

Fifth Sunday of Lent
March 22, 2026

“Our friend Lazarus is asleep, but I am going to awaken him.”

The story of the raising of Lazarus is one of the most riveting in all of scripture. John gives us cues to the imminent danger of the action that Jesus is about to take, an action that will steel the resolve of the authorities to execute him.

Upon learning of the illness of his friend, Jesus has a decision to make. Lazarus, Mary and Martha reside in Bethany, close to Jerusalem—the seat of power for those who sought Jesus’ death. The disciples are incredulous at the thought of going back to Judea, remembering that Jesus just recently escaped being stoned there. Seeing his determination to return, Thomas comments that they “go to die with him.”

Martha comes to Jesus in secret, away from the Judeans—Jesus’ opponents—who are present at her house. Lazarus is four days dead, yet he tells her, “I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if they die, will live; and everyone who lives and believes in me, will never die.” He asks if she believes this, but her answer is empty of conviction, evading Jesus’ question, mechanically listing off titles attributed to him.

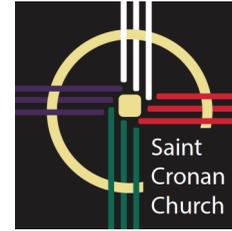
At the tomb, surrounded by faithless disciples and the opponents who are plotting his death, Jesus commands them to “roll away the stone.” He shouts, “Lazarus, come out!”

The Lenten journey is a journey toward a confrontation with the power of death. Jesus understood that as long as we are afraid of death, we are subject to the powers of this world. Every system of domination—religious, economic, or political—believes that their final recourse to power is to kill anyone who opposes them. Ultimate power, they believe, is the power to kill, to threaten and inflict death. This is the belief that inspires the US military budget, entices war, and animates the violence perpetrated against protesters and immigrants. But disciples of Jesus must believe differently if they are to stand as God’s nonviolent witnesses.

Jesus doesn’t shrink from the prospect of being killed; he shows that God is with us even when we face death. In the raising of Lazarus, he demonstrates that death is not the ultimate power, that we can be reclaimed from systems that enslave us to death. Death does not have the last word. Ezekiel’s vision is made manifest: “I will open your graves and have you rise from them ... I will put my spirit in you that you may live.”

Jesus sets out with the promise to awaken Lazarus, but in the end, it is we who are awakened—to the power of a God who is stronger than death.

—Johnny Zokovitch



St. Cronan Catholic Church
March 22, 2026
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Mass Information

SUNDAY – 8 am. and 10 am.

SATURDAY VIGIL – 5 pm.

Wednesdays – 8 am.

Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment.

Bulletin Deadline: Noon Tuesday

Palm Sunday and the Triduum: Many readers and servers are needed for Palm Sunday, March 29, and Holy Thursday, April 2, Good Friday, April 3, and the Vigil, April 4. Sign-up sheets are in the back of church on the window. If you have questions, email or call: diane@stcronan.org or (314) 941-4933.

Tenebrae

Service: Wednesday, April 1: 8pm

Triduum Times:

Holy Thursday and Good Friday: 7 pm

Easter Vigil: 7:30 pm



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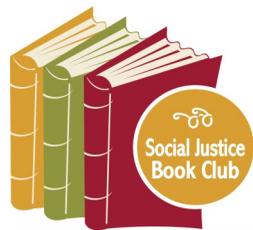
Blessing Bags: Thank you so much for your generosity! The Blessing Bags are in the back of church. Please take what you want and give them people who need them.





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; 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; Marie and Roland Martir's daughter, Carrie; J.T. Fowler; Grace Mueller; Joe Kuciejczyk, brother of Madonna and Janet, and brother-in-law of Tom, Maria, daughter of Marci and Dominic Soda; Sr. Lynne Schmidt's nephew, Brian Ahr; John Ross; Teresa Beard's son, Edward Burch; Dodie Heilich, sister in law to Helen and Sandy McKinney; Ed Calcaterra, brother of Diane Calcaterra; Colleen Wallace's cousins; Ruth Hasser; Katy and Dennis Rosolowski; Sandra Ward; Fr. Jerry Stookey's brother, Tom; Cecilia Kelly; Sr. Leah Holzum; Pauline Boisselle, friend of Madonna Kuciejczyk-Kernan.

Men's Retreat: We have scheduled the Men's Retreat for 2026. The retreat is scheduled for May 8 -10 at the Griesedieck Farm. Additional details will be forthcoming over the next several weeks. Please mark your calendar's for a wonderful opportunity for faith sharing, community building, and lots of laughter. For more info, contact a member of our planning team: Dan Madden, Joe Moramarco, and Rocky Sieben.



St. Cronan Social Justice Book Club meets on the 2nd Sunday of each month in the Church office conference room after the 10AM Mass from 11:30AM-12:30PM. Our April 12th book is the choice of either *Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck or *Four Winds* by Kristen Hannah. We invite you to join us in person or simply read with us. Looking ahead the May 10th book will be *Coming up Short: A Memoir of My America* by Robert Reich.

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 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. Make checks payable to St. Cronan and write "coffee" on the memo line.



**Fundraising report for 2025-2026
THANK YOU! THANK YOU,
Everyone!**

Each one of you supported the events this year - either financially or with prayers. Here is a report from each event -

Football	\$970
Tumblers	\$556.42
Mums	\$717.25
Poinsettias	\$1,414
Blind Date w/ Book	\$700
5 Basket Raffle	\$2,063

A thank you also to each person who helped on the various fundraisers. Each one was handled by one or more of our members. Thank you to them for their time and commitment to St. Cronan. It does take a village to build our community. *If you have not yet picked up your basket from the raffle, please do so this week. Thank you.*

Follow these links for area Fish Fries for the last week of Lent.

<https://www.stlmag.com/dining/a-guide-to-parish-fish-fries-in-st-louis/>

<https://stlouismom.com/in-and-around-st-louis/moms-guide-to-fish-fries-in-st-louis/>

<https://www.ksdk.com/article/entertainment/dining/whats-cooking-in-the-lou/st-louis-fish-fry-guide-2025-lent-fish-dinner/63-b1f7dbdd-4119-4832-825b-83c83fe9c158>

https://www.feastmagazine.com/restaurants/guides/best-lent-fish-fries-church-st-louis/article_7b1b2cd6-c533-11ee-b3c2-0fb86b4faa32.html



Church Center Offices

Mon-Fri 9am-3pm
Phone: (314) 289-9384
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Community Life Coordinator: Johnny Zokovitch

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Church Administrator: Mary Ward

Mary@stcronan.org

Music Director: David Dickey

Dsdickey@earthlink.net

Food Pantry Director: Mary Solomon

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.