

Pastoral Reflection

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mind the Gap

In Britain whenever you take the subway, as the door opens or closes you will hear a voice over the speaker say, "Mind the Gap". That cautions folks to be careful of the "gap" between the train and the station platform.

Our Gospel this weekend tells us to "mind the gap" when Matthew says: "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few". There is a gap in spreading of the Word of God. There is a greater need than there are disciples serve the people. Unfortunately our institutional church has placed too much emphasis in ordained male ministers.

Where I served in Zambia most of the people were unable to participate in the Holy Eucharist on a weekly basis, but the Church was growing astronomically because of the lay catechists. The Bishops in Zambia did "mind the gap"! My Bishop wouldn't even ordain men to the diaconate because he said that in our circumstances lay people could do whatever a deacon could do!

Obviously the institutional church in most of the US does not think that way. Look at All Things New, the Archdiocese is continuing its reliance on clerics to be "the" ministers. We clergy bear a tremendous responsibility for the exodus of folks from the Catholic Church because of the clerical sex abuse scandal and because of clericalism. I think it is time to lift up our competent lay disciples instead of showing deference to ordained clerics. We have so many highly educated prayerful and talented lay people. Let's push so that our church "minds the gap"!

—Fr. Jack (he/him)



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

Pastor: Fr. Jack Schuler
jschuler@stcronan.org

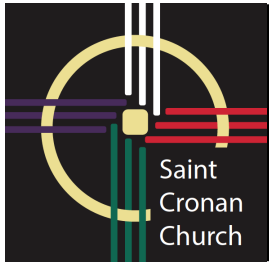
Pastoral Associate: Diane Gozdzialski
diane@stcronan.org

Pastoral Administrator: Mary Ward
mary@stcronan.org

Music Director: David Dickey

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

Bulletin Deadline: Wed 12 noon



St. Cronan Catholic Church
11th Sunday in Ordinary Time
June 17/18, 2023

Mass Information
SUNDAY – 8 a.m. and 10 am.
SATURDAY VIGIL – 5:00 pm.
Wednesdays – 8:00 am.
Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment.

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!

Next Week (June 24/25) we will take up the Peter's Pence Collection to support the Universal Church and the work of the Holy See, including helping Pope Francis to carry out his charitable works. The works benefit our brothers and sisters on the margins of society, including victims of war, oppression and disasters. Please be generous. For more info please visit www.obolodisanpietro.va/en.hym1

June's Ministry of the Month: Coffee and Donuts after the 10am 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. Email her at ofccomp17@gmail.com.



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 for information. **You are always welcome!**



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 know if your loved one should be removed from the prayer list. *Please let the office staff know if your loved one should be removed from the prayer list.*

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 This faith-filled community welcomes each of you! Deadline for registration is July 15.



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 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 for an application. Are deepest thanks to Kathy for her many years of dedication!

Metropolitan Congregations United: St. Cronan is a member of Metropolitan Congregations United (MCU). We are in need of some passionate people who would be our team to liaison with MCU. This would involve attending their meetings when possible and participating in their initiatives within and outside St. Cronan Church. One of their current initiatives is collecting signatures on a petition about increasing the minimum wage and paid sick leave for Missouri workers at St. Cronan Church and other places. This would involve some training for collecting signatures. MCU will be at church with a petition TO GET EARNED SICK TIME...and raise the minimum wage to \$15 for Missouri workers. Along with a statewide coalition, St. Cronan as a member congregation of Metropolitan Congregations United, is gathering signatures soon to put this initiative on the ballot in 2024 to give almost 1 in 4 Missouri families a raise over the next two years AND give Earned Sick Leave to over 200,000 Missouri workers. Many of them, including essential workers like nurses, childcare providers, food service, paramedics and EMT's lack access to any paid time off to care for themselves or family members, The MO Legislature prevented municipalities from increasing their minimum wage, so this is our response! If you are passionate about this initiative and can help, please contact Diane diane@stcronan.org for more information.





Welcome to our newest parishioner:

Margaret Govero

Data Base Updates: Be sure to let Mary in the office know if you have had any changes to your address, email, mailing address or phone number. You can email any changes to mary@stcronan.org.

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