

which for us in this community, is the anti-gospel.

Project 2025, the new roadmap, sounds beautiful to the ears. It's four mandates:

- restoring the family as the centerpiece of American life
- dismantling the administrative state
- defending the nation's sovereignty and borders
- securing God-given individual rights to live freely.

But if they sound so good, what can be the wrong with these? Let's unpack:

- In fact, "**restoration of the family**" implies exclusively heterosexual parents accompanied by children (with no artificial barriers to reproduction such as abortion and birth control). There is no place for LGBTQ persons in this "restoration." Trump has promised to escalate the removal of anti-discrimination policies, including those on employment, housing, education and health care. "Pro-life" is limited to imply anti-abortion policy, period. Forget banning the death penalty, caring for fragile life after birth, family separation policies or supporting single parents in the most difficult of situations.
- **Dismantling the administrative state**, aka "the deep state," mandates "efficiency" i.e., a consolidation of executive power so that there will be no Department of Justice to hold the executive branch accountable. All federal employees will be required to be unbending loyalists to this office, or lose their jobs.
- **Defending the nation's borders** of course implies Project 2025's stated goal of "arresting, detaining, and removing immigration violators anywhere in the United States". Even those per-

sons who weren't convicted and are documented as awaiting asylum trials.

- **God-given rights will be secured** by a brand of Christianity (white, Eurocentric, nationalistic). *The Washington Post* described the plan as "infusing Christian nationalism into every facet of government policy." *What happens to the separation of Church and State?*

Project 2025 may well be the *anti-gospel message completely contrasted with today's gospel of the Beatitudes*:

"Blessed are you who are poor for the kingdom of God is yours.
Blessed are you who are now hungry, for you will be satisfied.
Blessed are you who are now weeping for you will laugh.
Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude and insult you and denounce your name as evil on account of the Son of Man.
Rejoice and leap for joy on that day! Behold, your reward will be great in heaven."

As Paul says to the Corinthians:

"If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are the most pitiable people of all. But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep."

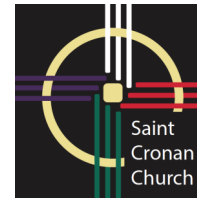
In other words, in the big picture, we must believe in and live the Beatitudes and not worry so much about the rest. It's not "for this life only" to hope. We just need to do our best and leave the rest to God.

—Cathy Hartrich

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.



St. Cronan Catholic Church
February 16, 2025
Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time



Mass Information

SUNDAY – 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

SATURDAY VIGIL – 5:00 pm.

Wednesdays – 8:00 am.

Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment.

Bulletin Deadline: Noon Tuesday

Immigrant Accompaniment Program

The Immigrant & Refugee Ministry will be taking on a new immigrant accompaniment program, an initiative which provides a way to walk with our immigrant sisters and brothers and show support as they go through their immigration process.

To deepen your commitment to IRM efforts, contact IRM coordinator, Kevin Kuehl at 314) 772-1525 ext 204 or www.stpiusv.org/migrant_ministry, or contact Trish Curtis, your rep on the IRM Board.

Please contact the church office if you would like some "Know Your Rights" cards.

See pg. 5 for more info on how you can help.

Emergency food deliveries to Immigrants afraid to leave home: We would like to organize food deliveries this weekend to our siblings who can't get out to shop. If you are interested in helping, please contact Trish Curtis: trishquita1952@gmail.com



Social Justice Book Club Updates: We moved "Stamped From the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America" to April 13th because of the long but important read (515 pages). For the March 9th book club reading, please read "On Tyranny" by Timothy Snyder (128 pages). We invite you to join us or simply read our monthly book club choices.

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, February 21. Please join us!



Prayers Please: Fr. Jack ; Nick and Shirley Ambrose and Family; Elisabeth Byrne’s mom, Denise Siebold; Joe Connolly; Yvonne Hart’s daughter, Cathy Hebert; Nancy Buck’s Daughter, Jeanne Oberle; Trish Curtis’ siblings, Skip, Teree, and Ray; Warren Wimmer.

Caroline Leibman, Spiritual Enrichment through Movement: Caroline offers instruction in Spiritual Movement on Tuesday afternoons, Feb. 11th and 25th and then March 11th and 25th at 12pm, 1pm, 2pm and 3pm. To register for a session, please use this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084BAFAF23A0F49-52556820-spiritual> Instructions to sign up: Click “sign up” at the bottom of the list of slots, click “save and continue” (this might be under the “cookies” notice. You will need to close that to see it). On “Sign me up” page, enter your name and email if it is not displayed. Click “sign up now.” Click “back to sign up – your name should appear in your selected slot. Questions? Contact Caroline at carolineleiberman@gmail.com or Diane at diane@stcronan.org

Jubilee Year of Hope: As we begin the new year, let us open our doors to the hope of a better future. Let us resolve to work collectively to welcome our migrant neighbors and LBGTOIA+ siblings. In the vestibule, you will notice the door marked with the Papal Seal, the Holy Family as migrants and refugees, and the “Welcome All” logo. Let us face 2025 with a firm commitment to follow Pope Francis’ declaration.



Blessing Bags: There are still a few Blessing Bags in a crate in the vestibule, 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.



Turtles: The Turtles is a Women’s Book Club that has been meeting for almost 25 years. We meet the third Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Yvonne DeHart. We love to have more women join us, especially when we start a new book. Our next book will be “Small Great Things” by Jodi Picoult. We will meet on February 17. We will discuss the book up to where anyone finished reading. We usually only read a part of a book at a time, but with a novel, we are more flexible. Also, there will be wine and snacks! For information or questions, email Diane at diane@stcronan.org

Catholic Worker Events: Weekly vigil and sign holding at Boeing in St. Charles (Unless it's raining or snowing-- meet at Hardees on Tuesdays at 6:45am: 2701 MO-94 St. Charles MO 63301)



- Last Sunday of the month potluck. All are welcome to come and bring their own dish or beverage to share.
- Burrito Volunteers needed Tuesday evenings at 4:30pm & Saturday Mornings at 10am-12pm. We make burritos to distribute to unhoused encampments around the city.
- Feel free to text or call Lindsey with any questions: 702-769-3937. All Events at 8617 Mora Ln St. Louis MO 63147 (unless otherwise specified).

Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time February 16, 2025 Reflection

As Trish C. announced a few weeks ago, “We are living in a different country this week than last” and as Fr. Jack preached about the tragic execution of the plans of the new administration. It's become clearer with each passing day that we are living in a time and place in which many are beguiled to conform to an alternative vision in the United States of America, than has never previously been envisioned. A new “gospel”.

What just happened?! Why has the tide changed in this country so abruptly, with the majority of people, good people, supporting a leader who seems to lead with whiplash impulsiveness, using power to dominate and impact, particularly those living on the margins? We’re witnessing a tremendous show of force that leaves the rest of us reeling.

The majority of the good people (and I fully believe most of them are good, though perhaps naive), are those who wanted change in the hope of a better life. They yearned for Good News that they thought was not coming with the last administration. They listened to hopeful words their MAGA champion promised them. *A new age is coming, an age of greatness in America. They trusted fully, in Jeremiah’s words today, “In a human being who seeks his strength in flesh.” This strength and vision became their gospel, Continued on page 4....*

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dsdickey@earthlink.net

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

Sunday Sexton: Open Position



COMPASSIONATE
SAINT LOUIS