

**Ascension of Our Lord
June 1, 2025**

When is the Kingdom of God?

Experiencing the Ascension alongside the disciples leaves me with more questions than answers: When will God's Kingdom come? Why must we wait? Jesus, where did you go? When will you return?

During these challenging days witnessing the devastating intersection of a dysfunctional immigration system, anti-immigrant acts, and natural disaster in our community, I can only ask: *Why?*

Why must Lorena bear her husband's deportation, leaving her behind to fight to make ends meet for their children? Now due to the tornado, she is without electricity, her roof leaks, and she struggles to feed her children. *Why?*

Why must Maritza and Jorge have their roof torn off just days before the birth of their fourth child? Why do they again find themselves displaced one year after sleeping in the darkness of the Darien jungle and on the streets of Mexico City and downtown St. Louis? *Why?*

Jesus answers: "It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established by his own authority." (Acts 1:7)

I admit, this answer is not especially satisfying *now*. *I want immediate results: justice for immigrants, peace in our community, and security and acceptance for all. Is that not the promise of the Resurrected*

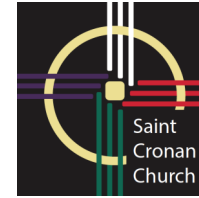
Christ? As the joy of Easter Sunday fades from our memories, we are left standing here looking at the sky and feeling small, powerless, and petrified.

But, through the voice of the angels, Jesus has a question for us too, "Why are you standing there looking at the sky?" (Acts 1:11) Yes, the Kingdom will come on God's timeline and it may take a very long time, but waiting for it doesn't mean we do nothing.

The Spanish word *esperar* means both "to wait" and "to hope." *When we hope, our waiting is transformed into active resistance to the temptation of allowing our whys to lead us to despair. Instead, we do our part—however miniscule—to build the Kingdom of God now. For the Christian, waiting is hoping. Our eyes move from the clouds above to the horizon of a new day dawning, and the Spirit invites our feet to follow.*

Our Immigrant & Refugee Ministry volunteers have been doing their little part to build the Kingdom now: delivering food, accompanying our neighbors to their immigration check-ins, offering assistance navigating life in a foreign culture, and providing a listening ear. On behalf of our immigrant neighbors, I thank you for inspiring hope through your service, your donations, and your accompaniment. It is through your support of the Annual Catholic Appeal and your volunteer efforts that we can sustain this ministry. Thank you for your generosity!

—Kevin Kuehl,
Immigrant & Refugee Ministry
Coordinator



**St. Cronan Catholic Church
June 1, 2025
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Mass Information

SUNDAY – 8 am. and 10 am.

SATURDAY VIGIL – 5:00 pm.

Wednesdays – 8:00 am.

Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment.

Bulletin Deadline: Noon Tuesday



Pentecost Open House at Johnny and Heather's home! All are invited to join Heather and Johnny on Pentecost Sunday, June 8th, for an open house at their home anytime between 12-5pm for food and drink, socializing, and celebrating community! The address is 5953 Pershing Ave, and they'll have beer, wine, and non-alcoholic drinks as well as plenty of snacks and more available. Feel free to bring a dish or drinks to add to the festivities or just show up! (And bring your own beach or camping chair if you want a guaranteed seat.)

Five years ago, many in our community were outraged and heartbroken over the murder of George Floyd. His death at the hands of police officers in Minneapolis--and the trauma and deaths of so many other people of color at the hands of law enforcement--reveals the racism that has continued to penetrate every aspect of life in the United States, seeding terror in communities of color and disfiguring all of us. On this anniversary, we invite members of the Cronan's community to stand in solidarity against racial injustice, to protest white supremacy, to pray for the realization of the "beloved community" that MLK preached, and to recommit ourselves to working to dismantle systemic racism in all its forms. We'll take time at our Masses on June 1 to remember this anniversary and lift up our prayers. And as we have been doing, we'll witness at the corner of Manchester and Kingshighway on Friday, June 20th, from 4:30-5:30pm, proclaiming that "Black Lives Matter."



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' siblings, Skip, Teree, and Ray; Joe Fairless; Sr. Cathy Doherty's friends, Lina Tackas and Tim; Robert Barnicle; Judith Santamaria; Trish Curtis and Madonna Kuciejczyk-Kernan; Leslie Conway; 3 1/2 year old Juliette Braren and her family; Marcia Koester; Maria Gray; the School Sisters of Notre Dame in Old Fangak, South Sudan, who survived a bomb attack and the citizens of that village; Jane Sykes and Nancy Buck's granddaughter, Danielle Oliveros; Mary Proot's sister, Terry Jacks; all the victims of the St. Louis tornado.

If you would like your loved one or yourself to be placed on the list or removed, please call the office: (314) 289-9384, or email Mary@stcronan.org

Black History Tours: STL Black History Tours are planned for this last date for spring of 2025: June 7. To sign-up send tour date, your name, email address, and phone number to Paul Loida. The cost is \$10 per person payable in cash the morning of. The tour group will meet at St Cronan Church at 9:30 AM and the bus will leave around 10 AM and return to St Cronan at 1 PM. There will be an optional brown bag lunch and discussion following, for those interested. Contact: Paul Loida via email at paul.loida@bayer.com.



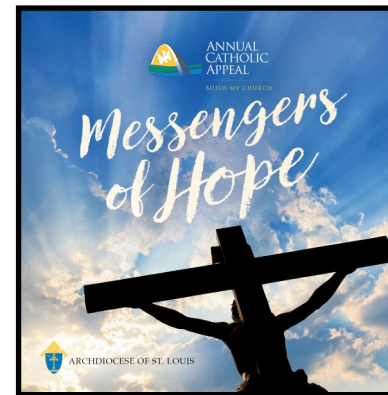
Would you like to sing songs of joy and hope with us this summer? As summer approaches, consider substituting for choir members seeking occasional rest! We are especially in need of singers at our 5pm Saturday and 8am Sunday Masses. Contact our Choir Director, David Dickey, to learn more. Thank you!

Special Collection for Tornado Victims: Last weekend we will took up a second collection to Catholic Charities for assistance to those suffering injury and loss due to the tornadoes that drove through St. Louis, much of which is within the Northern Vicariate boundaries. If you still wish to make a donation, please make your check out to St. Cronan, with "Storm Relief" in the memo line. If you wish to make an online donation directly to Catholic Charities, you can use this link: <https://give.ccstl.org/>. If you or someone you know needs assistance due to the storms, please follow this link for help: <https://spreadhopestl.com/storm-relief-stl/>
Please check CronanTalk for various other ways to help out our neighbors affected by the storms.



St. Cronan Social Justice Book Club meets on the 2nd Sunday of each month in the main floor church office meeting room after the 10am mass from 11:30am-12:30pm. Our June 8 book is "On Freedom" by Timothy Snyder (We read "On Tyranny" by Snyder for the March meeting). The July 13 book is "A Full Life: Reflections at 90" by Jimmy Carter. We invite you to join us in person or to simply read with us. For more information please contact Charlene Zeni Connolly at 314-308-0056.

ACA: Thank you to all who have returned their ACA Pledge Cards. Please keep them coming in. We need as many cards returned as possible...all cards returned count toward our goals set for us by the ACA Office. If you have never given to the ACA before, please consider it this year. Every gift counts



towards our goals, no matter how big or small. If you are unable to give, please return your card anyway. All returned cards count toward our goals!!! You can mail your card to the office, drop it in the collection basket, or donate online. See the table in the vestibule in church for details. The Cookie Jar is all set up. Be sure to place your cookie in the jar when you return your card. Please reach out to Mary in the church office if you have any questions. You can view the ACA video on the St. Cronan website: <https://stcronan.org/news-events/announcements>

Parish Center Offices

Mon-Fri 9am-3pm
Phone: (314) 289-9384
1202 S. Boyle, St. Louis, MO 63110

Community Life Coordinator:

Johnny Zokovitch

Johnny@stcronan.org

Retired Priest in Residence 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

Sunday Sexton/Housekeeping: Open Position

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.

For the full land acknowledgment, visit stcronan.org.