

Pastoral Reflection
Seventh Sunday of Easter
May 12, 2024

“I want to tell you all a secret—a dangerous and radical secret: Jesus never actually ascended into Heaven. He exploded!”

So began my liberation theology class during my semester abroad in San Salvador, and I have never looked at the Feast of the Ascension the same way.

Other than the sheer subversive shock value of such a sentiment, this interpretation of the Ascension communicates a vital theological message: God is with us. Here, now. Wherever we go, there He shall be. Even on dirty trash-laden streets, even in a humble home, even in the face of the one we despise or think ourselves better than, there I AM.

In our Gospel today we are called to proclaim the Good News to every creature, and what “Good-er” news could there be than this?

This may seem to be an obvious truth for us now, but we must remember that the field of “liberation theology” at its onset was considered quite radical, communistic, even heretical by some. The temptation was strong to communicate to the poor and the downtrodden—those pushed to the margins—to keep their eyes to the Heavens and worry not about the sufferings of the world. Jesus ascended, and we

should look upwards toward the Heavens until one day we may join Him in Heaven, up there. But if instead of ascending, Jesus exploded? Well, then look no further than the face from which you avert your gaze, than the street by which you’d rather pass.

The miracle of the Ascension is not only that death loses its sting, but that distance does as well. That-Which-Makes-Us-One “exploded” so that our Oneness may echo throughout. And truly taking seriously the rippling ramifications of such a belief, where, I wonder, may that lead us?

—David Gaillardetz

Parish Center Offices

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

Pastoral Administrator: Fr. Jack Schuler

jschuler@stcronan.org

Pastoral Associate: Diane Gozdziwski

diane@stcronan.org

Church Administrator: Mary Ward

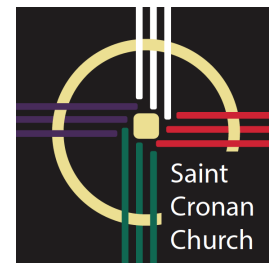
mary@stcronan.org

Music Director: David Dickey

dsdickey@earthlink.net

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

Bulletin Deadline: WED 12 noon



St. Cronan Catholic Church
The Ascension of the Lord
May 12, 2024

Mass Information

SUNDAY – 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

SATURDAY VIGIL – 5:00 pm.

Wednesdays – 8:00 am.

Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment.

Fr. Jack’s 50th Anniversary Mark Your Calendars! Fr. Jack’s 50th



Anniversary Celebration May 19, 10am
Mass, reception to follow. **Please RSVP by TODAY to Mary@stcronan.org.** We would like to compile a binder of memories and well-wishes to Fr. Jack from the St. Cronan Community. In the back of Church you will find 3-hole punch paper sheets. Please take whatever you need and write a note, draw a picture, attach a photo - anything you would like to share

with Fr. Jack about his time here. Return the pages to the basket provided and we will compile the book for his celebration. **If you have any photos of Fr. Jack, recent or not so recent, please email them to mary@stcronan.org. TODAY** **If you are able to bring a dessert to share, please let us know.** **Please note: There will be no 8am mass May 19.**

We would like to set up some tables and chairs outside for overflow seating. If you have any canopies or tents that you would be able to loan the church to provide some shade, please contact Maggie - ofccomp17@gmail.com or Diane diane@stcronan.org
See flyers in back of church for more info.....



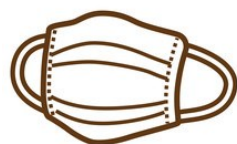
Prayers : John Gozdziński, Tom and Madonna Kuciejczyk-Kernan, Joseph Kuciejczyk (brother of Madonna and Sr. Janet), Nick Ambrose, Kathy Hunn's niece Lisa and her brother Jon, Mary Truetken, Pam (cousin of Donna Zuroweste), Laura Krueger's mother, Evelyn Puleo, Gary W. Johnson (brother-in-law of Madonna, Tom, and Sr. Janet Kuciejczyk) and Marie and Roland Martir's grandson, Camden and daughter, Carrie; Sr. Cathy Doherty's friend, Steve, Sr. Pauline's niece; Laura Rettke, John Nauhm, Bob Barnicle, Sandra Ward, Daimeyn Ward (Sandra's son) and Dianne Anderson (Sandra Ward's sister) Sr. Mary Ellen (friend of Nick Ambrose) , Jim Chapin (friend of Marty Spies), Judy Varias's husband Gene Krebs, Donna Zuroweste, Tim Lakey, Bob Wiley, Pam Schaefer, Tim Herzel .

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, May 17. Please join us!



ACA Pledge Cards: Please turn in your ACA Pledge cards. Anyone turning in their card by May 31st will have their name entered in a drawing for a **\$50 Target gift card**. Please drop your card in the collection basket or return to the church office. Even if you can't pledge, we still need your card sent in. If pledging online, please click "St. Cronan" in the drop down menu so we get credit for your pledge. We have a goal of \$24,500 to meet and we can't get there without your pledge. Contact Mary in the church office with any questions mary@stcronan.org

We are Live! St. Cronan is partnering with Krispy Kreme for our next fundraiser which began May 1. Simply purchase a voucher for a dozen donuts and St. Cronan receives 50% of each sale. Then visit your nearest location (Fenton, So. County, Ferguson, Fairview Heights, Cottleville) to redeem. This is a month-long online campaign which will make it super easy to gift a dozen donuts...or keep for yourself! Click here to participate: <https://www.groupraise.com/offer-campaigns/41214>



No Masks required! If you come around the altar at Consecration, you are no longer required to wear a mask. If you have symptoms or are compromised, please continue to wear a mask. Eucharistic Ministers will continue to wear masks during the distribution of the Eucharist.

DACA Gala June 9. Proceeds support DACA recipients when renewing their DACA application which costs \$500 every two years. This fundraiser is to give scholarships to DACA recipients.

CATHOLIC IMMIGRATION TEACH-IN: THE REALITIES OF MIGRATION IN THE US



Hear from experts to learn what the Catholic Church teaches on the issue of immigration and the movement of peoples.

There will be opportunities to hear from immigrants and learn about their personal testimonies. Also, there will be time for group discussions.

- Teach-In Sponsors:
- Mercy Conference and Retreat Center
 - The Sisters of Mercy
 - Office of Peace and Justice
 - Immigration Task Force, Archdiocese of St. Louis
 - Office of Hispanic Ministry
 - St. Francis Community Services

WHEN: THURSDAY, MAY 30, 6:30-8:30 PM
WHERE: MERCY CONFERENCE AND RETREAT CENTER
 2039 NORTH GEYER ROAD ST. LOUIS, MO 63131-3332
RSVP REQUIRED: MARIE KENYON (314)792-7062 OR EMAIL
 MARIEKENYON@ARCHSTL.ORG



Children's Faith Formation is winding down for this year. We will resume classes at the end of August. If you have a child aged K-8 and would like to participate in our CFF community to help your child grow in faith, please fill out the attached form. We are revamping the program this summer, and will provide more details soon. If you have any questions, please contact Diane diane@stcronan.org

Mary Statue Our long awaited statue of Mary has finally arrived and she is beautiful. Please visit her in the rectory garden. Watch the bulletin and Cronan Talk for dates/times of her official blessing. Thank you to our wonderful and generous donors who made this possible.

Don't forget to RSVP TODAY for Fr. Jack's 50th Anniversary Party. Email mary@stcronan.org.