



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

Kathy Bayless (2)	Jim Kelly (1)
Bill Blow (3)	Marie Martir (2)
Heather Hageman (2)	Tina Nathe (3)
Maggie Hart-Mahon (3)	Dan Schuler (2)
Tim Hellmann (1)	Barb Sopp (3)

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
- Grief Support
- 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

Third Sunday of Advent

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Sat. 5p Albert Frank
Sun. 8a The People of the Parish
10a William Hartrich

WEEKDAYS AT 8:00a

Mon. Syl & Marge Berg
Tues. *Communion Service*
Wed. Lola Prosperi
Thurs. Anna Fuchs
Fri. Ella & John Hartnett

NEXT WEEKEND

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

REFRESHMENTS

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

THE FIRST READING

Book of the prophet Isaiah, Chapter 61, Verses 1-2a, 10-11

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me.

Lord,
you bring glad tidings to the poor.
Let us hear.

You heal the brokenhearted.
Heal us too.

You free the prisoners from their jails.
Free us from ourselves.

Loving God,
please come to us,
and send us out, forgiven,
to the poor, the brokenhearted the
imprisoned.

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PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SISTERS & BROTHERS

Susan Playwin (Roger Playwin's wife), John O'Connell (Barb's son), 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), Mike & Ann (Ruth Hasser's nephew & wife), 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.

Adopt-a-Family this Christmas: It's that time of year when your St. Cronan's St. Vincent De Paul Society asks for volunteers to Adopt-a-Family at Christmas. This activity need not be burdensome or overly expensive. It can be detail-oriented and truly a labor of love, or it can simply mean gifting a needy family with a certificate to a discount or grocery store. A family or group of individuals can undertake adopting a family. Please look into your heart and see if there isn't time and resources for this special holiday sharing activity. It will be rewarding for all – Guaranteed!

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.

Sunday, December 11: Liturgy Committee meeting 9:00 am in the back of Church. All are welcome to join us with their thoughts, concerns and inspirations!

Come celebrate God's gifts of peace and light at Central Reform Congregation on Monday Dec. 12th. CRC is located at the corner of Kingshighway and Waterman. (5020 Waterman Blvd. 63108) We will gather at CRC for prayer at 7:00 p.m. Rabbi Susan Talve will help us listen more deeply to the Prophet Isaiah's message to us. Please bring cookies or nuts to share.

The Traveling with the Turtle Group will use the CRC prayer time listed above as their meeting time this month.

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.

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.

Heads up for the (Christmas), December 25

Bulletin issue: Announcements are to be sent to J.S. Paluch on or before Friday, December

16. We kindly ask that you submit your announcements for Dec. 25 ASAP! Thanks!

Christmas 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

Pastor's Peace

3rd Sunday of Advent

Advent Hope

Reflections from Fr. Ron Rohlheiser, OMI

Henri Nouwen was once asked: "Are you an optimist?" His reply: "No, not naturally, but that isn't important. I live in hope, not optimism." ...

Hope is ... a vision of life that guides itself by God's promise, irrespective of whether the situation looks optimistic or pessimistic at any given time.

... Hope is not based on whether the evening news is good or bad on a given day. ... Instead, hope looks at the facts, looks at God's promise, and then, without denying the facts or turning away from the evening news, lives out a vision of life based upon God's promise, trusting that a benevolent, all-powerful God is still in charge of this world and that is more important than whether or not the news looks good or bad on a given night.

Jim Wallis, founder of Sojourners, uses the example of the dismantling of apartheid in South Africa. Apartheid was not brought down by guns or violence or even by changing the politicians, but by changing the wind. And it was changed by hope. How?

In the face of racial injustice, people of faith began to pray together and, as a sign of their hope that one day the evil of apartheid would be overcome, they lit candles and placed them in their windows so that their neighbors, the government, and the whole world would see their belief. And their government did see. They passed a law making it illegal, a politically subversive act, to light a candle and put it in your window. It was seen as a crime, as serious as owning and flaunting a gun. The irony of this wasn't missed by the children. At the height of the struggle against apartheid, the children of Soweto had a joke: "Our government," they said, "is afraid of lit candles!"

During the season of advent, Christians are asked to light candles as a sign of hope. ... But lighting a candle in hope is not just a pious, religious act; it's a political act, a subversive one, and a prophetic one, as dangerous as brandishing a firearm.

To light an advent candle is to say, in the face of all that suggests the contrary, that God is still alive, still Lord of this world, and, because of that, "all will be well, and all will be well, and every manner of being will be well," irrespective of the evening news.

Adapted from an article by Fr. Ron Rolheiser, OMI

www.ronrolheiser.com.

What candles are we called to light as individuals, families, and the St. Cronan community?

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

COMING ATTRACTIONS! A ROLL OF DRUMS PLEASE! SOUND THE TRUMPETS! St. Vincent DePaul Society (SVDP) at St. Cronan Church will be 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.

Find help for your troubled marriage through the next **RETROUVAILLE Program that starts February 10-12, 2012**, with a Weekend (Friday night thru Sunday), and has six follow-up sessions held over three months. You need not be Catholic to attend and we can work with people having financial difficulties. For confidential information, call 1-800-470-2230 toll free – or visit www.retrouvaille.org.

INFORMATION SHEET

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1202 S. Boyle Avenue
St. Louis MO 63110-3813

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