



St. Cronan Catholic Church

21st Sunday, Ordinary Time

August 21-22, 2021

Mass Information

SUNDAY – 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. SATURDAY VIGIL – 5:00 p.m. Wednesdays – 8:00 a.m. Masks are required for all Masses to keep our unvaccinated children safe.

Live-streaming continues at the 10:00 am Mass this Sunday and the other Sundays of the month. PLEASE BE ON TIME! Masses will be live streamed at 10:00. Live-streamed masses are available on our Facebook page any time after the 10:00 Mass,

<https://www.facebook.com/StCronan>

Recorded Mass will take place the first Sunday of each month. It can be accessed on our website: <http://www.stcronan.org/>

Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Ushers Now that Masses are opening up, we are in need of Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers. There are instructions for ushers posted in the Chapel, and anyone attending the Mass can fulfill this ministry. If you are interested in these ministries, please contact Diane diane@stcronan.org

Prayers Please

Bill Barrett, Mary Truetken, Laurel Hayes' parents, Jerry and Nancy, Bill's brother in law, Dave Rose, Bill's friend, Jim Forest, Robert Nathe's Mother, Eileen, Colleen Wallace's godson, Lachlan, Michelle Frank, Martha Stegmaier, Diane Calcaterra, Jennifer Lyle and Krista Rakers, Laurel Hayes.

Jean Abbott, CSJ, was a beloved member of the St. Cronan's community. You may also be familiar with her work as founder and director of the Center for Survivors of Torture and War Trauma for many years. Please join us in celebrating the life of this beautiful woman at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, September 18, 2021. Light refreshments will follow the prayer service.

Everyone is welcome, so feel free to share this invitation widely. Because of Covid restrictions, it is important that everyone RSVP, so that we can keep all participants safe. RSVP to marybethgallagher1066@gmail.com, telling us the number of people in your party.

Directory Update: If you have had changes to your address, phone number, or email, please contact Mary at mary@stcronan.org, (314) 289-9384.

Wills: Please remember Saint Cronan's in your will. Title is St. Cronan's Catholic Church- 1202 South Boyle Ave St. Louis, MO 63138. Our Federal ID.#43-0653457

Children's Faith Formation 2021-2022. will begin soon. Please enroll now. Classes begin on Sunday, August 29, 9:10 a.m. Additional information and a registration form are available on the desk by the north door. For questions, contact Diane – diane@stcronan.org

Coffee and Donuts has been suspended due to increased Corona virus threats. It continues on Zoom and is a great time to catch up with the community. The meeting ID is 899 1284 7699, password – cronan.

Sock Angel Campaign: St. Cronan has been asked to participate in the Knights of Peter Claver and Ladies' Auxiliary Sock Angel Campaign. The Campaign runs through the end of August. Please see the attached flyer for more information. When you attend Church this weekend, you will see a donation box in the vestibule. You can drop off new socks in the box and these will be distributed in October to 6 organizations in St. Louis who serve the homeless. Find More Information on their Website: www.sockangel.org. and www.kofpc.org

Black Lives Matter Vigil: The St. Cronan Social Justice Committee is hosting a Vigil as a way of atoning for past racism. It will be held every third Friday evening of the month - 5:00 -6:00 pm at the corner of Kingshighway and Manchester. Next month's will be Friday, September 17. Please feel free to bring your own signs. If you have questions, please contact Trish Curtis: trishquita1952@gmail.com

Football Fundraiser: St. Cronan is partnering with St. John's Church in Imperial for a Football Booster. For \$25, you receive three codes that are tied to Football Teams in the coming season. Each week, St. John's pays out money to people whose teams have reached their point criteria. You are assigned the codes, and St. John's automatically sends the check, so you don't even have to like football to participate. Tickets are available at Church after Masses, in the Church Office, (314) 289-9384, and through Helen Heilich, Hheilich31@yahoo.com St. Cronan gets a cut for every ticket sold and you have a chance to win every week during the 18-week football season. Cash or check accepted, make checks payable to: St. John's Church.

Pastoral Reflection

“This saying is hard; who can accept it?”

It seems to me that this must have been the response of many who came to listen to Jesus: disciples, people in the crowd, family members, friends, critics and enemies. What is it about the sayings of Jesus that make them hard to accept? I think the answer is pretty evident: Jesus’s words tend to run counter to dominant cultural values and the stories that uphold them – both in his time and ours. They require us, if we are to be his followers, to reorder our life, to reexamine our decisions about lifestyle and jobs and to question how and on what we spend our money, or where we live, among whom do we spend our time. They’re meant to poke us, prod us, prick us. As Dorothy Day once noted about the Catholic Worker, so too we can say about Jesus: his words may comfort the afflicted but they **afflict the comfortable**.

His words, his message, the gospel he preached, the way he lived – all these tended to undermine the values and truths that we’re coaxed into believing without questions; values and truths promoted by those in power, whether religious, economic, political or otherwise. But to take Jesus at his word – to listen to Jesus and to follow him – means living a life that contrasts, often dramatically, often at great risk, with the dominant values of the culture in which we live. The stream we live in will carry us the way it wants us to go unless we swim against it. And such swimming can oftentimes be exhausting. “This saying is hard; who can accept it?”

Even as a church, we often ask so little of each other that our discipleship to Jesus ends up devolving into personal piety or morality, without ever disrupting the systems that stand in stark opposition to the gospel of Jesus. The philosopher Soren Kierkegaard lamented that for the early followers of Jesus, their discipleship could, quite literally, mean everything – losing their livelihood, leaving their family, arrest, even death; but now, today, to call oneself a disciple of Jesus means, essentially, nothing at all. Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the German martyr, wrote an entire book on the “cost of discipleship,” musing like Kierkegaard on how “cheap” discipleship to Jesus had become in the church. Maybe it’s because we have ceased to take seriously the “hard sayings” of Jesus, having heard them so often they no longer have the power to unsettle us and disrupt business as usual.

It is no coincidence that John gives us a little insight about what this meant even for the followers of Jesus in his own time. Toward the end of today’s passage, John alludes to the fact that “many of his disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied him.”

How often do Jesus’s words unsettle us, make us uneasy, and ask us to be different, to risk something in order to follow him more closely? Or are we content to “return” to our regular way of life and no longer accompany him?

~ Johnny Zokovitch

Parish Staff and other useful information

Pastor	Fr. Jack Schuler	jschuler@stcronan.org
Pastoral Associate	Diane Gozdzialski	diane@stcronan.org
Pastor Administrator	Mary Ward	mary@stcronan.org
Food Pantry	Kathy Hunn	kathyfoodpantry@gmail.com
Midtown Services	Barbara Schaefer	bschaefer@midtownstl.org
St. Vincent DePaul	Hotline	(314) 289-6101 Box 1143

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