

Pastoral Reflection

*Palm Sunday
March 24, 2024*

This Sunday, Palm Sunday we will again hear of the of the corrupt trial and execution of Jesus. Unfortunately it is an all too familiar story here in the United States and in the "Pro-Life" State of Missouri. The execution of Brian Dorsey is scheduled for April 9th. The person that I testified on behalf of a year ago to help him escape the "needle" was in the same cell as Brian. He is devastated by Brian's impending fate. A couple of weeks ago Mr. Dorsey was removed from his cell and taken to a "death cell" (probably taken from Potosi Correctional Facility to Bonne Terre, the site for executions). The person that I know who was in the same cell as Brian is depressed and feeling guilty because he holds Brian in such high regard. He believes that Brian is totally rehabilitated and has done so much good in the prison.

Brian did not receive a single violation in 17 years and that is unheard of because the ridiculous nature of some of the "violations". He has the unprecedented support of 70 correctional officers. At other times CO's were reprimanded for reaching out on behalf of a death row inmate. The former Warden Troy Steele supports his clemency. A former Supreme Court Justice said: "this is a rare case where the Court got it wrong". Several jurors who voted for the death penalty are now asking that his sentence be commuted to life without parole because of the inadequate defense that he received. For 12 years Brian was the trusted barber who cut hair and beards for inmates,

correctional officers and even the Warden! Family and friends having written many letters including support from family members of the victims. What gives with our "death" State!

Two people were murdered and that is tragic and nothing can compensate for that loss nor the grief that those killings has caused. But the defense were contracted lawyers hired by the State because of the lack of funds for State death penalty defenders. Contracted lawyers at that time would have received \$3.37 an hour if they had put in the required time (which they did not). They merely pleaded Mr. Dorsey guilty in exchange for no benefit even though he had a defense (he was in a drug induced psychosis at the time of the murders.

They did it to Jesus. Let's not let them do this to Brian. Please help to stop the horror of this execution. All executions are egregious killing, but in Brian Dorsey's case this is utterly MAD!

Please send a letter, call or e-mail to plead with Governor to offer clemency.

—Fr. Jack (he/him)

Governor Mike Parson Contact info:

Phone: 573.751.3222

Fax: 573.751.1495

<https://governor.mo.gov/contact-us>

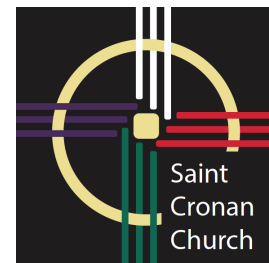
Address: Office of Governor

Michael L. Parson

P.O. Box 720

Jefferson City, MO 65102

Place: Brian Dorsey" in the subject line



St. Cronan Catholic Church Palm Sunday of the Passion of Our Lord March 24, 2024

Mass Information

SUNDAY – 8 a.m. and 10 am.

SATURDAY VIGIL – 5:00 pm.

Wednesdays – 8:00 am.

Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment.

Holy Week: The Holy Thursday and Good Friday services will take place each evening at 7:00. The Easter Vigil on Saturday will begin at 7:30. **We will decorate for Easter on Holy Saturday, March 30 at 10am. There will be muffins. Please come help.**

Synodal Listening Session: The Synod has sent two questions as a follow-up to the Synod on Synodality:

- Where have I seen or experienced successes -- and distresses within the church's structure(s), leadership, organization /life that encourage or hinder the mission?
- How can the structures and organization of the church help all the baptized to respond to the call to proclaim the Gospel and to live as a community of love and mercy in Christ?

We will meet to discuss these questions and to formulate community responses on April 7 after the 10:00 Mass as part of our Issues and Inspirations series. All are welcome!

Rice Bowls are available in church. Please take one, put in your Lenten Alms and return them during Holy Week. If you prefer to make a donation with a check, please notate "Rice Bowl" in memo line.



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, April 19. Please join us!

Attention Committee/Ministry Chairs: Please contact Mary in the office with your regularly scheduled meeting dates/times/locations so we can get them on our website calendar.



Prayers : Nancy Buck; John Gozdziński, Tom and Madonna Kuciejczyk-Kernan, Joseph Kuciejczyk (brother of Madonna and Sr. Janet), Nick Ambrose, Kathy Hunn's niece Lisa and her brother Jon, Dan Orlet's mother Eileen, Mary Truetken, Kathy Bayless, Pam (cousin of Donna Zuroweste), Laura Krueger's mother, Evelyn Puleo, Joe Sinibaldi (friend of Barb Sopp), Gary W. Johnson (brother-in-law of Madonna, Tom, and Sr. Janet Kuciejczyk) and Marie and Roland Martir's grandson, Camden; Sr. Cathy Doherty's friend, Steve, Maria Gray, Sr. Pauline's niece; Laura Rettke, Fr. Gerry Kleba, John Nauhm, Bob Barnicle.

Retreats:

Men's Retreat: April 5 - 7, 2024 at the Griesedieck farm. We ask that each participant makes a contribution of \$50 towards the upkeep of the farm, which has hosted the retreats for many years and to help out with one of the meals on the weekend (more details to follow on this as the retreat approaches for those who are attending). Feel free to reach out to any member of the planning team which includes Joe Moramarco, Dan Madden, Bill Miller, and Rocky Sieben for more information.

Women's Retreat will take place April 12-14, 2024 at the Griesedieck Farm (Friday evening to Sunday 12 noon). Watch the bulletin, Cronan Talk and Monday notes for more details.

Young Adults Retreat: Mark your calendars for the Young Adult Retreat scheduled for May 3-5 at Griesedieck Farm. Watch the bulletin and Monday notes for more information coming soon!

LGBTQ+ Persons & the Church: Our Journey Together ~ A Panel Discussion

Panelists:
 Ms. Julia Erdlen, *MDiv, Campus Minister., St. Louis University*
 Dr. Michael Meehan, PhD, *Clinical Psychologist., Chief Care Officer, Catholic Charities*
 Fr. Charles Bouchard, *OP, STD, Aquinas Institute of Theology*
 Ms. Barbara Buzzacco, *Parishioner, All Saints Parish*

April 16, 2024, at 6:30 pm
 St. Cletus Parish Hall

Grow in understanding of:

- Catholic Theology
- Spirituality
- Sexuality
- Lived Experiences of LGBTQ+ Persons
- Need for Acceptance & Outreach

Hosted by St. Cletus
 Peace & Justice Ministry

To register: Use the QR code or
<https://forms.gle/r7rbE3dUhRQPPqHU7>



You asked for it! And we are delivering! The St. Cronan Spring Shirt Sale is officially launched. Our store closes March 31, so order yours today! Use the link below to shop for various styles and Spring colors. <https://store.kickprint.com/StCronanChurch.../shop/home> You can also scan the QR code or visit <https://stcronan.org/news-events/announcements>.



Book Discussion Group You may be particularly interested in the next book chosen for the St. Cronan Book Discussion Group that meets next on Wednesday, March 27, 2024, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Contact Christine Lakey at christine.lakey@yahoo.com to receive the Zoom link. *Invisible Child: Poverty, Survival & Hope in an American City*



Annual Easter Collection Supports our Retired Priests

The annual Archbishop's Collection for Retired Priests is traditionally held on Easter Sunday. This is a beautiful opportunity for to honor the vibrant legacy of priests who have dedicated their lives to serve us. Your support helps assure our priests receive the essential care they need, including physician services, hospitalization, nursing home care, vision care and disability, now and for years to come. You can make your gift through the designated envelope, or any envelope marked Retired Priests, on or after Easter weekend. You can also give at any time at archstl.org/retiredpriests



Tenebrae Service: A service of Tenebrae, meaning "darkness" or "shadows" will be held Wednesday, March 27 at 7pm. at St. Justin Martyr Catholic Church. 11910 Eddie and Park Rd. Sunset Hills. The purpose of the service is to recreate the betrayal, abandonment, and agony of the last hours of Christ's life, and it is left unfinished, because the story isn't over until Easter Day. This service consists of scripture, songs and psalms and begins in the fully lit church and ends in total darkness.

Parish Center Offices

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

Pastoral Administrator: Fr. Jack Schuler

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Music Director: David Dickey

dsdickey@earthlink.net

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

Bulletin Deadline: WED 12 noon