



## St. Cronan Catholic Church 4th Sunday of Advent December 18-19, 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. 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 and will be available January 2. It can be accessed on our website: <http://www.stcronan.org/>

### Christmas Information

We will decorate for Christmas on Sunday, December 19, after 10:00 Mass. All are welcome!

### Mass Times

**Christmas Eve** (Friday, 12/24)

10:00 Carols, 10:30 Mass

**Christmas Day** (Saturday, 12/25)

8:00 Mass

10:00 Mass

**Feast of the Holy Family** (Sunday, 12/26)

8:00 Mass

10:00 Mass

**Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary** (1/1)

9:00 Mass

**Epiphany of the Lord** (Sunday, 1/2)

8:00 Mass

10:00 Mass

**Advent Reflections for the Fourth Week of Advent** are available online on CronanTalk, and on the Website. If you would like a paper copy, some are available in the Chapel.

**Administrators Wish List:** Please see the list in the Chapel and thanks for your generosity!

### Prayers Please

Bill Barrett, Mary Truetken, Laurel Hayes, 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, Jennifer Lyle and Krista Rakers, Marilyn Leong, Jessica, Nick Ambrose, Al Sprehe, Phil Milner, Leslie Conway, Mike's grandson, Jack, Madonna Kuciejczyk-Kernan, Jim Gorman, Andrew Viraugh's Father, Sharon Orlet's sister, Betty, Nancy Buck, Nancy Buck's daughter, Jeanne, Barry Buchek's wife, Mary, Kathy Bayless, Dom and Marcy Soda's daughter, Maria.

**Coffee and Donuts** continues on Zoom and is a great time to catch up with the community. The meeting ID is 810 7478 0423, password: cronan

**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, January 21. Please feel free to bring your own signs. If you have questions, please contact Trish Curtis: trishquita1952@gmail.com

**Baked Bread for Masses:** If you were previously a part of this ministry, or enjoy baking and would like to be part of the ministry, please contact Bill Barrett, barrettb@webster.edu or Diane, (314) 941-4933, diane@stcronan.org

**Food Pantry Volunteer Opportunities:** **Driver** for food pick up at St. Gerard Majella, Kirkwood, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month at 11:00 a.m. **Volunteers** to unload the food when it arrives at St. Cronan at 11:30 a.m. **Volunteers** to help with Homebound food delivery the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month after the 10:00 Mass. We really appreciate your consideration of these needs. Kathy Hunn, Director~St. Cronan Church Food Pantry~314-704-9934 or [kathyfoodpantry@gmail.com](mailto:kathyfoodpantry@gmail.com)

**SVdP Giving Tree:** St. Cronan St. Vincent de Paul Society has their tree in the Church Chapel with envelopes attached for monetary donations to support their work throughout the year. This is one of SVdP's major fund raisers. If you would like to give online, you can through our website and the "donate" button. Just indicate that your donation is for the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Thank you for your generosity.

**OPENING JANUARY 3, 2022**

4733 Mattis Road, St. Louis MO 63128

(314) 487-2062 Drop-in center (314) 533-1313 Shelter

Hours of Operation: Monday-Friday 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM \*No appointment necessary.

All services free of charge.

***Guided by the social justice teachings of Jesus Christ, St. Martha's Hall serves women and children impacted by domestic violence by providing shelter and resources.***

***St. Martha's, a shelter for women and children, has a history of providing unconditional advocacy services in a safe, compassionate, supportive, and residential environment. St. Martha's is excited to expand its services and community outreach through a drop-in center.***

Advocates will be available during the drop-in hours to provide services and support to anyone impacted by domestic violence, seeking resources and information, or wanting to learn more about healthy relationships.

**Women's Program Includes:** ·Crisis intervention & support services ·Remote access to apply for orders of protection ·Safety planning ·Referrals to community agencies (housing assistance, shelter, legal, etc.) ·Information and support for family & friends

**Children's Program Includes:** ·Learning center ·Daily living skills ·Safety planning ·Emotional regulation skills ·Parenting support ·Community resources

December 15, 2021

Dear parishioners,

Thank you for your generous support for our parish this year. As we approach the end of 2021, if you are planning year end contributions to your favorite charities, please keep St. Cronan on your list.

If you have an individual retirement account (IRA) and you need to make a required minimum distribution (RMD), you are allowed to transfer money directly from your IRA to a qualified charity such as St. Cronan without taxation. Many of our parishioners have made donations directly to St. Cronan in this way. Check with your IRA custodian if you have questions about this approach.

The tax ID number for St. Cronan parish is 43-0653457.

Again, thank you for your continued support of our parish.

Sincerely,

Fr. Jack Schuler (he/his)



Pastoral Reflection  
For the Fourth Sunday of  
Advent  
December 19, 2021

This is the weekend of Advent when our devotion to Mary as “Undoer of Knots” takes us to look at the knots in family life. It could not be more appropriate that the Gospel for this weekend presents the Visitation. In this story the young, unwed, pregnant Mary went not to the elders to help her undo the knots of her life and find the courage to deal with them, not to a priest, not to her father, not even to Joseph, but to another woman in her family, her cousin, Elizabeth. She came for an experience of wise old human hugging just to let the present sink in before facing what she knew would be a challenging future defying explanation when she returned home and her situation became obvious. Elizabeth would also have had to come out of hiding to meet Mary, having been the subject of a great deal of gossip for her post-menopausal pregnancy. “What was she thinking for God’s sake?” Both of them had been told by angels that their pregnancies were part of some unexplainable divine event. Talk about a “knotty family situation”!

Each of these women knew intuitively, as women do, what had happened to the other. Tears and fears would be as safe between them as the emerging joy each one felt, captured so well in this watercolor. They would spend three months together – a time to tell stories that connected their lives – the “her-stories” that nobody knows. In those three months, graced by God and each other, however their situations arose, two women would come to the fuller dimensions destined for them.

And who knew that God’s magnificent, cosmic revolution against the authority of sin and death was here proclaimed on this day of visitation at ground zero in the bodies of these two women? Yet without a single weapon drawn, the power of death was slain in Zecharias’s house that day. This is a new kind of prophecy in a whole different setting. We have not a man preaching to an assembly but two pregnant women having a conversation in the intimate setting of a house in the hills. THIS is where God chose to have this revelation happen. This is where our Scriptures and our Church show us that God’s prophetic revelation is proclaimed. And it is indeed a revolution. The thoughts that Luke places on Mary’s lips are about a woman being called blessed forever though she lives in a world where men rule. The mighty are deposed from their thrones. The poor and the hungry are not just satisfied, they are heard and remembered. This revelation would soon begin with a couple of swaddling bundles in grateful women’s arms, the pride of their fathers . . . and the slumbering world wouldn’t suspect a thing. Could the undoing of family knots be any more amazing?

Sister Chabanel Mathison, O.S.U.