

17th Sunday of Ordinary Time **July 26, 2026**

Today in our Gospel from Matthew we hear a trio of brief parables from Jesus about the “kingdom of heaven.” In the first two of these parables, the kingdom of heaven is shown as something of innate and unending value wholly separate from and supreme to any monetary value. A person finds a treasure buried in a field, and—not knowing the monetary value of this treasure—goes ahead and sells all they have to buy the field itself. Another sells all that they own in order to buy a pearl of great price. Both parables emphasize the kingdom of heaven being found or experienced in the selling of all material goods. In an era of greater economic disparity than ever, it becomes evermore apparent how far many have strayed from this Gospel message.



The choice of a pearl as a representation of the treasure of the kingdom of heaven feels intentional, as a pearl is a unique

treasure that itself was formed from the very protective and healing force innate within Creation. A mollusk that encounters an irritant of some sort that may threaten its well-being secretes a substance called nacre that forms layer after layer of protective coating around the irritant until, slowly, a pearl is formed. It may be that what gives the pearl its value is the slow, patient, and consistently creative protective force that transforms that-which-would-harm into something beautiful.

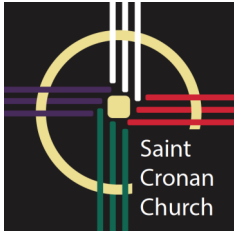
The final parable depicts a large haul of fish being sorted into what is good and bad, righteous and wicked. Those who hoard their own worldly wealth will be thrown out with the wicked, while communities that look out for those who are threatened, harmed, or oppressed will be transformed into something beautiful and eternal.

Theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

—David Gaillardetz

Church Center Offices
Mon-Fri 9am-3pm
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Food Pantry Director: Mary Solomon



St. Cronan Catholic Church
July 26, 2026
17th Sunday of Ordinary Time



Mass Information
SUNDAY – 8 am. and 10 am.
SATURDAY VIGIL – 5 pm.
Wednesdays – 8 am.
Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment.
Bulletin Deadline: Noon Tuesday



Christmas in July: This is the last weekend that we are collecting school supplies for St. Cecilia School & Academy and St. Louis Catholic Academy. If you’ve taken an ornament over the past few weeks and purchased the items listed, please drop you items off this Saturday & Sunday under the Christmas Tree in the church vestibule. If you forget, please bring your items to the church office this week.

Join Fr. Jack & Tom on the Camino this weekend:
Join us at Coffee & Donuts after the 10am Mass (approximately 11:15am) for a conversation with Fr. Jack Schuler and Tom Hastings on their recent experience on the Camino as pilgrims. Fr. Jack and Tom walked "The Way of St. James" (El Camino de Santiago) in Portugal and Spain, honoring a tradition of pilgrimage that started in the 9th century. They will share insights and stories as well as take your questions.





Prayers Please: Special prayers this week for Carol Myers, mother of Steve Myers, mother-in-law to Pete Musso, and grandmother to Gus, who passed away on July 7, as well as Amy Diemer's father and Dan's father-in-law, Ray Herschel, who also passed—keep them all in your prayers; Nick and Shirley Ambrose and Family; Elisabeth Byrne's mom, Denise Siebold; Yvonne DeHart's daughter, Cathy Hebert; Nancy Buck's daughter, Jeanne Oberle; Trish Curtis' sibling, Skip; Joe Fairless; Judith Santamaria; Leslie Conway; Madonna and Tom's friend, 3-1/2 year old Juliette Braren; Jane Sykes; Mary Proot's sister, Terry Jacks, and Mary's son, Tim Proot; Madonna Kuciejczyk-Kernan; Ken Ladd; Fr. Gerry Kleba; Marie and Roland Martir's daughter, Carrie; J.T. Fowler; Grace Mueller; Joe Kuciejczyk, brother of Madonna and Janet, and brother-in-law of Tom; Maria, daughter of Marci and Dominic Soda; Sr. Lynne Schmidt's nephew, Brian Ahr; Teresa Beard's son, Edward Burch; Ed Calcaterra, brother of Diane Calcaterra; Colleen Wallace's cousins, Katy and Dennis Rosolowski; Sandra Ward; Fr. Jerry Stook-ey's brother, Tom; Cecilia Kelly; Sr. Leah Holzum; Debbie Kowalski's father, David Cobb; Neil O'Hallaron, Doritt's husband; Nicholas Yost, great-nephew of Charlene Zeni Connolly; Irma Forbes; Sr. Janet Kuciejczyk.

Help with our Voter Education Efforts: Help us get out the word on Amendments 4 & 5 by signing up to work at an informational table at the South City YMCA. Amendment 4 restricts grassroots democracy & Amendment 5 phases out income tax while increasing sales taxes. We still need a few people for Monday, July 27 at the Y. Contact Trish at trishquita1952@gmail.com or use the sign-up link on the Cronan's website for future dates and times. We also expect to have more signs to give away at this weekend's liturgy so take one and display it in your yard!



Fall Football Raffle to Support St. Cronan's: It's back! The Football Raffle Fundraiser! You can purchase your football raffle ticket for \$25. Each week during football season tickets are drawn for cash prizes. See a member of the fundraising committee after each Mass thru Aug. 30 to get your raffle ticket. And thank you for your support of St. Cronan's through buying a raffle ticket!

Volunteer opportunity! We are looking for a few good volunteers to help out with our once-a-month home delivery service to get much-needed food to our homebound clients. If you are interested in helping out on a regular basis (**one time a month**), please call our food pantry coordinator Mary Solomon at 314-494-5865. Thanks for considering this important ministry!



PUBLIC PRAYER AND WITNESS TO STAND WITH MIGRANTS

10 a.m. August 15, 2026
Missouri State Capitol Rotunda

Join the “Public Prayer & Witness to Stand with Migrants” sponsored by the **Immigration Task Force on August 15 in Jeff City.** Buses will be available to take people from St. Louis and back. Check out the weekly e-newsletter for a link to RSVP for this event or look for it on the “Resource” page of the Cronan's website.

August Immigrant Food Distribution: The next food distribution to our immigrant families will take place Saturday, August 1st. For more information or to register to help us out next Saturday, please use this link: <https://cutt.ly/immigrant-food-distribution>

Thinking about joining the St. Cronan's community? Have you been attending Mass at St. Cronan, but have not yet registered as a MEMBER? You can officially join the Cronan community by filling out a registration form from the church website: <https://stcronan.org/resources> or by contacting the church office. You can also fill out one of the cards in the pews and we'll be happy to email you a form to join! Thank you!



Our Newest Member:

Charlie Farrell

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 Indigenous communities.