

Pastoral Reflection
18th Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 4, 2024

When I first prepared children to receive the Eucharist, I intuited that the Passover story would be important for them to know. So, I wrote a song that told the story. The chorus began, "God loved the people so"... the final verse, "God fed them with that bread from heaven." Jesus did not need my song; Jesus was a Jew. He knew intimately the significance of God raining down bread from heaven as the Israelites wandered in the wilderness from Egypt to the Promised Land. Jesus knew that God cared and provided for the Israelites in the midst of their grumbling, providing just what they needed. They were taught by God to trust, be humble, and not to hoard.

So, the conversations Jesus is having in today's Gospel are charged with meaning. Many Jews of Jesus time linked the coming of the Messiah with the return of the Bread of Heaven, with the coming of a new Moses, with the coming of God's Reign. And the crowd in today's Gospel, as well as Jesus, know all this. The crowd had just been fed by Jesus in the miracle of the loaves and fishes, and now are demanding a sign to confirm that Jesus is the one. He replies, "I am the Bread of Life."

The Gospel of John is a theological reflection stating this is who we have come to know/believe about Jesus. Can we

state the same? Yes, we believe that Jesus is the Bread of Life. Yes, we believe that when we share Eucharist, we embody the Bread of Life. We pray in the Prayer of Jesus, "Give us this day our daily bread." In Aramaic, the language spoken by Jesus, this request for daily bread has a broader meaning, "Give us the sustenance and wisdom that we need today for our purpose of participating in the Reign of God," the Reign of Love. Let the people say Amen.

—*Madonna Kuciejczyk-Kernan*

Parish Center Offices

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

Pastoral Administrator: Fr. Jack Schuler
jschuler@stcronan.org

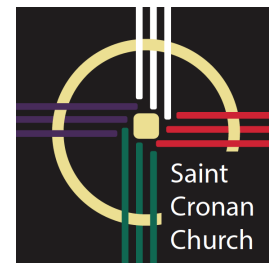
Pastoral Associate: Diane Gozdzialski
diane@stcronan.org

Church Administrator: Mary Ward
mary@stcronan.org

Music Director: David Dickey
dsdickey@earthlink.net

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

Bulletin Deadline: WED 12 noon



St. Cronan Catholic Church
18th Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 4, 2024

Mass Information

SUNDAY – 8 a.m. and 10 am.

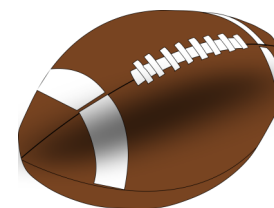
SATURDAY VIGIL – 5:00 pm.

Wednesdays – 8:00 am.

Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment.

Livestreaming: We are still looking for more folks to step forward to help with the livestreaming ministry. Livestreaming the mass is simple, and helps those who are in need of attending Mass remotely. We will soon have an upgraded system that will enhance the worship experience for both the in-church and remote church-goers. Questions? Contact Diane at (314) 941-4933 or diane@stcronan.org

Ministries at St. Cronan: The list of St. Cronan ministries can be found on our website <https://stcronan.org/community> The list includes contact persons for each ministry. If your group has any open meetings that you would like to publish, please have the details to Mary by noon on Wednesday for the bulletin, and to Diane by 9am Monday morning for Monday Notes. We will also add your meeting to the website calendar.



St. John's Church Football Raffle is Back!

The raffle tickets are \$25 for a chance to win weekly prizes for 18 weeks. St. Cronan has had quite a few big winners for the Baseball and Football Raffles in the past. You may purchase your tickets after all Masses. if you attend the 8am or 5pm on Saturday, please see Diane or Fr. Jack for a ticket. You can also purchase tickets from the Parish Office 9-3pm weekdays or by calling 314-289-9384. If writing a check, please make it out to **ST. JOHN CHURCH** (not St. Cronan). Thank you for your support!



Prayers : John Gozdziński, Tom and Madonna Kuciejczyk-Kernan, Joseph Kuciejczyk (brother of Madonna and Sr. Janet), Nick and Shirley Ambrose, Kathy Hunn's niece Lisa and her brother Jon, Mary Truetken, Pam (cousin of Donna Zuroweste), Laura Krueger's mother, Evelyn Puleo, Marie and Roland Martir's grandson, Camden and daughter, Carrie; Sr. Pauline's niece; Laura Rettke, John Nauhm, Bob Barnicle, Sandra Ward's family and her friend; Anita, Sr. Mary Ellen (friend of Nick Ambrose), Jim Chapin (friend of Marty Spies), Bob Wiley, Pam Schaefer, Joe and Janice Fairless, Eileen Heidenheimer's friends, Joe and Laura; Diane Von Hof, friend of Joan and Trish Curtis; Brian Klinkhardt, friend of Judith Santamaria; Andrew Moll's brother, Michael, Saralou Henderson, Kathy Bayless, Jesse Koenig; friend of Mary Solomon and former parishioner Sr. Louise Lears and her family, Shelly Kurtz's Great Nephew, Scott Barricklow; Judy Varias' husband, Gene Krebs; Fr. Gerry's young friend; Ben Zevely.



Online Directory Are you looking for our Online Directory? It can be accessed via our website homepage in the very bottom bar under "Quick Links". <https://stcronan.org/> We would love to have recent pictures of your beautiful faces to add to our online directory. Please send a recent photo that you would like included to mary@stcronan.org. This a Church Members Only directory, and is password protected. If you need the password, please contact the

church office. In addition, if you have had any changes to you address, phone number or email, please notify Mary in the office.

BEER & BITS: Join the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet for a social event featuring local craft beers and tasty pub foods to benefit our mission and ministries. Enjoy ...A variety of beers from local craft breweries: Wellspent Brewing Company and Civil Life Brewing Co., tasty pub foods and meet the brew masters and learn about craft brewing.

Tours of the historic motherhouse will also be available. \$40 per person (Over 21 please) Aug. 10 from 6-8pm Questions? Contact Stephanie Betts at sbetts@csjssl.org or 314-678-0328. To register: event/beer-bites/



Coming to you this Fall....Mums for sale!!! Watch the bulletin and Monday notes for more details.

STL Black History Tours are planned for the following dates:

Aug. 24, Sept. 21 and Oct. 19

To sign-up email the tour date, your name, email address, and phone number to Paul Loida at the email address below.

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. For mor info contact Paul Loida. paul.loida@bayer.com



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, Aug. 16. Please join us!



The Bridges Retreat: Bridges Foundation offers a life-changing experience of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola in Everyday Life For 35 years, the Bridges Retreat has been helping individuals connect and integrate the 500-year-old Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola into their busy lives. The 8-month retreat helps participants draw closer to God and Jesus, create a more disciplined prayer life using a variety of prayer styles, find spiritual guidance for

making big decisions, and form a clearer picture of their purpose and future. Here's what is involved:

- The opportunity to have a full experience of the Spiritual Exercises over an extended period of time, as envisioned and created by St. Ignatius, the founder of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits).
- A commitment to about an hour of prayer each day, following a modern translation of the original text.
- Personalized, one-on-one guidance from an experienced, trained prayer companion.
- Weekly or monthly small community meetings at five locations throughout the St. Louis metropolitan area, in addition to an online option for those outside the area or those who need a virtual experience.

The retreat begins in September 2024, and registration is limited each year to about 40 participants. The retreat is open to Christians of all denominations and is designed to meet the spiritual longings of persons at all stages of the life journey.

Free information sessions will be offered at a number of Greater St. Louis-area sites this summer, as well as a virtual "Zoom" session. For more details about the retreat and information session schedule, visit: www.bridgesfoundation.org. For questions, contact Steve Givens, executive director, at: executive.director@bridgesfoundation.org or 314-401-2072.