

18th Sunday of Ordinary Time August 2, 2026

The first two readings today, from Isaiah and Paul's letter to the Christian community in Rome, had me thinking about a quote often attributed to Dorothy Day. Dorothy was reported to have said that at the heart of the Christian gospel is the call "to comfort the afflicted, and to afflict the comfortable." It seems like as good a summation of Jesus and his ministry as anything else I have ever heard.

I've identified and tried to live out that quote during my entire adult life, whether in offering solace and succor to those who are discarded or marginalized in our society or by taking aim at the powerful—religious, economic and political elites—whose comfort comes at the expense of those they impoverish or belittle, all the while, disregarding justice. I think of other figures who have articulated this same admonition: Dietrich Bonhoeffer who stated that the dual roles of people of faith during times of national crisis were to tend to those wounded and bleeding and to "drive a spoke in the wheel" of the apparatus that rolled over them. Or Pope Francis, calling on the church to operate as a "field hospital" for those suffering while prophetically denouncing those whose policies and lifestyles inflict that suffering.

I've done my share of comforting and afflicting. But—whether because of age or encroaching vulnerability or the times being what they are—the part of that phrase that I am most resonating with lately is "the afflicted." I imagine that in many

ways—big and small—others find themselves here with me too.

It is through the ears of the afflicted who long for comfort that I hear the passage from Isaiah: "*All you who are thirsty, come to the water. You who have no money, come, receive grain and eat; Come, without paying and without cost, drink wine and milk!*"

And in Romans: "*For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*"

In my darkest moments, my loneliest times, my most fragile days, this is what I lean on. This is where I find my comfort. I hope you, and all those who carry the weight, find it too.

—Johnny Zokovitch

Church Center Offices

Mon-Fri 9am-3pm

Phone: (314) 289-9384

1202 S. Boyle, St. Louis, MO 63110

Community Life Coordinator: Johnny Zokovitch

Johnny@stcronan.org

Retired Priest in Residence: Fr. Jack Schuler

Jschuler@stcronan.org

Pastoral Associate: Diane Gozdzialski

Diane@stcronan.org

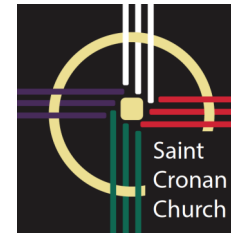
Church Administrator: Mary Ward

Mary@stcronan.org

Music Director: David Dickey

Dsdickey@earthlink.net

Food Pantry Director: Mary Solomon



St. Cronan Catholic Church

August 2, 2026

18th Sunday of Ordinary Time



Mass Information

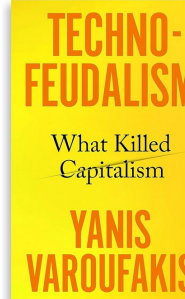
SUNDAY – 8 am. and 10 am.

SATURDAY VIGIL – 5 pm.

Wednesdays – 8 am.

Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment.

Bulletin Deadline: Noon Tuesday



St. Cronan Social Justice Book Club meets next weekend, Sunday, August 9! The Social Justice Book Club's August 9th book is *Techno-feudalism: What Killed Capitalism* by Yanis Varoufakis. Book club members meet in the conference room in the church office building following the 10am Mass. All are welcome!

And looking ahead to September, the book will be *Struck Down, Not Destroyed: Keeping the Faith as a Vatican Reporter* by Colleen Dulle. If you can't attend to discuss, please read along with us.

A big **THANK YOU** to everyone who contributed to Christmas in July this past month! A bonanza of school supplies was collected for St. Louis Catholic Academy and St. Cecilia School & Academy.

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!





Prayers Please: 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 Marcy 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 Stookey's brother, Tom; Cecilia Kelly; Sr. Leah Holzum; Debbie Kowalski's father, David Cobb; Neil O'Hallaron, Doritt's husband; Irma Forbes; Sr. Janet Kuciejczyk.

Cronan's families unite! We've noticed a wonderful influx of families with kids at our weekend Masses recently, as well as some recent baptisms! This got us thinking about exploring what kind of family faith formation folks may want for themselves and their kids. Like all things Cronan, we're not necessarily talking about "traditional" religious education for kids, but wondering about an approach that centers on building community, mutual aid and support, fostering shared countercultural values, deepens a shared spirituality, as well as whatever sacramental needs folks are considering for their families. If your family is interested in getting together to talk about what this might all look like, we hope you'll fill out this form online at <https://cutt.ly/family-rel-ed>. We've scheduled an intro discussion for Sunday, August 16th at coffee and donuts!



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!



Join the "Public Prayer & Witness to Stand with Migrants" sponsored by the Immigration Task Force on August 15th 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.

Support MOScholars: Help provide scholarships to students attending Catholic schools! 100% tax credits are available to individuals and businesses. For more info on how to participate, contact Jeff Buchek at the Today and Tomorrow Educational Foundation at jeffbuchek@archstl.org, 314-792-7621, or go to <https://ttef-stl.org/moscholars/>

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!



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

Join the St. Margaret of Scotland Living Justice Ministries

STAND UP FOR Social Justice
AUGUST 7, 2026
5:00-6:30 PM
 2100 Block of South Grand Blvd. (at Flora Pl.)
bit.ly/smosstandup

Bring a sign and make your voices heard.

**IMMIGRATION
 LGBTQ+ RIGHTS
 RACIAL EQUITY
 GUN VIOLENCE
 ENVIRONMENT**

FIRST FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH - TAKE ACTION NOW!

Stand up for Social Justice this Friday, Aug. 7! Social Justice is under attack. Stand up for the common good and for your fellow St. Louis neighbors! Advocate for the causes that you're most passionate about! Join us for this peaceful demonstration held monthly (usually on the first Friday) to take action as part of a national movement to protest the injustices in our country today. Gather at 5pm at the corner of Flora & S. Grand Blvd this Friday!

And... the next Black Lives Matter Vigil will be Friday, Aug. 21st at the corner of Manchester and Kingshighway, from 4:30-5:30pm. Please join us!

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.