Anala; Bonnie Wimmer; 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; 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; Dede Coughlin; Fr. George; Madonna Kuciejczyk-Kernan; Kathy Stock, and Shelly Kurtz' twin brother, Michael Kurtz.

If your loved one should be removed from the prayer list, please let the church office know.

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. PLEASE NOTE THE TIME CHANGE The next vigil will take place on Friday, December 15. Please join us!



Postcards to our senators and representatives: The Social Justice Committee provided postcards last Sunday to protest the violence in the Middle East. There is still time to participate. There will be a basket in the back of church for the next few weeks. Everything you need will be there....stamps, address labels, postcards...all you need to do is sign and send.

Please help out with this important campaign.

Catholic Campaign for Human Development: If you missed last week's special collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, it's not too late to give. Make your check out to St. Cronan and notate CCHD on the subject line, drop in the collection basket or send to the church office.

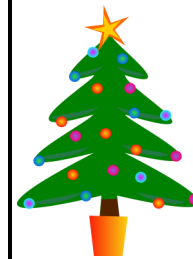
Parish Ministries: If you would like to add your talents to any of our ministries, and meet a great bunch of people, please call the church office or visit our website www.stcronan.org for information. *You are always welcome!*

Cronan Shirts are IN!!!



If you ordered a Cronan shirt to be **delivered to church**, the shipment is in. Please pick up your shirt from the back of church today.

Sponsor a Family through St. Vincent DePaul: Would you like to share the holiday spirit with our neighbors in need? Sponsorship entails providing gifts and/or gift cards for a family in need. You can choose the approximate size of the family and one will be assigned to you. Once you have the name and number, you can contact the family to determine needs/wishes and purchase accordingly. Then you can make arrangements to meet a family member to give them the gifts. If you or a group of you are interested in sponsoring a family in need this Christmas, please contact Shelly Kurtz: (314) 520-6108 or shellykurtz52@gmail.com



St. Cronan St. Vincent de Paul: The Giving Tree will be up during Advent for your generous contributions, or you can give via the St. Cronan web-site www.stcronan.org

SVdP will no longer be receiving financial support from the St. Louis SVdP Council, so the need is greater than ever.



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2023

6 PM | THE CHRISTY

5856 Christy Boulevard, St. Louis, MO 63116

COCKTAILS 6 pm

DINNER & PROGRAM 7 pm

MUSIC 8 -10 pm | FReSH RAiN

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