

## Pastoral Reflection

### Holy Body & Blood of Christ

June 2, 2024

What comes to your mind when you hear the words of the Consecration, the words of Jesus from the Last Supper, as seen in our Gospel today?

For me, it signifies yet another mystery, just as last week we contemplated the mystery of the Holy Trinity.

In the mystery of the Body and Blood of Christ, we know that Christ tells us to consume his body and blood in the form of bread and wine "in remembrance of me." He tells us that this is the new covenant, and that by eating his body and blood, we gain eternal life. The first reading tells us of the Covenant instituted by God with the people of Israel soon after they were freed from Egypt. Moses sprinkles blood on the Altar and on the people, telling them that this is the "blood of the covenant that the most high God has made with you in accordance with all these words of God." The words of God to which Moses refers are the many laws that God has given Moses for his people. If you are at all familiar with the Old Testament, especially the first five books of Moses, you know that God's people had a difficult time keeping this Covenant, and often ended up conquered and enslaved by rival civilizations.

Christ's new covenant, instituted through the Eucharist, tells us that unless we eat of his body and drink of his blood, we will not gain eternal life, and will not have Christ's life within us. That's pretty scary. We need the nourishment of Christ in us to feed our Spirits and keep us as one. One bread, one body. By partaking of Christ's body, we become that body and go forth into the world cele-

brating Christ within us and sharing Christ with others. We Catholics believe that the bread and wine are truly transformed into Christ's body and blood in the Eucharistic Celebration of the Mass. Eucharist means "thanksgiving" in Greek. With each Eucharist, we are thanking God for the chance to be one in Christ with everyone who also partakes of the Eucharist, and to bring Christ's love to all in the world. We share our love of God through the Spirit within us, fortified by Christ's tremendous gift to us.



This week, we share in the Mystery of Christ's gift of his own body and blood, and we rejoice in the heavenly sustenance that allows us to fortify ourselves in his grace and become one body, one spirit that we take to the marginalized in our midst. Rejoice in thanksgiving that Jesus gave us his flesh for our life and for the life of the world.

-Diane Gozdzialski

#### Parish Center Offices

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

**Pastoral Administrator: Fr. Jack Schuler**

[jschuler@stcronan.org](mailto:jschuler@stcronan.org)

**Pastoral Associate: Diane Gozdzialski**

[diane@stcronan.org](mailto:diane@stcronan.org)

**Church Administrator: Mary Ward**

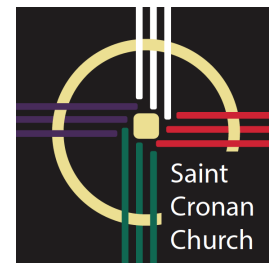
[mary@stcronan.org](mailto:mary@stcronan.org)

**Music Director: David Dickey**

[dsdickey@earthlink.net](mailto:dsdickey@earthlink.net)

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

**Bulletin Deadline: WED 12 noon**



## St. Cronan Catholic Church

### The Holy Body & Blood of Christ

June 2, 2024

#### Mass Information

SUNDAY – 8 a.m. and 10 am.

SATURDAY VIGIL – 5:00 pm.

Wednesdays – 8:00 am.

Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment.

**ACA Pledge Cards:** Please turn in your ACA Pledge cards. 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](mailto:mary@stcronan.org) We will announce the winner of the \$50 gift card winner at 10am Mass.



I thank everyone for the most exciting Pentecost I have ever experienced! The "Spirit" was really moving. I am humbled and overwhelmed by your prayer, support and generosity. As I said in the homily, "this isn't so much about what I have done but what has been done to me". As I told the children yesterday I didn't create any dreams I just tried to catch them as God poured them forth. I pray that God forgives me for the dreams (graces) that I missed. I also ask again that you forgive me for any hurts or neglects or oversights on my part. I have been so blessed to be a member of the St. Cronan community and want all of you to know how important the Spirit of St. Cronan is to me. You all have touched me deeply. I had some former parishioners and friends here for the anniversary celebration and they were so taken by the joy and welcome that came their way. Thank you for "being you"! I am also grateful for those who greeted my brother. He loved being able to provide that wonderful meal for all of us. My brother has Huntington's disease but that has not deterred his generosity. The journey is not over. Let us continue to walk with each other and with our Brother Jesus.



**Prayers :** John Gozdziwski, 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. 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, Shirley Ambrose, Mary Ward.

**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 21 Please join us!

**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.



**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

ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS

**Immigration Task Force DACA GALA**

Entry \$25 Free under 16

JOIN US FOR THE UPCOMING FUNDRAISING EVENT AT CARDINAL RIGALI CENTER

FOOD AND DRINKS PROVIDED

PLEASE REGISTER HERE: [RB.GY/NSDD2C](https://rb.gy/nsdd2c)

JUNE 9 20 ARCHBISHOP MAY DR. ST. LOUIS, MO, 63119 3-5 PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT MARIE KENYON: [MARIEKENYON@ARCHSTL.ORG](mailto:MARIEKENYON@ARCHSTL.ORG) OR 314-792-7062

**June is gun violence awareness month.**

Gun violence devastates individuals, families, and communities in the United States and the St. Louis Archdiocese. As Archbishop Rozanski noted at last summer's Gun Violence Summit, "Gun violence is a human life -- a quality of life -- issue. Those who are threatened by gun violence are not living the fullest potential of their lives." As we celebrate the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ this weekend, we are reminded of the institution of the New Covenant through Jesus Christ, part of which is that He is the final sacrifice, and sacrifices are no longer needed. So may we become aware of the useless sacrifices of human lives every year to gun violence. More than 43,000 Americans are killed with guns, and approximately 76,000 more are shot and wounded. In Missouri, more than 1,300 people die by guns every year. Missouri has the 7th highest rate of gun deaths in the country.

**STL Black History Tour is planned for June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024.** As in the past, the procedure to sign-up is to send tour date, the name, email, and phone number to Paul Loida. It is fine if you want to hold a block of seats for your group and you can serve as the liaison to your group. The tour will be the same as previous. The group will meet at St Cronan Catholic Church at 9:45 AM and bus will return to St Cronan at 1 PM. There will be an optional brown bag lunch and discussion following, for those interested. Please contact Paul if you have any questions or wish to register. [paul.loida@bayer.com](mailto:paul.loida@bayer.com)



**Metro Singers Concert:** Welcome to the **Saint Louis Metro Singers: A 70's Dance Party!** – with St. Cronan choir members Patrick and Dawn. Immerse yourself in the soulful sounds of the 70s with the music of the Queen, Elton John, Simon and Garfunkle, and other legends, offering a unique choral interpretation that honors the original artistry while introducing a fresh, contemporary perspective.

Don your favorite 70s attire and add to the evening's nostalgia. "A 70's Dance Party" is more than a concert; it's a communal journey back in time, an evening where melodies of the past echo in the hearts of the present. Whether you're revisiting the era or discovering its rich musical heritage for the first time, join us for an unforgettable night of harmony, history, and heart. **Saturday, June 8 · 7 - 8:30pm. Location: Affton High School, 8309 MacKenzie Road St. Louis, MO 63123. Tickets: \$20 (adults), \$10 (kids).**