

# This is Your 2026 Church Council



**Johnny Zokovitch (he/him)**

**Community Life Coordinator - ex officio**

**[johnny@stcronan.org](mailto:johnny@stcronan.org)**

Johnny is the Community Life Coordinator at St. Cronan Catholic Church. Johnny previously served as the Executive Director of Pax Christi USA, the national Catholic peace and justice movement, from 2019-2024. Prior to serving as ED of Pax Christi USA, he worked in Brussels with Pax Christi International as the Senior Communications Officer. For nearly 15 years, Johnny lived at and co-directed the Gainesville (FL) Catholic Worker House. He holds an MA in Theology with a concentration in biblical studies from the University of Notre Dame. He has written for *National Catholic Reporter*, *US Catholic*, *Belief.net* and *The Encyclopedia of Race and Racism*. His articles are published at <https://johnnyzokovitch.substack.com/>. Johnny is married to Heather Navarro and they have four children.

**Father Jack Schuler (he/him/his)**

**Retired Priest.in Residence - ex officio**

**[jschuler@stcronan.org](mailto:jschuler@stcronan.org)**

As a Deacon I was a chaplain at Barnes Hospital and Children's Hospital. I also was attached to the Wash U Medical Campus Newman Center. My first priestly assignment was Sacred Heart Parish in Florissant. Then the Archdiocese asked me to become a teacher, so I moved to Our Lady of Providence Parish, and I joined the faculty at Bishop DuBourg HS. From there I was asked to move to St. Pius HS in Festus and serve at Our Lady's Parish. My assignments kept me heading south so I took the big plunge and asked Archbishop May if I could take a leave to join the Missionaries of Africa and serve in Zambia. After spending 6 months in Chicago attending Catholic Theological Union, I moved to Isoka, Zambia to teach in Secondary School. Before landing in Isoka, I spent 6 months in language school where I learned Bemba. When I returned home, I was stationed briefly at St. Aloysius Parish in Spanish Lake before becoming Pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish. Following 16 years at OLG I became Pastor of St. Ferdinand Parish in Florissant, the parish of my baptism. I was the pastor of a parish that had a saint i.e. Philippine Duchesne. While at St. Ferdinand I took a mini-sabbatical to live in the Middle East (Qatar). Then to my surprise I was asked to become the Director of Mission Integration for Catholic Charities and to move to Incarnate Word Parish in Chesterfield. I was assigned here at St. Conan's Church in July of 2017. I retired January 1, 2025.

**Diane Gozdziwski (she, her, hers)**

**Pastoral Associate - ex officio**

**diane@stcronan.org**

I have been the Pastoral Associate at St. Cronan since 2019, and as an ex officio member of Church Council, I serve to provide the Church Council any assistance required. I have been in the parish for 25 years, and have served on the Council in the past. Like many others, I came to St. Cronan when looking for a church that reflected my social justice values, welcoming all of God's children and living out the Social Justice Tenets of the Church as Christ demonstrates. I am married to John, have a daughter, Cassie, and 3 wonderful granddaughters. I love serving the St. Cronan Community.

**Mary Ward (she, her, hers)**

**Church Administrator – ex officio**

**mary@stcronan.org**

I have been Church Administrator at St Cronan since July 2020. I have also worked as Administrator at First Unitarian Church, and Facilities Manager at St Justin Martyr. I am an ex officio member of St Cronan Parish Council and Finance Committee...Wife, Mom of five, proud Grandma of six and Great Grandma of one. Proud female owner of Ward on Wine, a wine and spirits resource, education and consulting company. I have been a member of St. Justin Martyr Catholic Church since 1988, where I am a cantor and part of the choir. While my children were in school at SJM, I was very involved in School Board, Parish

Council, HSO, Liturgy, scouts and School Board among other ministries.

**Margaret R. Govero (she/her/hers)**

**Council Chair**

**mgovero918@yahoo.com**

I became a member of St. Cronan in 2023. I am a life-long Catholic and grew up in central Missouri. I have moved around a lot in my adulthood including Latrobe, Pennsylvania; Youngstown, Ohio; Kansas City, Missouri; Los Angeles, California; Chicago, Illinois; and now (very proudly) the CWE neighborhood in St. Louis. I have been teaching since 2004 and am currently teaching in the Hazelwood School District. For 12 of those years, I taught religion in Catholic high schools.

Moving to St. Louis was a difficult decision and leaving Catholic schools was an even more difficult decision. I arrived in St. Louis in July 2019. Over the next few years, I struggled to find a faith family that matched my openness to liberation theology, the desire to live “love in action” through social justice, and a worship community that experienced joy in the presence of each other. Finally, I was in the right place at just the right time (thank you providence) and heard that a Parish with all the qualities that I was looking for was closer than I realized. I came and fell in love the first Sunday that I attended. Shortly after, I chose to become a member of St. Cronan and volunteer again to serve in a multitude of capacities and get involved

with many of the ministries offered. I truly feel that God has called me here and am grateful that God has.

In addition, I am a member and representative of my teacher's union. I have become passionate about running and my health. I am enjoying the arts in St. Louis.

**Daniel Diemer (he/him)**

**Council Vice-Chair (2<sup>nd</sup> Year; Three Years on Council)**

**dediemer@msn.com**

Daniel Diemer has practiced law in St. Louis for over thirty years; Dan is married to Amy (formerly Director of Catholic Assistance Ministries, now retired) and we have two grown boys, the oldest is recently married (Andrew married to Julie; plus a new grandson, Liam and name's sake of my other son, his brother 'Will'iam). I grew up in St. Louis and attended high school here; various college institutions and ultimately leading to St. Louis University where I graduated with a BA and JD. We are formerly members of St. Gerard and St. Peter. I was drawn to St. Cronan because of Fr. Jack with whom my wife worked. We feel very comfortable and welcome (included) at St. Cronan; over the past several years we occasionally bring my mom.

**Faye Branum (she/her)**

**faye.branum@gmail.com**

I am relatively new to St. Cronan's and started attending in August of 2024 after hearing about St. Cronan at Tower Grove Pride and was overjoyed to find such a welcoming

and open community. I walked into the church for the first time and immediately signed up for OCIA after meeting Diane and Sister Cathy. I officially joined the Catholic church and St. Cronan's on Easter of 2025, and I am new to the church council as of January 2026. As a member of the LGBTQIA+ community who cares deeply about inclusivity and representation, I look forward to serving on the council and hope to contribute to preserving and fostering St. Cronan's progressive values and exploring what it means to express and embody being Christ-like in the modern world and spreading God's radical love for us. I have a lot to learn but also hope to provide a fresh voice.

I have a diverse faith background and grew up in both the Baptist and Assemblies of God denominations. I was involved in missionary work (Nepal, Hungary, Namibia) as a teenager with the now extinct organization, Teen Mania Ministries. I am returning to the church after a long hiatus and felt drawn to Catholicism and renewing my spiritual connection and practice. This journey with the Catholic Church and St. Cronan has revived my faith in unique and unexpected ways. I was honored to get the opportunity to complete the Holy Door pilgrimage for the 2025 Jubilee in Rome in June of 2025 with my partner, Maria, and was able to attend the weekly audience with Pope Leo.

I've owned a home in St. Louis since 2013 but have lived in other places for work as a physician associate in psychiatry. I currently work from home full time in

telepsychiatry and see all my patients remotely. I am originally from the Bay Area in Northern California, but my time in the Army brought me to Missouri. I played rugby for ten years including playing for the St. Louis Sabres Rugby Club, but I am currently retired. I also enjoy writing and recently completed my MFA in poetry at Cedar Crest College in the summer of 2025. Hiking and golf are other interests of mine.

Although I live and work in St. Louis, my partner, Maria, is a farmer in Carrolton, IL and I share my time between STL and helping to raise Maria's foster son, Garret.

**Todd Dean (He, Him)**

**[jtdean390@gmail.com](mailto:jtdean390@gmail.com)**

I have been a Catholic for most of my adult life, but was born into a Calvinist denomination, in Texas, from which my parents stepped away when I was still in grade school, ultimately becoming Episcopalians: this was a formative experience for me. I became interested in Catholicism in college, after reading St. Augustine in a Latin class: I was struck by the fact that you could actually think about religion, not just believe it or not.

Jackie Grosklos and I have been married 36 years, and have 5 children. For some time now, I have been a member of the Democratic Socialists of America – I became a member of the Christ the King Social Justice Committee as a result of this – and it was as a part of my

social values that I first came to St. Cronan's. I hope to continue, now more than ever, to make my social values a significant part of my work in the Church.

**Mary Vatterott Hastings, MD**

**maryvhastings@gmail.com**

My name is Mary (Esther) Vatterott Hastings. We have been members of St. Cronan's for the last 10 years but attended church here during the 1990s as well. I grew up in Creve Coeur, the youngest nine with a large extended family. We were taught to value service, which continued at my high school Visitation Academy. I went to medical school in Kansas City and met my husband Tom, a KC native. We raised 4 children who are now adults living across the country and involved in their own communities. Our grandson lives in Denver so we will be visiting when we can.

My 40 year career as a family physician included working in an urban KC setting, a rural Missouri clinic, and teaching residents at St. John's Mercy. I spent 10 years in college health at both Wash U and SLU. The last 8 years of my career I worked as the physician provider at the St. Louis County Jail where I was introduced to the many inequities in caring for the incarcerated.

Since 2019 I have done volunteer medical care for the uninsured at a variety of clinics including the Archdiocesan Mobile Rural Parish Clinic (RPC), the Volunteers in

Medicine Clinic (VIM), and the Institute for Family Medicine (iFM). I enjoy the opportunity to take care of patients in need of health care and be involved in advocacy for their issues. I serve on boards in advocacy for mental health (NAMI) and gun violence prevention (GVPTF). St. Cronan's provides me opportunities to feed me spiritually while learning about the marginalized. I am grateful to this community and to the archdiocese for the chance to learn and live out the corporal works of mercy in such loving company.

**Roland Martir (he/him/his)**  
**mgmrpm@aol.com**

I am a non-Saint Louis native, born in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, New York, later moved to Nassau County, in Long Island, New York. Attended a Jr College, Academy of Aeronautics, in Queens, New York. Graduated with an Associate Degree from NYU in Aircraft Maintenance Engineering. Upon graduation, was recruited by McDonnell Aircraft, moved to Saint Louis in 1968. As my duties changed at McDonnell Aircraft, McDonnell Management paid for my education as I got my Bachelor's degree. I graduated from Saint Louis University evening school with a Bachelor's degree in Liberal Studies, majoring in Organizational Management, with an added Certificate in Logistics Management (Commercial and Military) from Parks College. Retired from McDonnell Douglas/Boeing, Aug, 2009.

My wife, Marie, and I have been married 35 years. Marie was already attending Saint Cronan Church when we started dating. Marie and I were married at Saint Cronan by Fr. Jim Krings. After attending one mass I felt most comfortable at Saint Cronan. Both Marie and I have been attending Saint Cronan ever since. I have been President of one Parish Council term and most recently, the past two years, I have been one of two Chair Persons for the Annual Catholic Appeal. Both Marie and I are CSJ Associates.

Outside of the church, I have been a weekend wedding photographer for two studios, photographed over 400 weddings/social events of several different religious beliefs. I have provided photo coverage for several Saint Cronan and Mid-Town events. Marie and I enjoy gardening. Both of us photograph our flowers and Marie makes great photo greeting cards using our pictures. I was Vice President of the Saint Louis Council of Foreign Relations. Currently I am Vice President of the Civilian Police Academy Alumni Association (CPAAA). We work with the North Saint Louis County Police, District 1. I am also an NRA certified Range Safety Officer (RSO), qualified for 300-meter target shooting and I also do close quarter target shooting.

**Pete Musso**

**[petemusso@gmail.com](mailto:petemusso@gmail.com)**

My name is Pete Musso. My family and I have been involved in this church since 2015. We live in Webster

Groves and were seeking a church where we could worship in community and grow in faith – a place where we would encounter the person of Christ, whereby we are continuously reminded that we are loved unconditionally by God. We have found our place. At St. Cronan, we see God in All Things. And I'm serving on the Council, out of gratitude for our experiences here.

I currently serve on the administrative team at De Smet Jesuit High School, and I teach one section of English – which keeps me sane and happy. I have been involved with Jesuit secondary education work since 1995: at De Smet Jesuit, at the Jesuit Schools Network (Washington, DC), and for UCS Jesuits (St. Louis, MO). As a family, we enjoy lake-living in the summer, water and snow skiing, hiking, and mountain biking. I enjoy walks with our lab, reading, and writing (bad) poetry. I also like planting stuff in our yard.

**Sarah J. Reilly (she/her)**

**[sjean.2017@gmail.com](mailto:sjean.2017@gmail.com)**

Sarah has been a member of St. Cronan Catholic Church since 2023. Prior to moving to St. Louis in 2022, she served with the Jesuit Volunteer Corps Northwest in Seattle, WA ('21-'22). She also spent several Summers living in community at Bethlehem Farm in Alderson, WV. She holds B.A.s in English and creative writing from Coe College. Sarah is in her first year on the council, and she is a co-coordinator of the young adult and LGBTQ+ ministries. She

is drawn to Jesus's radical message of love in the Gospels. Sarah works as the Membership Director at the South City Family YMCA. She is also a certified personal trainer, a published poet and a lover of the discount bakery shelf at the grocery store.

**Sarah Holtz Stout (she/her)**

**shstout@gmail.com**

My husband (Dan Stout) and I have been attending St. Cronan together since 2006, with Dan attending for a number of years before then. It has been our faith home and a place where we always feel welcomed. I grew up in Waukesha, WI, and with a youth minister for a mom, I spent a lot of time at church – stuffing envelopes, coloring in the back of meetings, going on service trips and ski trips, attending teenage lock-ins, preparing for sacraments, etc. Throughout elementary, middle, and high school, one of my pivotal experiences was attending International Youth Peace Camp each summer, where we were taught about different cultures, non-violent living, conflict resolution skills, meditation, and more.

I am a licensed clinical social worker, and I spent many years working with the families of people with Alzheimer's disease, as well as in hospice. For over a decade now, I have worked at Washington University doing Alzheimer's research, as well as more recently Alzheimer's and Down syndrome research. I love guiding our lab staff and students, keeping things organized, having opportunities

to continuously learn and contribute, and getting to travel to meet with our collaborators all over the world.

Dan and I have been married since 2008 and have two children – Jessie (14) and Anna (11). We live in the Shaw neighborhood and try to balance our family life and community life. We enjoy family gatherings with Dan's family here in St. Louis and trips to WI to see my family, as well as trips to my family's much-loved cottage in northern Michigan. When I have time, I love to read, knit, do puzzles, and bake. This is my first year on parish council, and I know that I am overdue. I'm happy to take my turn helping to guide our community along its journey.

**Donna Zuroweste**

**[dzuroweste@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dzuroweste@sbcglobal.net)**

I am a cradle catholic, sadly from the Catechism memorization era, but dramatically expanded, both as a mystic, and through my MDiv. program. I do not remember when I came to St. Cronan but I do know that I registered in week 2, because I knew "I was home" during our Pauline 5pm Mass. What brought me here was an Aquinas prof recommending that I would be more at home here than in a geographically requisite, soccer mom, suburban parish. St. Cronan's charism, as with the universal Church, is using our individual charisms (gifts) to build up the Mystical Body of Christ, aka the Church.

I offer my gifts to the Council, as part of the Church, as follows:

- a Corporate Purchasing agent, skilled in obtaining and analyzing 3 or more competitive bids;
- a WashU MBA, skilled in strategic planning and integrating collaborative and consensus driven management teams, as an International Marketing Director for a multinational corporation, as well as corporate presentations;
- an ISO2000 writer & editor of processes and procedures adopted by our corporate parent for global use;
- a recruiter, trainer, educator and formator of 125+ EMOHCs' weekly ministry at St. Gerard Majella parish;
- a semi-professional photographer, who utilizes photo images for theological reflection and guided meditation;
- the first elected alderperson in the State of Missouri, knowledgeable in listening to and collaborating with constituents, and in public speaking;
- a formally educated preacher, out of the graduate homiletics program of the Order of Preachers, which includes decades of being a lector;
- a Board-Certified Chaplain, trained in bedside diaconal ministry for ALL persons, a writer of Spiritual Care departmental brochures, and a composer/presider of rituals and blessings, bedside and corporate, living and wake/graveside, as well as Communion services.

In general, lots of gifts, available for service to St. Cronan. FWIW, also VP of our St. Vincent de Paul Society; not that titles mean much to me, they needed a VP, I volunteered...



*If you would like to contact a Church Council member, please use the emails provided. If you would like a phone call, please call the church office at 314-289-9384 and we will happily put you in touch.*

*Church Council meets the first Wednesday of each month, February-December. January is reserved for a council retreat. If you have an item you wish to appear on the agenda or wish to attend a meeting, please contact the Church Council chair.*