

First Sunday of Advent Dec. 1, 2024

“God our justice.”

This season of Advent may challenge us more than previous ones. We probably find a gap between what is and what we wish were happening in our country and world. We may have felt desolation and fear over the past month and deep concern about the future for ourselves and our children.

Jeremiah and his community were facing a very frightening time. They had been conquered by Babylon, losing their Temple and their land. They were scrunched between Assyria and Egypt who threatened to further destroy them. Where was God and the promises God had made to them? Jeremiah responds with an Advent hope, a trust that God will be with them in the days that are coming. It wasn't a facile hope, an easy hope. It is the kind of hope we are called to live in Advent, a hope that goes all the way down to our toes. It is the kind of hope that births deep joy and that nurtures life.

We are being called to wait, to settle into the night, to embrace the dark depths where life is stirring. This is the creative time, the time of transition, the time of standing expectantly on the threshold waiting and wondering what comes next. How will we respond to the urgings, the conflicts, our own fears of the unknown that well up before us?

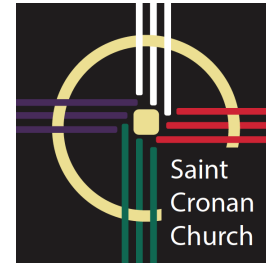
We are being called this Advent to find joy

and hope in the waiting and uncertainty. Each week we will focus on a particular aspect. Week 1: living in the night, the time of anxious creative longings. Week 2: repenting, interpreted from the Hebrew word as turning back to something or someone from whom we have strayed or looked away, our turning back to God. Week 3: rejoicing in the waiting (more or less patiently!) and the promise of the light that will abide among us. Week 4: upending the established order (the Magnificat) and raising up those who are marginalized. The fullness of Advent – God comes into the world as a helpless baby calling us to care for him by caring for our sisters and brothers who need us now. At St. Cronan Church we walk our advent journey through a rich tradition of colors. Look around. We begin in deep, dark blue. The time is night, the creative time, the source of life and hope and joy. Slowly the night begins to fade into a lighter blue as we move towards the dawn. The third week we rejoice in the pinks of dawn that flow into the light of the day with its blue sky. Christmas is the birth of the Light of the World. We are called now to be light-bearers to the world. This is our time, and this is our place to shine. God our justice is with us, abides with us, and shows us the way to be Christ now.

In hope and joy each day we pray, “The steadfast love of our God never ceases. God’s mercies are made new every morning. So great is God’s faithfulness.” (Lamentations 3:22-23)

Breath of Heaven (Mary’s Song) https://youtu.be/L8_475FKJWQ

—Sr. Lynne Schmidt, SSND



St. Cronan Catholic Church 1st Sunday of Advent December 1, 2024

Mass Information

SUNDAY – 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

SATURDAY VIGIL – 5:00 pm.

Wednesdays – 8:00 am.

Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment.



Last Chance!!!!!! Poinsettia Fund Raiser! Today is the last day to order your poinsettias for the holidays. Or you can order online until noon on Dec. 2 (Tomorrow) by using this link to our website.

<https://stcronan.org/news-events/announcements>

Delivery will take place after all the masses on Dec. 8. See the flyer in back of church for more details. All proceeds benefit the programs of St. Cronan. Don't need any poinsettias for your home? No wor-

ries...you can purchase a flower for church. Just notate that on your order sheet. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year. Thanks so much for your support!

Reverse Advent Calendar: The Food Pantry is sponsoring a “Reverse Advent Calendar” collecting a food item for each day of Advent. Lists can be found in the vestibule of church. Drop off your items to the church office any day between 9am-3pm. Contact the church office or Mary Solomon with any questions.

Advent Reflection Book: The 2024 Advent Reflection booklet is available online by visiting the St. Cronan website. <https://stcronan.org/news-events/announcements>

There will be a limited supply of paper copies in the church vestibule for those who do not have access to a computer. Copies of the booklet can also be emailed to you by requesting one. Email Mary mary@stcronan.org

Each reflection is written by a fellow St. Cronan Community member.





Prayers Please: John Gozdziński; Tom and Madonna Kuciejczyk-Kernan; Joseph Kuciejczyk (brother of Madonna and Sr. Janet); Nick and Shirley Ambrose; Kathy Hunn's niece Lisa and her brother Jon; Mary Truetken; Pam (cousin of Donna Zuroweste); Laura Krueger's mother, Evelyn Puleo; Marie and Roland Martir's grandson, Camden and daughter, Carrie; Sr. Pauline's niece, Laura Rettke; Bob Barnicle; Sandra Ward's family and her friend Anita; Sr. Mary Ellen (friend of Nick Ambrose); Jim Chapin (friend of Marty Spies); Pam Schaefer; Joe and Janice Fairless; Eileen Heidenheimer's friends, Joe and Laura; Brian Klinkhardt and his mother, Susan Klinkhardt, friends of Judith Santamaria; Andrew Moll's brother, Michael; Saralou Hendrickson; Mary Solomon's friend, Jesse Koenig; former parishioner Sr. Louise Lears and her family; Shelly Kurtz's Great-Great Nephew, Louis Barricklow; Fr. Gerry's little buddy, Ben Zevely; Colleen Wallace's cousin, Katy Rosolowski; Sheryl Renken's brother, Dan Engelman; Mary Solomon; Dan Stout; Trish Curtis' brother, Skip Curtis; Kathleen Absts' grandson, Matthew Peters; Fr. Jack; Gavin Barret-Hayes; Marcy Soda

Immigrant and Refugee Ministry. St. Cronan is part of the coalition of parishes working on this initiative. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact IRM Coordinator Kevin Kuehl, 772-1525, ext 204, MigrantMinistrySTL@gmail.com, or visit our office at St. Pius V Rectory. Envelopes are in the back of church if you care to make a donation. Make checks payable to St. Pius V. The IRM has a newsletter that can be accessed here: <https://mailchi.mp/284456337e7a/celebrating-6-months-of-irm>

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, November 22. Please join us!

Help Wanted!

Musician needed: Are you interested in leading in song a small but dedicated group of Mass participants? Our Musician for 5:00 Mass, Red Dorsey, is looking to move on to spend more time with his grandkids, so we would like to find someone with musical experience who might want to bring music to the dedicated 5:00 Mass participants. This is a volunteer position, so you may want to consider it as an opportunity to gain experience.

Sunday Sexton Needed: St. Cronan is looking for a Sunday Sexton to work 2 hours every Sunday morning to help with clean up and various other duties. Please contact Mary in the church office for a job description and requirements.



Advent Lessons and Carols: The Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet invite you to join us for a guided meditation and a reflective journey as we prepare ourselves for the birth of our Lord. Sunday, Dec. 8 at 2 p.m. CT Carondelet Motherhouse (6400 Minnesota Ave., St. Louis, MO 63111) The event is free. Learn more and register online by Nov. 24 at csj.org/events

Surrounding our community with love: When one member of the Body suffers, we all suffer. With the events occurring this week and the perceived repercussions, the St. Cronan Community would like to be pro-active in understanding and addressing the pain and fear that is prevalent right now in our community and in our country. As a result, we are gathering people to discuss the actions we might take as a community to ease some of the fear addressing the issues that have come forward this week, especially the threat to Creation and climate change, the dangers implicated for migrants, and the inherent trauma that will be suffered by our LBGTQIA+ siblings and their families. If you are interested in addressing these issues please sign up on the sheets in the church vestibule.

Blessing Bags: In a crate in the vestibule are blessing bags given to us by Breakthru Bev, thanks to Mike Ward (Mary's husband). Please feel free to take some, put them in your car, and distribute to the homeless you meet throughout your day.

Year end contributions: If you are planning to make a year end contribution for 2024, your donation must reach the church office prior to January 1, 2025 in order to be included on your 2024 year end statement. Year end statements will be mailed out mid-January.



**Christmas Eve:
Carols at 8:30pm,
Mass at 9pm
Christmas Day:
8am & 10am**

Parish Center Offices
Mon-Fri 9am-3pm
Phone: (314) 289-9384
1202 S. Boyle, St. Louis, MO 63110

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

Pastoral Associate: Diane Gozdziński
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Church Administrator: Mary Ward
mary@stcronan.org

Music Director: David Dickey
dsdickey@earthlink.net

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

