

## Pastoral Reflection

### Corpus Christi

Throughout my recent journey through pregnancy, childbirth, and now my first month postpartum, I have been availed of many an opportunity to contemplate the Incarnation and what it means to belong to the Body of Christ.

Rachel Reed's *Reclaiming Childbirth as a Rite of Passage* discusses how women deeply embody the life-death-rebirth cycle inherent to the human condition—the Paschal Mystery. Each month, a menstruating woman's hormonal fluctuations lead her through the initial build of energy and mood at the start of her cycle, through the peak at ovulation, and through the low time of energetic and emotional withdrawal at the end—a sort of emotional death preceding the return of new life at the start of the next month.

Nowhere do women participate more deeply in the truth of Christ's Incarnation and Passion as throughout pregnancy, childbirth, and the postpartum period. We feed another life with our own bodies—first with our blood as the placenta burrows holes into our arteries, and finally, round the clock, every two to three hours, as we breastfeed our babies. (A task which, incidentally, takes about 1,800 hours in one year—roughly the same amount of time as a 40-hour-a-week job with three weeks' vacation.)

Women experience nausea, fatigue, and pain throughout this process, as we give of our very bodies to nurture life. During childbirth, a laboring mother participates in Christ's Passion. As writer Maggie Nelson puts it, "it isn't the pain [of childbirth] that one forgets. It's the touching death part."

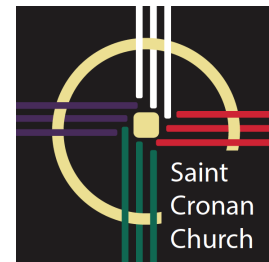
Through these experiences, women reverberate the same God-infused nature of relational oneness that we discover anew each week in the Eucharist. In the Gospel today, Jesus states, "For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him."

We have known that maternal cells migrate into the child's body during pregnancy; science now tells us that fetal cells also migrate to various parts of a woman's body. They are often found in areas of injury where she needs healing and have been found in mothers' bodies decades later.

Mothers give of their bodies so that others may live and simultaneously experience the cellular-level unity therein. Women may indeed be among the best earthly representatives of Christ's Incarnation as they participate bodily in Christ's self-giving love as exemplified in the Eucharist.

-- Loren Gaillardetz

**Parish Ministries:** If you would like to add your talents to any of our ministries, and meet a great bunch of people, please call the church office or visit our website [www.stcronan.org](http://www.stcronan.org) for information. *You are always welcome!*



## St. Cronan Catholic Church

### The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

### June 10/11, 2023

#### Mass Information

SUNDAY – 8 a.m. and 10 am.

SATURDAY VIGIL – 5:00 pm.

Wednesdays – 8:00 am.

Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment.

**All Things New Update: Starting August 1, We are a CHURCH!** Further information on Archdiocesan rearranging, closings and clergy appointments can be found here: <https://allthingsnew.archstl.org/PENTECOST-UPDATES>



**A big THANK YOU to Sr. Chabanel** and the All Things New Committee who guided us through these trying times, yet again. Your attention to detail and ability to articulate who we are to the Archdiocese played a large part in our survival.

**Annual Catholic Appeal: Thank You to all who have returned your ACAX pledge cards.** If you have not done so, please return your pledge cards to the Parish Office by mail or via the Sunday collection. **Please return your card even if you can't participate this year.**



**Black Lives Matter Vigil**, takes place the third Friday of the Month at the corner of Manchester and Kingshighway, 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. The next vigil will take place on Friday, June 16. Please join us!



**Parish Pot-luck** – What a fun time of visiting and building community! A big thank you to Maggie and Bob Mahon for organizing and decorating, and to Dorothy Lucey for the bingo prizes. The wine basket was donated by "Ward on Wine" – Mary Ward's business.



**Prayers Please:** Kathy Bayless; Trish Curtis' brother; David Gaillardetz' father, Richard; Nick and Shirley Ambrose's daughter, Brigid Costello; Varrietta Anthony; Fr. Jack's brother, Mike; Natalie Johnson and the Johnson family; Diane Calcaterra; Sr. Lynne's friend, Jan Berberich, SSND; Barb Sopp's friend, Joe Sinibaldi; Bob Barnicle; Paul Schmitt; Tim and Else Hirzel's great nephew, Cameron Russell; Kathy Hunn's niece, Lisa; Sr.

Cathy's friends, Inga Casillo, Don Costello, and newborn baby, Giovanni Christopher Centerino; Judy Gallagher; Mary Truetkin; Marie and Roland Martir's daughter, Carrie, and granddaughter, Madi; Jacob Whitworth; John Gozdziwski; Wilma Hunt and family, friends of Sandra Ward; Michael Mason, former SVDP hauler; Michael Peterson; Linda and Jeff Caul's daughter, Kelly; Joe Connolly; Sam Vitale, friend of Father Jack and Mary Ward; John Derr, son-in-law of Alice Adcock; Mr. Charles Wallace; Bill Blow's daughter, Meg Shugarts; Roger Bailey, friend of Dom and Marcy Soda; Philip Anala; Bonnie Wimmer; Jon Ebner, nephew of Rocky Sieben and Ruth Hasser; the Krueger family; Nick Ambrose; Betty Newberry; Marty Spies; and Donate, Mary Proot's daughter-in-law's mother in Germany. *Please let the office staff know if your loved one should be removed from the prayer list.*

**Archives Committee:** This weekend, the Archives Committee will be presenting the second fifty years of our parish history through a series of posters. The committee will also be available for any comments or questions after mass. See Bill Blow or Al Sprehe. Thanks Bill and Al for all your hard work!



**June's Ministry of the Month:** Coffee and Donuts after the 10:00 am mass. Consider this hospitality Ministry for your good works. You would sign up for a week or to help another team set up, serve, and/or clean up before or after mass. Give 15 minutes or a few hours. Maggie Hart-Mahon leads this Ministry and will be glad to give you details. Contact her at ofccomp17@gmail.com.

**Parish Center Offices**  
Mon-Fri 9am-3pm  
Phone: (314) 289-9384

**Pastor: Fr. Jack Schuler**  
jschuler@stcronan.org

**Pastoral Associate: Diane Gozdziwski**  
[diane@stcronan.org](mailto:diane@stcronan.org)

**Pastoral Administrator: Mary Ward**  
[mary@stcronan.org](mailto:mary@stcronan.org)

**Music Director: David Dickey**

**Food Pantry Director: Kathy Hunn**  
(314) 533-0651  
kathyfoodpantry@gmail.com

**Bulletin Deadline: Wed 12 noon**

December 2022 contributions	
General Fund	\$16,558
Building Repair Fund	\$145.00
Cardinal Glennon	\$25.00
Capital Maintenance	\$60.00
Food Pantry	\$855.00
St. Louis Review	\$65.00
Catholic Home Missions	\$315.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$355.00
Uganda	\$55.00

**Children's Faith Formation** The St. Cronan Community offers Children's Faith Formation for all children, K-8, through a hybrid Catechist-led/Family led approach. This year, we hope to offer classes twice per month, usually on the first and third Sundays after 10:00 Mass, and send home additional information for parents to share Faith with their



children in a family-based program. I want to take this opportunity to invite all families with school-aged children to join us. For more details on the program please contact Diane at 314-289-9384 or [diane@stcronan.org](mailto:diane@stcronan.org) This faith-filled community welcomes each of you!

**Calling Teachers/Catechists:** We are in need of additional catechists for the 2022-23 school year. The only requirement is that you are willing to share your own faith with these children and can follow a very well-planned program. If there are community members, parents or young adults who might lead the monthly classes, please contact Diane, [diane@stcronan.org](mailto:diane@stcronan.org) There is much support and instruction for anyone willing to be a catechist to these wonderful children. You will find yourself growing in your own faith as you help children grow in theirs.



**Food Pantry Coordinator Search** The coordinator of our Food Pantry, Kathy Hunn, is retiring so we are looking for a replacement. With Kathy's assistance we have put together a new job description (please see the attachment). Mary, our Pastoral Administrator, will be taking over the clerical duties associated with the Pantry. What this position will entail is being on sight to coordinate the efforts of the volunteers. There is little "homework" associated with this opportunity. We will be paying \$25 dollars an hour for your services. To apply for this position, please reach out to Mary at 314-289-9384 or [mary@stcronan.org](mailto:mary@stcronan.org) for an application. Are deepest thanks to Kathy for her many years of dedication!