



ST. JANE FRANCES DE CHANTAL

38750 RYAN ROAD, STERLING HEIGHTS, MI 48310 586-977-8080 SJFPARISH.ORG



Fr. Tony Sulkowski
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Ext. 102

Each year, in January, Catholics offer eight days of prayer for Christian Unity. Until 1958, the general idea was that those who were not Catholic would return to the Catholic Church. The Catholic Church no longer holds that idea. It was St. Pope John XXIII, who at the conclusion of the Church's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, made a historic announcement that changed the Catholic Church. On January 25, 1959, he announced an Ecumenical Council, Vatican II.

St. Pope John XXIII's intention was that this Ecumenical Council would be not only for the Catholic Church, but for all of Christianity. He desired that all churches, Catholic, Protestant, and Orthodox, come together and overcome the divisions that have separated them for centuries.

One of the most famous quotes by St. Pope John XXIII was the quote he used to begin the week of Christian Unity:

"Let us begin with what unites us and not the things that divide us."

In this simple yet powerful statement, the Pope was challenging all those gathered to reflect upon their own Baptismal call. It is our common baptism that unites us as brothers and sisters.

Since 1959, we have seen many ways in which Christian churches throughout the country—as well as the world—have come together to work as one to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to promote unity among each other.

As we celebrate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity this January, may we reflect upon our own baptismal call and be of service to the Church. God has gifted each one of us. The challenge is to be aware of our gifts and to not be afraid to share them with the greater community. Ut Unum Sint: "That all may be one."

Prayer for Christian Unity

*Lord Jesus Christ,
you call us together in faith and love.
Breathe again the new life of your Holy Spirit among us
that we may hear your holy Word,
pray in your name,
seek unity among Christians,
and live more fully the faith we profess.*

*All glory and honor be yours
with the Father and Holy Spirit,
forever and ever.*

Amen.

Bon mot: "Christ is sending us out together so that we may jointly bear witness to him. Thus we cannot remain separated! We must walk together, because it is Our Lord's will."

—St. John Paul II, *We Cannot Remain Separated*, June 29, 1995

Carpe Diem,

Fr. Tony

KEEP IN TOUCH.
SJFPARISH.ORG/NEWS

JANUARY 17, 2021

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Weekend Masses

Saturday 4:00pm
Sunday 9:00am & 11:30am

Weekday Masses

Tuesday 7:00pm
Wednesday & Thursday 8:00am

Holy Day Masses As Announced

Confession

Tuesday 5:30pm

Rosary

Tuesday 6:00pm

OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Wednesday, & Thursday

9:00am—1:00pm & 4:30pm—8:00pm

Tuesday

2:00pm—8:00pm

Saturday

3:00pm—5:00pm

Sunday

10:00am—12:30pm

PARISH HAPPENINGS

Monday, January 18, 2021

9:00am Panera

Tuesday, January 19, 2021

5:30pm Confession

6:00pm Rosary

7:00pm Mass

Wednesday, January 20, 2021

8:00am Mass

9:30am Needlecrafters

Thursday, January 21, 2021

8:00am Mass

9:00am Swiffers Team #1

Friday, January 22, 2021

No events

Saturday, January 23, 2021

4:00pm Mass

Sunday, January 24, 2021

9:00am Mass

11:30am Mass



Janina Jacobs

Director of Music

JJacobs@sjfparish.org

Ext. 103

The bitter throes of winter haven't quite materialized yet—so, are you still exercising and being active outside? I hope so! Almost everyone can safely be active in the cold weather. However, if you have certain

conditions, such as asthma, COPD, heart problems, or Raynaud's disease, check first with your doctor.

When outside, dress in layers: first, put on a thin layer of synthetic material, such as polypropylene, which draws sweat away from your body. Avoid cotton, which stays wet next to your skin. Next, add a layer of fleece or wool for insulation. Top this with a waterproof, breathable outer layer. A heavy down jacket or vest may cause you to overheat if you're exercising hard. In extreme cold, consider wearing a hat and also a face covering or scarf to warm the air before it enters your lungs. Also protect your hands, feet, and ears.

Did you take your multivitamin today? Have you tossed down a fish oil supplement for your heart or chondroitin capsules to ease your aching, arthritic joints? Be careful—you may think supplements aren't really medicine, since they don't require a prescription. People use herbal and dietary supplements regularly, yet most fail to share that information with their doctors. This oversight can lead to problems with prescription drugs. Popular supplements can interact with medications and alter the way they work in the body, making the drugs either more or less effective, or increasing side effects. Talk with your pharmacist about this. Most doctors will ask you if you take any supplements.

Arthritis is an inflammation of one or more joints, which results in pain, swelling, stiffness, and limited movement. There are over 100 different types of arthritis, all of which involve the breakdown of cartilage. Cartilage normally protects the joint, allowing for smooth movement. It also absorbs shock when pressure is placed on the joint. Without the usual amount of healthy cartilage, the bones rub together, causing pain, swelling, and stiffness. An X-ray will provide proof of arthritis, so if you are in pain, see your doctor. There are many prescription medications which can help.

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is one of the most common lung diseases. There are two main forms of COPD: chronic bronchitis, defined by a long-term cough with mucus, and emphysema, defined by the destruction of the lungs over time. Most people with COPD have a combination of both conditions. Smoking is the leading cause of COPD, and heavier smoking can trigger COPD, while some smoke for years and never get it. In rare cases, nonsmokers who lack a protein called alpha-1 antitrypsin can develop emphysema. Other risk factors for COPD are exposure to certain gases or fumes in the workplace, secondhand smoke and pollution, and frequent use of cooking gas without ventilation. Some symptoms besides a chronic cough are fatigue, frequent respiratory infections, wheezing, and shortness of breath (dyspnea) which gets worse with mild activity. Since COPD symptoms develop slowly, some may be unaware they have it. Frequently, COPD leads to snoring.

Vicks VapoRub: an effective nasal decongestant? Tried and true in the olden days, there is no proof it works, other than that the aromatic ingredients—camphor, eucalyptus, and menthol—may help open up stuffy noses. Although there's no harm in using Vicks VapoRub, it will likely be of little help as an actual nasal decongestant. Instead, it produces a cool sensation in the nose, which may give the feeling of improved breathing. It is generally safe for use as directed, especially if it makes you feel better!



Ben Klassen
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 Director of Faith Formation*
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 Ext. 108

To call. In Latin: *vocare*. This is where we get the word—heard often in the Church—*vocation*. In secular terms, a vocation can mean a job or a trade, or something we’re good at. Many times,

we work at our “calling,” get better at it, and can make a living from the wages that we make. Sometimes, our job helps us fund our “calling,” and we enjoy it as a hobby or as a way of relaxation.

More often, the vocation—this calling—which the Church refers to is a way in which we shape our spirituality. One way is not necessarily better than another; rather, each acts as a way to aid us in fulfilling God’s will in our lives. Sometimes a vocation can be transitional, but when we really pray and discern our vocation, it is meant to be a more permanent structure to form our lives around. Look at this weekend’s first reading from the first book of Samuel.

Samuel, the firstborn, was dedicated by his mother to serving the Lord under the priest Eli. Eli taught young Samuel the ways of his family’s priesthood. Scripture tells us that “During the time young Samuel was minister to the Lord under Eli, the word of the Lord was scarce and vision infrequent.” (1 Sam 3:1). This makes what happened with Samuel quite special—but it took even the priest, Eli, a little bit to understand what was happening. Samuel was sleeping in the temple, near the “ark of God,” when he was awoken by God calling to him. Of course, the young Samuel ran to his mentor, Eli, who essentially told him to go back to sleep. Twice more this occurred before Eli understood that God was calling to Samuel. Sometimes, in each of our lives, we miss God’s call to us; it needs discernment and a bit of guidance.

When the church speaks of “vocation,” I often think of the priesthood, but God’s calling for us is not limited to the priesthood. God’s call can also be to the religious life, the married life, and even to the single life. Each is a different way for us to express and grow in our spirituality. When we give thought to this aspect of our lives, we will find ourselves more fulfilled and better able to share our lives and beliefs with one another. When we do not properly discern, we may often feel a void—an emptiness that we cannot fill with “stuff” of this world. We must take an honest look at all the potential callings that God has for us. By dismissing one call outright, we might be limiting our potential happiness. Conversely, to focus prematurely on a single vocation has the potential to limit us as well. We need open hearts and minds!

When we look at the Gospel, we see that Jesus invites the disciples of John to come and see where He is staying. God wants us to choose Him. There is no coercion or force of will; God lets us choose. Our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit and came at a steep price—namely, the very life of Jesus. When it comes time for us to discern, we need to consider the options. We need to pray, as well, for our future generations—that they will answer God’s call in their lives.

SCRIPTURE READINGS
WEEK OF JAN. 17, 2021

Sunday
2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19
 Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10
 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20
 Jn 1:35-42

Monday
 Heb 5:1-10
 Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4
 Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday
 Heb 6:10-20
 Ps 111:1-2, 4-5, 9 and 10c
 Mk 2:23-28

Wednesday
*St. Fabian, Pope & Martyr;
 St. Sebastian, Martyr*
 Heb 7:1-3, 15-17
 Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4
 Mk 3:1-6

Thursday
Memorial of St. Agnes, Virgin & Martyr
 Heb 7:25—8:6
 Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17
 Mk 3:7-12

Friday
*Day of Prayer for the
 Legal Protection of Unborn Children*
 Heb 8:6-13
 Ps 85:8 and 10, 11-12, 13-14
 Mk 3:13-19

Saturday
*St. Vincent, Deacon & Martyr;
 St. Marianne Cope, Virgin*
 Heb 9:2-3, 11-14
 Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9
 Mk 3:20-21

Sunday
3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
 Jon 3:1-5, 10
 Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9
 1 Cor 7:29-31
 Mk 1:14-20

LECTOR SCHEDULE				
Tuesday Jan. 19, 2020	Wednesday Jan. 20, 2021	Thursday Jan. 21, 2021	Saturday Jan. 23, 2021	Sunday Jan. 24, 2021
7:00pm John Martin	8:00am Annette Mobley	8:00am Cindy Guzi	4:00pm John Czarski	9:00am Brian Brennan 11:30am Robert Skwara

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OFFERTORY INFORMATION JANUARY 10, 2021

Registered Families: 1,369

Envelopes Returned: 159

Amount Offered: \$5,972.00

Loose Offering: \$504.00

Online Giving Contributors: 108

Contributions: \$4,407.00

Total Offerings: \$10,883.00

2020 Budgeted Offertory: \$11,786.00

Actual Offertory: \$10,883.00

Difference: **-\$903.00**

Thank you to those who continue to donate; your contributions help us continue operations during the pandemic. To sign up for online giving, visit sjfparish.org/onlinegiving.

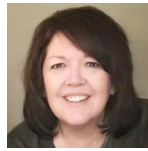
If you have any questions, contact Jody at JGazo@sjfparish.org or call 586-977-8080, Ext. 112.

2020 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

If you have given \$200.00 or more in 2020, you will be sent a contribution statement after January 20, 2021.

If your total contribution was less, you will need to call the Parish Office at 586-977-8080 and request a 2020 statement.

Thank you!



Laurie Hall

Pastoral Associate

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Ext. 104

The following is an excerpt from a Vatican News article published on December 8, 2020. With our Christmas bulletin schedule, information that was released in December

couldn't make it to the bulletin until January.

You may have already read or heard about Pope Francis' proclaiming of the period of December 8, 2020 through December 8, 2021 as the "Year of Joseph." What does that mean? The following article provides a good answer to that question.

The article also includes a beautiful prayer to St. Joseph that would make a good addition to your daily prayers this year. You might also want to visit our statue of the Holy Family, which includes Joseph, to light a candle and pray.

You can read the entire article at vaticannews.va.

In a new Apostolic Letter entitled *Patris corde (With a Father's Heart)*, Pope Francis describes Saint Joseph as a beloved father, a tender and loving father, an obedient father, an accepting father; a father who is creatively courageous, a working father, a father in the shadows.

The Letter marks the 150th anniversary of Blessed Pope Pius IX's declaration of St Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To celebrate the anniversary, Pope Francis has proclaimed a special "Year of St Joseph," beginning on the 2020 Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception and extending to the same feast in 2021.

The Holy Father wrote *Patris corde* against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic, which, he says, has helped us see more clearly the importance of "ordinary" people who, though far from the limelight, exercise patience and offer hope every day. In this, they resemble Saint Joseph, "the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence," who nonetheless played "an incomparable role in the history of salvation."

Saint Joseph, in fact, "concretely expressed his fatherhood" by making an offering of himself in love—"a love placed at the service of the Messiah who was growing to maturity in his home," writes Pope Francis, quoting his predecessor St Paul VI.

And because of his role at "the crossroads between the Old and New Testament," St Joseph "has always been venerated as a father by the Christian people" (PC, 1). In him, "Jesus saw the tender love of God," the one that helps us accept our weakness, because "it is through" and despite "our fears, our frailties, and our weakness" that most divine designs are realized.

"Only tender love will save us from the snares of the accuser," emphasizes the Pontiff, and it is by encountering God's mercy especially in the Sacrament of Reconciliation that we "experience His truth and tenderness,"—because "we know that God's truth does not condemn us, but instead welcomes, embraces, sustains and forgives us" (2).

Joseph is also a father in obedience to God: with his "fiat" he protects Mary and Jesus and teaches his Son to "do the will of the Father."

At the same time, Joseph is "an accepting Father," because he "accepted Mary unconditionally"—an important gesture even today, says Pope Francis, "in our world where psychological, verbal and physical violence towards women is so evident."

But the Bridegroom of Mary is also the one who, trusting in the Lord, accepts in his life even the events that he does not understand, “setting aside his own ideas” and reconciling himself with his own history.

Joseph’s spiritual path “is not one that explains, but accepts”—which does not mean that he is “resigned.” Instead, he is “courageously and firmly proactive,” because with the “Holy Spirit’s gift of fortitude,” and full of hope, he is able “to accept life as it is, with all its contradictions, frustrations, and disappointments.” In practice, through St. Joseph, it is as if God were to repeat to us: “Do not be afraid!” because “faith gives meaning to every event, however happy or sad,” and makes us aware that “God can make flowers spring up from stony ground.” Joseph “did not look for shortcuts but confronted reality with open eyes and accepted personal responsibility for it.” For this reason, “he encourages us to accept and welcome others as they are, without exception, and to show special concern for the weak” (4).

Patris corde highlights “the creative courage” of St. Joseph, which “emerges especially in the way we deal with difficulties.” “The carpenter of Nazareth,” explains the Pope, “was able to turn a problem into a possibility by trusting in divine providence.” He had to deal with “the concrete problems” his Family faced, problems faced by other families in the world, especially migrants.

In this sense, St. Joseph is “the special patron of all those forced to leave their native lands because of war, hatred, persecution and poverty.” As the guardian of Jesus and Mary, Joseph cannot “be other than the guardian of the Church,” of her motherhood, and of the Body of Christ. “Consequently, every poor, needy, suffering or dying person, every stranger, every prisoner, every infirm person is ‘the child’ whom Joseph continues to protect.” From St Joseph, writes Pope Francis, “we must learn [...] to love the Church and the poor” (5).

“A carpenter who earned an honest living to provide for his family,” St Joseph also teaches us “the value, the dignity and the joy of what it means to eat bread that is the fruit of one’s own labour.” This aspect of Joseph’s character provides Pope Francis the opportunity to launch an appeal in favour of work, which has become “a burning social issue” even in countries with a certain level of well-being. “There is a renewed need to appreciate the importance of dignified work, of which Saint Joseph is an exemplary patron,” the Pope writes. Pope Francis encourages everyone “to rediscover the value, the importance, and the necessity of work for bringing about a new ‘normal’ from which no one is excluded.” Especially in light of rising unemployment due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Pope calls everyone to “review our priorities” and to express our firm conviction that no young person, no person at all, no family should be without work!” (6).

Pope Francis describes Joseph’s fatherhood of Jesus as “the earthly shadow of the heavenly Father.” “Fathers are not born, but made,” says Pope Francis. “A man does not become a father simply by bringing a child into the world, but by taking up the responsibility to care for that child.”

In his letter, Pope Francis notes how, “Every day, for over forty years, following Lauds [Morning Prayer]” he has “recited a prayer to Saint Joseph taken from a nineteenth-century French prayer book of the Congregation of the Sisters of Jesus and Mary.” This prayer, he says, “expresses devotion and trust, and even poses a certain challenge to Saint Joseph,” on account of its closing words: “My beloved father, all my trust is in you. Let it not be said that I invoked you in vain, and since you can do everything with Jesus and Mary, show me that your goodness is as great as your power.”

PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH

From *Patris corde* by Pope Francis

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.

Obtain for us grace,
mercy, and courage,
and defend us from every evil.

Amen.

THANK YOU!

A heartfelt thank you goes out to the generous parishioners who worked to transform our worship space for Christmas, and to all those who joined in to remove the decorations!

While our time to enjoy the Christmas environment is short, it is out of love of God that we work to prepare a suitable environment to remember the Incarnation. The beginning of the year is also a good time to remember and thank the wonderful Art and Environment Committee members for their creativity and dedication to this ministry: Linda and Craig Smith, Lori Nida, and Jody Gazo.

If you have an interest in helping to plan our environment for liturgical seasons, or just wish to help carry out those plans on a more regular basis, please consider joining this great group of people! Contact Laurie Hall at LHall@sjfparish.org for details.



ARMED SERVICES PRAYER LIST

Robert Bain, *Army*
 Nicholas Brosowski, *Army*
 Chris Burley, *Navy*
 Shaun Chaplin, *Air Force*
 Winndie Darrow, *Coast Guard*
 Alexander J. Hendzell, *Marines*
 Louis B. Kasper III, *Coast Guard*
 Elijah Kuefler, *Navy*
 Carmen LaForest, *Navy*
 Matthew McDowell, *Air Force*
 Cassidy Kicinski Rose, *Air Force*
 Jeremy Rzeppa, *Navy*
 Scot D. Skoczylas, *Navy*
 Anthony Trotta, *Navy*
 Kyle Wiegand, *Army*

PRAYER LIST

MaryAnn DeDonatis
 Sue Emerson
 Larry Karpinski
 Drew Rasico

Names added to the Prayer List remain for a period of four weeks. Please call the Parish Office to request additional prayers. Thank you!

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, January 18, 2021 *No Mass*

Tuesday, January 19, 2021

7:00pm Liv. Adriatik Cekaj (Maria Vacaj)

Wednesday, January 20, 2021

8:00am Dec. Arnold Putrycus (Novak Family)
 Dec. Jerry Sniegud (Judy Taylor)
 Dec. Richard Volpe (Nancy Volpe)
 Liv. Nua Vacaj (Maria Vacaj)

Thursday, January 21, 2021

8:00am Dec. Gregory Kreft (Kreft Family)

Friday, January 22, 2021 *No Mass*

Saturday, January 23, 2021

4:00pm For the Parishioners
 Dec. Norman LaPrise (Richard & Cynthia Kaufmann)
 Liv. Nancy Villarreal (Tom & Phyllis Harris)
 Liv. Valentin Vacaj (Mom, Maria)

Sunday, January 24, 2021

9:00am Dec. Sister Mary Paulette CSSF (Bob & Joyce Youngert)
 Liv. Valentin Vacaj (Mom, Maria)
 Liv. Gjuk Pepaj Family (Gjuk)

11:30am For the Parishioners

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OUR MISSION

“Nourished by God’s Word & the Eucharist, we strive to be a welcoming Catholic community dedicated to living and proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ.”

NEW TO OUR PARISH?

Would you like to join the St. Jane Frances de Chantal parish family? Become a parishioner! You may register anytime in the Parish Office or online at sjfparish.org/joinus. We would love to have you!

ST. JANE FRANCES de CHANTAL

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SACRAMENTS CHILDREN'S BAPTISM

Do you have a child you would like to have baptized? Please call the Parish Office to make arrangements.

RECONCILIATION

Available Tuesdays at 5:30pm.

MARRIAGE

Congratulations! Please contact our Parish Office at least six months prior to your desired wedding date to begin preparations.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Contact the Parish Office to schedule one-time or regular visits.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Are you interested in joining the Catholic Church? Contact Laurie Hall to begin the process. Welcome home!



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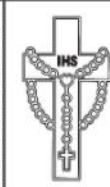
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 Kenneth Oakes
 Jack O'Connell
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