

Pastoral Reflection
26th Sunday of Ordinary Time
September 28, 2025

This 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Jesus offers the parable of the comfortably living rich man and the poor suffering man, Lazarus, who is outside the rich man's home. Though they are so close physically, the rich man, who is not even given a name here, is blind to Lazarus' wounds, deaf to Lazarus' cries, and ignorant of his hunger.

It is easy for me to judge the rich man for his self-centeredness and lack of concern for others, thinking that if I had someone like Lazarus outside my door, of course I would share and give him comfort.

But I could ask myself:

Do I perhaps choose to live somewhere that this is very improbable to happen?

Do I choose to spend time with people and at places that don't involve those who are unwell and live much less comfortably than me?

Do I see people's wounds by visiting those who are sick, ill, or injured?

Do I go to the hungry, or hurt, and acknowledge their suffering?

Jesus makes it clear that the distance we create in this life between us and suffering will be inverted when we die. That "the last will be first and the first will be last."

When rich man dies, he finds himself burn-

ing in pain while Lazarus is embraced and finds love. Though most of Jesus' teachings point to mercy, this parable denies the rich man the chance to have his living family be warned.

What do we make of this?

This must be an absolute priority of Jesus, that we heed the call to be in relationship to those suffering, to be close to them, and to tend to them. How similar this is to the parable of the sheep and the goats. The mercy we give is the mercy we will receive.

We are called to close the chasms between our complacency and the anguish that surrounds us. We must stretch our hands out, give away our bread, sharing the richness of the Eucharist with which we find ourselves blest.

—Justin Lorenz

Church Center Offices

Mon-Fri 9am-3pm

Phone: (314) 289-9384

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Community Life Coordinator: Johnny Zokovitch

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Retired Priest in Residence: Fr. Jack Schuler

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Pastoral Associate: Diane Gozdziński

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Church Administrator: Mary Ward

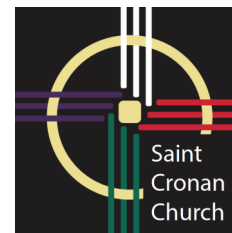
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Music Director: David Dickey

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Food Pantry Director: Mary Solomon

(314) 533-0651



St. Cronan Catholic Church
September 28, 2025

26th Sunday in 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

Mums the Word! Don't forget to pick up your order. Mum delivery will take place after each Mass this weekend. If you can't pick yours up, we can hold them in the office for pick up Mon-Fri 9am-3pm....However, we can't ensure we will keep them alive. Thank you for your support!



**World Day
of
Migrants &
Refugees**



The churches involved in the Immigrant & Refugee Ministry—including our community—are planning an action in observance of the World Day of Migrants and Refugees on Sunday, October 5 after 10:00 Mass. The action will involve a pilgrimage by members of all of the participating churches to St. Pius on South Grand. St. Cronan's will have a rite of sending at the conclusion of the 10am Mass then walk or

drive (as you are able) to the public rally and prayer service at St. Pius. Look for more details about the route from St. Cronan's to St. Pius (whether driving or walking), an opportunity to make signs or adorn your car with messages supportive of our immigrant community, and more! *Please see insert for more info.*

OCIA: If you or anyone you know would like to join the Catholic Church or learn more about our faith, consider joining the Order of Christian Initiation of Adult instruction that will take place starting TODAY September 28 with 10:00 Mass followed by an introductory session at 11:00. The first part of our study is "Inquiry", so you don't make any commitment until later in the process. Please see Johnny or Diane for more information: 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, Denise Oberle and her granddaughter, Danielle Oliveros; Trish Curtis' siblings, Skip, Teree, and Ray; Joe Fairless; Sr. Cathy Doherty's friends, Lina Tackas and Tim; Rob Barnicle, who has been placed on hospice; 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; Laura Krueger's mom, Evelyn Puleo; Mary Hastings; Marie and Roland Martir's granddaughter, Madi and their dear friend, Robert Screace, who has been placed on hospice; Judy Varias' husband Gene; J.T. Fowler; and Fr. Thomas's sister, Faustina.

If you would like your loved one or yourself to be placed on the list, please call the office at (314) 289-9384, or email Mary@stcronan.org

UNCORKED! Thursday, Oct 9, 2025

6:00PM - 8:00PM CT

Carondelet Motherhouse

Join the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet at the historic motherhouse for an evening of: Specialty wines, hors d'oeuvres and desserts, live entertainment and tasting tips and pairing advice from our wine professionals (including our own Mary Ward). Benefitting the mission and ministries of the Sisters of St. Joseph. For more info, contact Stephanie Betts at 314-678-2944 or sbetts@csjstl.org.



St. Cronan Get-to-know-you Potluck: Thanks to all who attended the potluck, and to Maggie and Bob for organizing and preparing, Maria Gray for providing the plant centerpieces, and Dorothy for donating the attendance prizes. Everyone had a great time and we hope to do it again.

St. Cronan Social Justice Book Club meets on the 2nd Sunday of each month in the 1st floor conference room after 10am mass from 11:30am-12:30pm. Our October 12 book is "James" by Percival Everett. Our November 9 book is "Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants" by Robin Wall Kimmerer. 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.



MICA Trivia

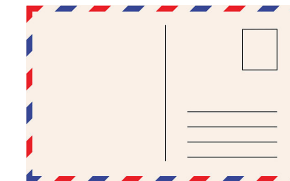
Night... Put your team together and register here: <https://www.mica-project.org/trivia-night-2025.html>

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, October 17. Please join us!

Midtown: Midtown is holding their Fall Festival October 17, 4:00 to 6:30 p.m. Bring the family to enjoy a pumpkin walk, bounce house, food and drinks, trick or treating and more. On the church center parking lot.

Save the date for Midtown's Holiday Gala on Friday, Dec. 5! This night of fun includes dinner, open bar, awards ceremony, and dancing to the music of DJ O! For more info or to purchase tickets visit <https://www.midtownstl.org/upcoming-events-1>



Feed the Children of Gaza: Postcards will be available on this weekend. For those inclined, you will be invited to sign a postcard, which will then be hand-carried to the offices of US Senators and our Representatives for Missouri.



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.