

Palm Sunday
March 29, 2026

On Palm Sunday, we hold together two different events. At the onset of Mass, we celebrate Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem with a procession of palms, while the Gospel takes us on a journey of betrayal, sorrow, and death. It may remind us of the inter-relatedness of seemingly opposing ideas. Lebanese poet Kahlil Gibran wrote, "Is not the cup that holds your wine the very cup that was burned in the potter's oven?" There is no resurrection without death.



Every Palm Sunday, I find myself challenged by what role I would play in Jesus's final days. Which character do I most relate to? We see no one take up the cross with Jesus alongside him. No one puts themselves out for his sake there as Jesus is tortured, alone in his trials. What would I do if I were Jesus' disciple at that time? It takes real bravery to stand up for justice, and we can tend to justify letting evil occur in front of our eyes, even to those who are innocent.

But Jesus does not condemn us for our unbelief, our cowardice, and our failings. Jesus loves people all the way through. That

is His power. His power is not that of royal ambition, control, and force. His power is in forgiveness, mercy, and Truth. Jesus understands. In light of Jesus' resurrection, we find a higher value in Love that emboldens us to sacrifice and stand up for justice. I think of the Franciscan priest, Fr. Maximilian Kolbe who while at the Ger-

man death camp in Auschwitz willingly volunteered his own life to be taken instead of a fellow prisoner.

May we ask God for the grace to choose Love and accompany Jesus, even when it means sacrificing the things of this earth to which we are attached.

—Justin Lorenz

Church Center Offices
 Mon-Fri 9am-3pm
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Community Life Coordinator: Johnny Zokovitch
 Johnny@stcronan.org

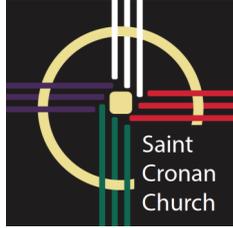
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Music Director: David Dickey
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Food Pantry Director: Mary Solomon



St. Cronan Catholic Church
March 29, 2026

Palm Sunday of the Passion of Our Lord



Mass Information

SUNDAY – 8 am. and 10 am.
 SATURDAY VIGIL – 5 pm.
 Wednesdays – 8 am.

Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment.
Bulletin Deadline: Noon Tuesday

Holy Week: Many readers and servers are needed for 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 (No 5pm mass this day)



All are invited to a Tenebrae Service on Wednesday, April 1 at 8pm in the church. Tenebrae is from the Latin word for "shadows," and the service will be a meditative evening of psalms of lamentation, readings and prayers in preparation for the Easter Triduum. During the service, the church will be lit only by candles, with each candle gradually extinguished until only one, representing Christ, remains.

The Church Office will be closed on Friday, April 3.





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; 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: Debbie Kowalski's father, David Cobb; and Debbie and Paul's friend, Dale Antley, both of whom have been put on hospice.

Dominic Soda's brother, Jim, has passed away. Please keep their family in your prayers.

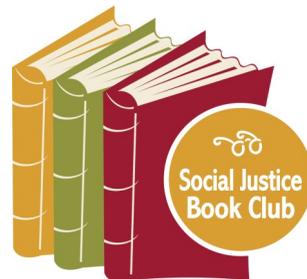
Immigrant Food/Personal item deliveries:

As we prepare for the next distribution, it is with grateful hearts that we continue to be blessed by many contributions and donations from our community. Because of your generosity, we are able to continue distributions to 25 immigrant families - more than 100 individuals! For our April distribution, Dorothy Lucey has been able to obtain Easter baskets, enough for each family (with a variety of stuffed animals, plastic eggs, and a few other treats). NOW, we just need to collect:

- ◆ Easter candies or treats - some of which can fit in the plastic eggs, and some which can be placed (individually wrapped) in the baskets.
- ◆ Sizes 1 and 2 Diapers
- ◆ Baby Wipes

Please drop off donations to the church office by April 1.

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.



Pontifical Good Friday Collection Pope Leo has asked all churches to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, which helps Christians in the Holy Land, where they are now less than 2% of the population. Your support is essential to help the Church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools, and offer religious education. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines of Christianity, including in Jerusalem, Nazareth, and Bethlehem, to name only a few. The pandemic had hit Christians in the Holy Land particularly hard. Most

of them depend on pilgrimages for work. The war and now the Iranian conflict have made their situation even more dire. In these times of crisis, the Pontifical Good Friday Collection is necessary to meet the basic needs of the People of God still living in this Land and to maintain a Christian presence where the Church was born. When you contribute to the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, you join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. Please be generous! For more information about Christians in the Holy Land, visit



Congratulations to Fr. Gerry on being recognized at the Annual Association of US Catholic Priests' Assembly in June with the Pope St. John XXIII Award for 2026. The award honors a person who has significantly promoted the spirit of Vatican II by the exceptional witness they have given in the way they live, through their ministry, and by the way they share their spirituality.

Remember to turn in your Rice Bowls by Easter.

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.