



Pastor:
Jesus

Mission:
The Gospel

This faith community gathers in thanksgiving and prayer daily. You are invited to join us anytime.

SUNDAY — 8:00 am and 10:00 am
SATURDAY VIGIL — 5:00 pm
WEEKDAYS — 8:00 am

The Sacrament of Reconciliation at 4:30 pm Saturday or by appointment.

1202 S. Boyle Ave. • St. Louis, MO 63110 • www.stcronan.org

Our Mission Statement

Our mission at St. Cronan's parish is to create an atmosphere in which people of all ages and persuasions are called to worship and to build the living Church. As followers of Jesus Christ, this community recognizes the value of ministering to each other, of fostering our own spiritual growth, of encouraging a commitment to social justice, and sharing, in faith, our gifts with the wider neighborhood and world community.

Parish Council

Joan Barthel (*)	Tim Hellmann (1)
Kathy Bayless (2)	Jim Kelly (1)
Dede Coughlin (*)	Marie Martir (2)
Judy Gallagher (*)	Dan Schuler (2)
Heather Hageman (2)	Dominic Soda(*)

Parish Ministries

- Faith Formation
- RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)
- Liturgy of the Word with Children
- Eucharistic Ministers/Lectors
- Music Ministry
- Liturgy Committee
- St. Vincent de Paul Society
- St. Cronan Food Pantry
- Health Cabinet
- C4 (Churches Committed to Community Concerns)
- Habitat for Humanity
- COPE (Congregations + Offender Partnership Enterprise)
- Parish Council
- Stewardship & Fundraising
- Parish Support Team
- Personnel Committee

Parish Center Offices (314) 256-9350

Fax (314) 535-1437

Pastor

Fr. Gerald J. Kleba gerry@stcronan.org
Rectory (314) 289-9545

Pastoral Associate

Pat Carter p-a@stcronan.org

Parish Staff

Ms. Delores Blount	delores@stcronan.org
Parish Secretary	
Ms. Mary Ellen Dee	maryellen@stcronan.org
Director, Music Ministry	
Ms. Kathy Hunn	kathy@stcronan.org
Director, Food Pantry	(314) 533-0651
Mr. Carlos Johnson	
Maintenance	
Madonna Kuciejczyk-Kernan	
Faith Formation	

Outreach

St. Vincent de Paul	(314) 289-6101 Box 1143
Emergency Assistance	
Health Cabinet	
Ms. Dorothy Lucey	
Parish Nurse	health@stcronan.org
Ms. Barbara O'Connell	
Midtown	(314) 534-1180
Catholic Charities Community Services	

Webmaster

Mr. Dominic Soda webmaster@stcronan.org

Fourth Sunday of Advent

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Sat. 5p Ellen Byrne
Sun. 8a Robert P. Kleba
10a The People of the Parish

WEEKDAYS AT 8:00a

Mon. Frieda Breitenbach
Tues. *Communion Service*
Wed. Josie Perotti
Thurs. Roy & Julie Schieszer
Fri. Marie Myers

NEXT WEEKEND

Sat. 8a Our Faith Departed Parishioners
Sat. 10:30p Elizabeth Temporiti
Sun. 8a The People of the Parish
10a Leonard Palozola

REFRESHMENTS

1st Sunday Parish Council
2nd Sunday Anna Forder
3rd Sunday Maggie Hart-Mahon & Bob Mahon
4th Sunday Henry Schmitt

Christmas & New Year's Mass Schedule

Dec. 24— 8:00 AM

**Dec. 24— Christmas Eve—10 PM Carols
10:30PM (pre-midnight)**

**Dec. 25— Christmas Day— 8:00AM &
10AM**

Dec. 31- New Year's Eve— 5PM

**Jan. 1, 2012— New Year's Day— Mary,
Mother of God**

Masses at 8:00AM & 10:00AM

Gift of Oplatek: Jane Levdansky, Joan Lafferty and Mei Huan have again blessed us with a gift of oplatek, a thin wafer about the size of a card embossed with a Christmas symbol. It is a Polish custom to break this bread at the evening meal on Christmas Eve and share it among those around the table as an expression of good wishes for health, joy and happiness during the Christmas Season and all through the coming year. A fuller explanation of this tradition is available on slips in the back of church.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SISTERS & BROTHERS

Susan Playwin (Roger Playwin's wife), John O'Connell (Barb's son), Martha Stegmaier's Dad, Greg LaVigne, Sandra Ward, Paul Oldenburg, Greg DaLay (Steve DaLay's brother), Mirabella Momo, sister of Seraphina Momo, Jaime Benitez, Millie & Joe Janisch, Frank Matula (Leslie Conway's husband), Tom Mullen, Patrick McKenna, (Mark & Maria McKenna's brother), Claude Vandervolt, Mary Zumwalt (Kathy Bayless' sister), Michael Boehm, Danny O'Connell (Barb O'Connell's grandson) and Barb O'Connell's mom, Terri Prince, Suzy Prince, Isabel Wimmer Brown (Warren & Bonnie's granddaughter), Cathy Lang, Ray Bayers (Janet Kostal's dad), Mary Dunaway, Valerie Williams, Mimi March (Henry Schmitt's sister), Alex Smith, Paul Voelker, Mirelly Kernan (sister-in-law of Madonna Kuciejczyk-Kernan), Marje Kaiman (Kathleen's mom), Mike & Edith Ridley (Mike's mom), Becky Scurlock, David Sieben (Rocky's father), Mary Anne (Toni) McKenna, Mary Ann (Terry Hunn's sister), Aidan Jordan, Vickie Avellone, Pat Naum (wife of Louis), JoAnn & Donald Anderson, Barbara Peper (Anne Perkins' stepmother), Daniel Whealon (Mary Whealon's twin brother), Sue Lauritsen's son, Nodric, Danielle Oliveros (Nancy Buck's granddaughter), Susan Christopher, Carrie Brown (Roland Martir's daughter), Nancy Buck's daughter, Chris, Edward Dee (son of Mary Ellen Dee), Jeffrey Williams, Arthricia Temes, and Genevieve Pollack.

Rest in Peace: Frieda Breitenbach, John Meyer's 101 year old mother, went to God this past Sunday, Dec.4 while sitting at the table eating dinner at Mary Queen of Mother Center. Our prayers for Frieda and the Meyer family. May she rest in eternal peace.

WELCOME, Abigail Elaine Moramarco, the granddaughter of Donna and Joe Moramarco. Congratulations to Mom (Mary) and Dad (Ben). A new life in our world. Abigail was born Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2011.

St. Cronan's Chronicles arrived from the printer just in time for our liturgies this past weekend. It's a wonderful issue which gives a delightful taste of life at our parish. Thanks to Madonna Kuciejczyk-Kernan who compiled and edited, copy edited and proofread by Joan Barthel, designed by Kathleen Herring. Be sure to pick up your copy at church!

Saturday, December 24th, 10:00 am. Join us for decorating the church for Christmas! Please let us know if you are coming so we know how many people to count on. Some of the tasks require a good eye, or some strength, but most of the tasks require simply a willing heart and some time. And it is always great fun to see what emerges from the efforts of those participating. So please join us!

During this Advent, may our community continue to make straight the pathway to our God for each other, our families, our communities and the world. We are still looking for pictures if our community in action that we can hang along the pews as part of our decorations.

Outreach

The Food Pantry is open on the 2nd, 4th, and 5th Saturdays of the month from 9:00-11:00a. It serves households in the 63110 zip code.

Advent Food Drive: We are also making special efforts to collect food for our neighbors who visit our food pantry. We are focusing on low salt and low sugar items for those who have special dietary needs. These items are being brought up as part of the offertory collection at the Sunday masses. The Food Drive goes through Christmas, Sunday, December 25, 2011.

B.A.S.I.C (AA & NA) meets every Saturday from 11:00a-1:00p in the lower level of the Parish Center (The Healing Yellow Room).

T'ai Chi Chih 9:30a Sundays, outside (weather permitting) or in the balcony.

Nar-anon Family group is continuing to meet at St. Cronan's. Meeting info: **Weds. 6:30 pm. in the Coffee & Donut room.** For more info check out our website: www.nar-anon.org or call or text Janice at 314-560-7300 or Heather at 314-650-4313. If you have a family member or friend struggling with addiction and you need help please join us.

Supporting Our Community

Children's Faith Formation communities meet 1st and 3rd Sundays from 8:45 a.m. to 9:50 a.m. at the Parish Center to nurture the relationship with God and with one another. You are invited to revitalize the Youth Commission, please see future bulletins for more information.

Come celebrate our Family Mass:

Sunday December 18th, 10:00am. Come at 9:30 if you'd like to sing or play in the Cronan Family Choir.

The faith formation classes and youth group have been busy getting things together for their adopted families. This weekend the 6-7 graders, Suzanne Falvey's class, made ornaments for the tree they bought and the youth group with the help of Tim Hellmann and Kate Pichon made decorated cookies for the family.

And Dorothy Lucey had extra items that those who had adopted families could use to supplement what they had bought displayed in the coffee and doughnuts room.

And through it all a wonderful spirit of abundance and rejoicing!

Pastor's Peace

BRINGING LIGHT INTO THE DARKNESS

Both Jews and Christians light candles in hope that we will bring new light into the world as these December days become more dark and dreary. The eight Hanukkah candles recall the faith of the people who were running out of oil for their lamps, but the oil though diminished didn't totally disappear. The four Advent Wreath candles are lit trusting that the Light of the World will brighten the world as the days get shorter. And the hope does not disappoint. On December 22, the first day of winter, the days get longer and we move towards summer sunshine and warmth. Where do we light candles of cheer and enlightenment?

Last week many of us went to Central Reform Congregation and through song, dance and candles we celebrated light and life in the world. We were informed that the actual name of the synagogue is House of Peace. Rabbi Susan Talve taught us that in "raising the valleys and lowering the hills" Isaiah was telling us that God desires a level playing field for all people. There are to be no distinctions between the haves and have not's, the upper and the lower class, the in group and the castaways. That is especially enlightening when we hear baseball players and baseball team owners talk about God telling them about contracts involving hundreds of millions of dollars and about where the owners and fans bring enough love to the table. Maybe we are to believe that the angel spoke to Albert and told him to play for the Angels. Are we to believe, "It really isn't about money.?" How do our words and actions create a level playing field where there is equal access for all of God's children?

The field was leveled this past Sunday when we were recipients of light when we welcomed the Turkish Muslims from the Niagara Foundation who brought Noah Pudding to share for the holidays. They also brought their love, warm smiles, memories of visits to Turkey and joyous connections with St. Cronan's through the interfaith dialogue that we have had and will continue on the third Thursday of January in the New Year. At that time Second Presbyterian Church will join the group and host the gathering. All of these people enlighten our world.

End of the Year Contributions: At the close of the year many parishioners like to make added donations to the church as part of their tax strategy. We are grateful for everyone's support and appreciate the "extra influx" of financial assistance that comes around Christmas. It is a generous return to God for all that has been given to us. Please note the **unique situation of New Year's weekend** and the envelopes you turn in on those days. All checks marked "December 31" (Saturday) will be counted toward your 2011 contribution statement; whereas those checks marked "January 1" (Sunday) will go toward your 2012 statement. Also, all gifts designated for the Capital Campaign or the Food Pantry will be put into those accounts.

In these remaining weeks of Advent, let us make our prayer:
Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay!

SACRAMENTS/MARRIAGE PREP: Parishioners wishing to celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage are asked to contact Father Gerry at least six months in advance of the proposed wedding date. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available on Saturdays at 4:30p and at other times by appointment. Adults who are interested in Sacramental preparation (Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation) should talk with Father Gerry about RCIA — the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is held in the Parish Center.

WILLS: Please remember Saint Cronan's in your will. Title is St. Cronan's Catholic Church—1202 South Boyle Ave.— St. Louis, MO 63110

The Role of Sacristan (setting up for mass, making sure bread and wine are out, candles lit, etc.) at the three weekend liturgies used to be handled by various parishioners. In the past year because of illness or moving away, the duties have fallen on Pat. She would appreciate others taking on these roles again as well as ensuring that lectors and Eucharistic ministers are present. There is a sign up sheet in the back of church. If several people from each weekend liturgy could sign up, then they could take turns so it wouldn't fall on any one person every week. If you are interested, but not quite sure what it entails, ask Pat.

A ROLL OF DRUMS PLEASE! SOUND THE TRUMPETS! St. Vincent DePaul Society (SVDP) at St. Cronan Church is selling wine goblets and coffee mugs (cost is \$10 each or 4 for \$35). The wine goblets bear the St. Cronan Celtic Cross while the coffee mugs have the St. Cronan Celtic Cross and the words, "**St. Cronan Church**" prominently displayed. Both items make wonderful Christmas gifts. The selling of the goblets and mugs is our annual Christmas fund raiser. Your support of our fund raiser is critical at this time not only to continue to provide assistance with electric bills but also to be prepared for the many Laclede gas bills during the winter.

St. Cronan St. Vincent DePaul Give Away for Our Neighbors: Set Up: January 20, 2012 5-9 p.m. at the Parish Center. Any help greatly appreciated. **Give Away January 21, 2012** coverage/assistance from 8:15am-1200pm. Any help with all or part of these time lines is greatly appreciated. Additional information . Call Dorothy 314-803-1858.

Parish Office will be closed on *Monday, 26 December* in observance of the Christmas holiday and *Monday, 2 January 2012* for New Year's Day. The office will be open on a limited basis from Thursday, 22 December through Tuesday, 3 January, 2012 for staff on vacation.

INFORMATION SHEET

Church name & address
St. Cronan #003648
1202 S. Boyle Avenue
St. Louis MO 63110-3813

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