

Pentecost
June 8, 2025

Today's readings from Acts and John ought to be read in reverse—John coming first, then Acts. They encapsulate two radically different orientations of the early discipleship community: initially cowering in fear behind locked doors, then testifying boldly in public.

John begins with the apostles hiding and afraid, their leader executed. The likelihood is that they will share his fate. It is a real possibility that the story ends here. And then Jesus appears—wounded but risen—and suddenly there might be a way...

Acts 2 opens with an allusion to “Pentecost,” but not the Christian Pentecost; this is the Jewish “Feast of Weeks” when Jews from all over fill the streets of Jerusalem. The reading is rife with imagery that recalls new “beginnings” – the “noise like a strong driving wind” cues us into Genesis when God’s spirit swept over the waters like “a mighty wind” – alerting us to some new “creating” action of God in history.

God choosing this ragtag, frightened community also recalls God’s choice of the Hebrew slaves in Exodus—a disempowered, marginalized people. Like then, God enters into history on behalf of the powerless, not the powerful.

Most poignantly is the story of the tower of Babel. In the Babel story, the people share a common language, but their ability to understand one another leads to an inflated sense of importance and a desire to show off their power by building a “city and a tower with its top in the sky,” a monument to their vanity. Like the pyramids of

Egypt and ziggurats of Babylon, such a monument would be built by the enslaved poor. So God strikes and scatters them by “confusing their languages.”

Acts 2 is a reversal of this story. Jews from “every nation” gather, but each hears the emboldened apostles testifying in their own tongue. Understanding—despite language and cultural barriers—is possible. Unlike the Babel story, the apostles’ witness is not to their own greatness but to the greatness of God.

A new beginning manifests. The gift of the Spirit isn’t the charismatic gift of “speaking in tongues” but the courage to proclaim the gospel message of Jesus—despite the threats of the powerful—and the possibility that we’ll understand and follow—despite our differences.

~submitted by Johnny Zokovitch

Parish Center Offices

Mon-Fri 9am-3pm

Phone: (314) 289-9384

1202 S. Boyle, St. Louis, MO 63110

Community Life Coordinator:

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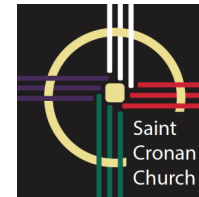
Music Director: David Dickey

Dsdickey@earthlink.net

Food Pantry Director: Mary Solomon

(314) 533-0651

Sunday Sexton/Housekeeping: Open Position



St. Cronan Catholic Church
June 8, 2025
Pentecost Sunday



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.) Keep an eye on CronanTalk for any last minute updates.

Cardinal Glennon Collection: If you missed the second collection for Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital last Sunday, feel free to include it in the offertory collection this week. Please be sure to make your check out to “St Cronan” and write “Cardinal Glennon” on the memo line. Thank you for your generosity.

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults: This past year, we had 5 wonderful people join the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil. If you or anyone you know is interested in becoming Catholic or learning more about our faith, please contact Johnny or Diane for more information.

Children's Faith Formation for 2026-27: In the past, the St. Cronan Community has offered Children's Faith Formation for children aged K-8. If you have school-aged children and are interested in a Religious Education program and sacramental preparation in our community, please contact Diane at diane@stcronan.org.





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; Madonna Kuciejczyk-Kernan; Leslie Conway; 3 1/2 year old Juliette Braren and her family; 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; Tim Proot; all the victims of the St. Louis tornado.

The Heagney's nephew's long-term partner, Brandon died last week. Please keep their nephew, Dan and all of their families in your prayers.

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



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!

Cronan Social Justice Book Club meets on the 2nd Sunday of each month in the 1st 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.

SUMMER FOOD SHARING

For several months now, we have been distributing food to neighbors who have been impacted by the harsh immigration enforcement now in effect. Our simple monthly sharing with approximately 25 families has blessed us, too, and given us an opportunity to show that we stand with them as we pray for better days and more humane policies.

We've developed a plan for the summer months. On July 5, and August 2, we will do a big distribution to about 25 families. We will need volunteers to pack the bags (at 10am) and 7 or 8 pairs of volunteers to deliver the food (11:15am).

You may not be able to help on Saturdays, but you might be able to toss something extra into your grocery cart and bring to church on Sunday. There will be bins in the vestibule of church for your donations.

HERE ARE MONTHLY ITEMS WE NEED:

- 48 oz Cooking oil
- 4 rolls toilet paper
- Dishwashing liquid
- Laundry soap—not pods
- Reusable grocery bags
- DIAPERS, SIZES 3 THRU 6.



Our Newest Members:

Dennis and Teresa Beard

Tornado Relief: There is still much to do and many needs to be met. Here are some ways to help:

- Wellston: Thanks for your generosity so far. This week they are delivering to Prodigal House Ministries. For more info visit <https://www.wellstoncenter.org/>
- St. Peter Claver on Shreve are accepting monetary donations.
- The United Way is running volunteer sites throughout the area: STLVolunteer.org/disaster
- Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of St. Louis is responding to the overwhelming need caused by recent storms, providing housing, food, counseling, and recovery support. If you or someone you know needs help, or to donate or volunteer, visit www.ccstl.org.

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.