



# St. Cronan Catholic Church May 17

## Seventh Sunday of Easter



### Mass Information

SUNDAY – 8 am. and 10 am.

SATURDAY VIGIL – 5 pm.

Wednesdays – 8 am.

Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment.

**Bulletin Deadline: Noon Tuesday**

**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, June 19. Please join us!

**St. Cronan Social Justice Book Club** meets today May 17 in the Church office conference room after 11:30AM-12:30PM. Looking ahead to June 14, our book will be *“Building a Bridge: How the Catholic Church and the LGBT Community Can Enter into a Relationship of Respect, Compassion, and Sensitivity”* by Fr. James Martin.

**St. Cronan's Church Council** is considering signing our church onto a statement from faith communities in Missouri in support of our trans, intersex, and nonbinary friends and family members. This is a crucial time in our state and country to show solidarity. We're asking folks to read the statement which is available in the back of the church, and, if you have any concerns with us adding St. Cronan's as one of the faith communities signing on, council members and staff will be in the back of church after Mass to listen to your concerns or questions. You can also contact Johnny or Diane by email if you want to offer your input. Thanks!



**Mark Your Calendars!** On May 31, at the 10am Mass we will have a photographer present to take photos to update our St. Cronan Website. Get your ministry members together so we can get as many groups photographed as possible. Plan to attend mass so our pews are full! This is a great opportunity to bring a friend to Mass.



**Prayers Please:** Nick and Shirley Ambrose and Family; Elisabeth Byrne's mom, Denise Siebold; 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 and Cassie 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, Neil O'Hallaron, Dorit's husband, Nicholas Yost, great nephew of Charlene Zeni Connolly and John Gozdziwski.

**Mass Intentions:**

May 16, 5pm Mass for the intention of Ho Pik Man relative of Debbe DaLay.

May 17, 10am Mass in celebration of the 90th birthday of Dolores Boyer McGaully. Dolores belonged to St. Cronan in the late 40s-early 50s and was married here in 1954.



**The Next Chapter** is a program grounded in Ignatian Spirituality that has been offered in the St. Louis community by The Next Chapter Institute for the past nine years. It is a six-month guided journey in a group setting for people who are approaching retirement or who are recently retired. The ultimate goal of the program is to assist people to discern how they want to live their next chapter of life. For more information, go to [www.nextchapterprogram.org](http://www.nextchapterprogram.org).

The next session of the program begins in October of 2026. The first step for participating in the program is to attend an information session. They will be held on Wednesday, May 20, and Monday, June 1, starting at 7:00 pm at the Mercy Conference and Retreat Center, 2039 Geyer Road. To register for an information session, please email [thenextchapterinstitute@gmail.com](mailto:thenextchapterinstitute@gmail.com).

**POPE SAINT JOHN XXIII AWARD Association of United States Catholic Priests:** Fr. Gerry Kleba has been chosen as a recipient of the 2026 Pope Saint John XXIII Award as the priest who exemplifies the Spirit of the Second Vatican Council. The award will be presented at the banquet of the AUSCP June 24, at the Renaissance Hotel. Cost of a ticket for this event is \$60.00 which includes: 4pm Mass, 5pm Social Hour, 6pm Banquet. Purchase tickets on the DONATE LINK of the AUSCP website. Donate \$60.00, in the comment space *Fr. Gerry Kleba*. *Registration deadline: June 1*

**WILLS:** Please remember Saint Cronan Church in your will. Our official title is St. Cronan Catholic Church-1202 South Boyle Ave.- St. Louis, MO 63110. Our Federal I.D.# 43-0653457

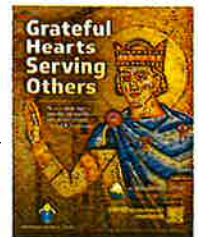
**Administrator's Wish List:** Thanks so very much to those who have donated to the Wish List this year. There are still several items on the list if you would like to donate. See the table in the vestibule of church for more details and how to participate. Please contact Mary in the church office if you have any questions.



**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.

**Women's Witness Ministry** On Saturday, June 6 at 8:30am, join Joyce Jones, the program director of racial harmony for the Archdiocese of St. Louis, as she presents for Women's Witness Ministry's "Do You Know the Man?" It'll take place at St Charles Lwanga Center, 6420 Washington St. Bring donations of nonperishable foods for the St. Charles Lwanga food pantry. Cost is \$20 and you can register online at [archstl.org/renewal](http://archstl.org/renewal) or call the Catholic Renewal Center at 314-731-6100.

**ACA:** Thank you to all who have returned their pledge cards. If you haven't yet, please return your ACA Pledge Card, even if you are unable to contribute. We need all cards returned. Cards can be placed in the collection basket, mailed or dropped off to the church office. If you did not receive a card, please contact Mary in the church office, or use a blank card on the table in the church vestibule. Once you have returned your card, be sure to put a cookie sticker in our cookie jar!



**Catholic Charities House2Home Program:** Let's support Britini and her 3 children! Britini has worked with a case manager to gain safe housing and stability following the May 16th tornado. They lost pretty much everything. We have "adopted" Britini and her family (children ages 11, 6 and 1) to help them on this journey. Please consider purchasing a gift cards or an item from Britini's Amazon Wish list by May 31st. You can choose to have it shipped to Catholic Charities when you purchase or bring it to church. This would be a great group project! Reach out for more information. [kelly.collins60@gmail.com](mailto:kelly.collins60@gmail.com) or 630-631-8790 Thanks so much! Visit our website for more info. <https://stcronan.org/news-events/announcements>

### **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.

## Seventh Sunday of Easter May 17, 2026

The first reading from Acts opens with the risen Jesus speaking to his followers about that transformative reality called the “kingdom (or reign) of God” (v. 3), confirming the continuity of his message—both pre- and post-Resurrection—the message remains the same: the reign of God.

The disciples are contemplating leaving Jerusalem (v. 4); as followers of Jesus, his arrest, torture and crucifixion must have not only been emotionally and psychologically traumatic, but also a warning as to what the authorities might do to them should they stick around and “stay the course.” But Jesus enjoins them to remain in Jerusalem, despite their fears. He assures them that the promise about which they have heard him speak—the in-breaking of the reign of God—is imminent.

The disciples, however, continue to mistake the “reign of God” with their own less lofty, more immediate ambitions; they rather want to know whether he is going to “restore the kingdom of Israel.” Jesus’s response is curt and to the point—a good paraphrase would be: “That is of no concern to you.” Instead he re-orientes them to the task that they are going to undertake in the world (Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth)—specifically to be his witnesses, testifying to what he said and did in proclaiming the reign of God.

Then, like Elijah before him (another prophet who criticized the religious and political powers), Jesus is “lifted up” and disappears (v. 9). The disciples are left in a rather awkward posture, standing (maybe mouths agape, slack-jawed?), looking up at the sky (v. 10). Whereas Jesus had been attempting to re-orient them away

from both their own worldly ambitions and their belief in a limited and ultimately doomed political reality (the kingdom of Israel), two new emissaries appear, drawing their attention away from “heaven” and back to the world around them (v. 11).

Implicit here is the call to give our allegiance to that reign which Jesus proclaimed—not to some partial, flawed political reality, be it the kingdom of Israel then or Christian nationalism and US empire now. The passage also challenges any “other-worldly” theology, the afterlife, and concerns about what happens after we die.

The author of Acts insists that the church’s mission then has nothing to do with aspirations for worldly power nor a pre-occupation with “heaven” and a “pie-in-the-sky-when-you-die” theology. Instead, via the two men dressed in white, the church is challenged to stop looking up to the sky and to start looking around us—to make this world our concern, here and now.

—*Johnny Zokovitch*

### Church Center Offices

Mon-Fri 9am-3pm

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