

Pastoral Reflection
23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 10, 2023

Most of the time, we breeze through the second reading and focus on the Gospel or at least the first reading, but this second reading is too strong to skip over. “Owe one another nothing except to love each other.” it begins. It dates me to quote the Beatles, but “all you need is love” is so biblical and so Jesus-inspired it’s hard not to. But what kind of love IS this? What does it mean?

Loving others the way Paul is talking about means acknowledging their dignity as created by God. We accept our responsibility to deal with them honestly and truthfully. We don’t get to write anyone off or view them as disposable, not the unborn, not the poor, not the criminal and not the enemy. This Christian love we owe each other is considered costlier than harboring warm feelings for the world. How we feel doesn’t matter, how we respond is everything.

“Loving others the way Paul is talking about means acknowledging their dignity as created by God.”

Paul neatly summarizes the Commandments by laying down the love command of Jesus in his own paraphrase. “Love does no harm to the neighbor.” That’s it. God’s way is as clear-cut as that. Love

means don’t hurt people, don’t shame them, marginalize them, exclude them, cheat them, deny them rights or withhold justice. Love protects, uplifts, includes and supports the neighbor. And don’t forget the Jesus definition of neighbor, which includes people normally considered outsiders.

Love fulfills the law, but Paul says fulfillment is more than merely meeting legal requirements. It surpasses the law, law like the picket fence of 613 little laws rabbis built around the Ten Commandments to make sure they were completely kept. Obeying the Decalogue is for beginners who want to check off that they have met all the watch points for Step One. LOVING is for the limitless!

Sister Chabanel Mathison, OSU

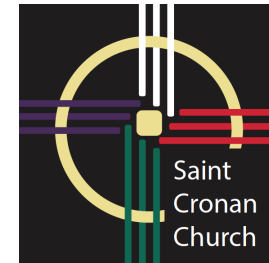
Parish Center Offices

Mon-Fri 9am-3pm
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Bulletin Deadline: Wed 12 noon



St. Cronan Catholic Church
23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 10, 2023

Mass Information

SUNDAY – 8 a.m. and 10 am.

SATURDAY VIGIL – 5:00 pm.

Wednesdays – 8:00 am.

Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment.

Maui Wildfire Relief: Catholic Charities USA is supporting relief efforts for our brothers and sisters in Maui, Hawaii, who have been affected by the catastrophic wildfires. To help provide immediate and long-term aid to those recovering from this disaster, St. Cronan will be participating in this effort through a second collection at all Masses on the weekend of September 16/17. Checks should be made out to St. Cronan, with “Maui” on the memo line. Thank you in advance for your generosity. The special collection donations will be directed to Catholic Charities USA, which partners with local Catholic Charities agencies that are serving the affected communities, providing for immediate needs like food, clothing, and shelter, as well as long-term case management services to help individuals and families navigate the difficult journey of getting their lives back in order.



Sock Angels: The Knights and Ladies Auxiliary of St. Peter Claver are holding their “Sock Angel” campaign during the month of September. Please purchase packages of socks for distribution to unhoused people and place them in the box in the vestibule. For further information click here: www.knightsofpeterclaver.org Look for the bin in the back of church!

Eucharistic Ministers As we institute Communion of the Most Precious Blood, we are in need of Eucharistic Ministers, especially at the 5:00 and 8:00 Masses. Please contact me if you would be willing to serve as Eucharistic Minister. Instructions and training are available.



Special Collection: There will be a special second collection this weekend, September 9-10, for Catholic University of America. Envelopes will be available in the pews. For further information, please scan the QR code on the envelope or visit collection.catholic.edu



Prayers Please: Kathy Bayless; Trish Curtis' brother; David Gaillardetz' father, Richard; Nickand Shirley Ambrose's daughter, Brigid Costello; Varrietta Anthony; Fr. Jack's brother, Mike; Diane Calcaterra; Sr. Lynne's friend, Jan Berberich, SSND; Barb Sopp's friend, Joe Sinibaldi; Bob Barnicle; Paul Schmitt; Tim and Else Hirzel's great nephew, Cameron Russell; Kathy Hunn's niece, Lisa; Sr. Cathy's friends, Inga Casillo, Don Costello, and newborn baby, Giovanni Christopher Centerino; Judy Gallagher; Mary Truetkin; Marie and Roland Martir's daughter, Carrie, and granddaughter, Madi; John Gozdziwski; Michael Mason, former SVDP hauler; Michael Peterson; Linda and Jeff Caul's daughter, Kelly; Joe Connolly; Sam Vitale, friend of Father Jack and Mary Ward; John Derr, son-in-law of Alice Adcock; Bill Blow's daughter, Meg Shugarts; Roger Bailey, friend of Dom and Marcy Soda; Philip Anala; Bonnie Wimmer; Jon Ebner, nephew of Rocky Sieben and Ruth Hasser; the Krueger family; Nick Ambrose; Betty Newberry; Marty Spies; Judith Santamaria; Rocky Sieben's father; Nick Ambrose's friend, John; Tom Farace, Brother-in-law of Mary and Dave Solomon; Theresa Jones, sister of Dave Solomon; Gary Johnson, brother-in-law to Madonna and Tom Kuciejczyk-Kernan and Sr. Janet Kuciejczyk; Janice Fairless; Leslie Conway; Mary Middendorf, Barry Buchek's friend, Alan Zagurski; Barry Buchek; Judy Varias; Else Hirzel; Dede Coughlin; and Fr. George. *If your loved one should be removed from the prayer list, please let the church office know.*

Andrew Viragh's Aunt Debbie Erp passed away last week, please keep her and her family in your prayers.

Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers: Bishop Rivotuso will be joining us at 10:00 Mass on September 24 for the Institution of Lectors and Acolytes (Eucharistic Ministers). This is a new Church celebration instituted by Pope Francis as a way to honor lay people who serve the Liturgy. If there is anyone who has been considering becoming a Lector and/or Eucharistic Minister, please contact Diane diane@stcronan.org to register. This includes new parishioners interested in these services. Thanks!



The Sisters of St. Joseph present: Uncorked!
Thurs., Oct. 5 from 6-8 p.m. Carondelet Motherhouse:
6400 Minnesota Ave., St. Louis, MO 63111
Join the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet for an evening of wine, hors d'oeuvres, desserts, live entertainment and Motherhouse tours!
Tickets cost \$40.
Please register by September 28 online at csjsl.org/events or contact us at 314-678-0328.
FYI....Mary Ward will be there with Ward on Wine to share some delicious wine.

September Ministry of the Month: Our finance committee helps shepherd the financial health of the parish and serves in an advisory role to Father Jack. We meet quarterly to review the operating results, work with our parish administrator on meeting repair and capital improvement needs and provide a financial update to the parish. Our committee prepares a budget which we review as a committee and present to the parish council for their review and approval. Members of the committee are Dave Bolesta, Mike Forst, Bob Mahon, Phil Heagney, Dede Coughlin and Jim Tobin. Two members count the money from weekly collections and checks mailed to the parish, record the results, and make a deposit. We would welcome any questions, suggestions, or interest in getting involved in our work, including the weekly counting duty.

Tower Grove Pride will take place the weekend of September 23-24, 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. This is an awesome opportunity to continue our LGBTQ+ ministry and show our support with open arms. St. Margaret of Scotland will be joining us this year, and we need volunteers to work our booth for both days. To sign up, please click this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACAF2DA2F9C52-stcronanst>
It's amazing how much the presence of the Catholic Church at Pridefest supports our LBGTQ+ siblings. It's also a great time to get to know people from St. Cronan and St. Margaret of Scotland, spending an hour or two with them in our booth. We especially need people to help with set up and take down on Saturday at 10:30 a.m. and Sunday at 6:00 p.m.

Black Lives Matter Vigil, takes place the third Friday of the Month at the corner of Manchester and Kingshighway, 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. The next vigil will take place on Friday, Sept. 15. Please join us!

Parish Ministries: If you would like to add your talents to any of our ministries, and meet a great bunch of people, please call the church office or visit our website www.stcronan.org for information. ***You are always welcome!***

August 2023 contributions	
General Fund	\$13,558.00
Building Repair Fund	\$125.00
Latin America	\$70.00
Capital Maintenance	\$32.00
Food Pantry	\$830.00
Wish List	\$4330.00
Retired Religious	\$100.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$355.00
Uganda	\$55.00
Broader Vision School	\$2349.00