

Fr. Tony Sulkowski
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This Wednesday, Ash Wednesday, we will begin the season of Lent. Lent is a season during which we prepare ourselves for the Feast of Easter.

While serving as an associate pastor at Shrine of the Little Flower, I received a book titled What Color Is Lent? Of course, we all know that the color purple is the color

that signifies the Lenten season—and we would be correct. However, the book challenges the reader to think beyond the actual color of Lent and consider how we enter into the Lenten season. To summarize the book, Lent is what you make it. How we will enter the season of Lent is a question we have to answer for ourselves.

You might be surprised to know that most priests enjoy the season of Lent. I recall a trip I took to California to attend a board of directors meeting for the National Federation of Priests' Councils. This group began in 1968 and has been instrumental in addressing many issues regarding priestly life and ministry. I have been a member of this group for the last five years.

After the meeting each day, we had the evening free to get together and socialize. The priests that serve on the board represent priests from every part of the country. At one of our evening gatherings, the topic of Lent came up. All of us said that we enjoy the season of Lent. Certainly there are extra activities during this time, but overall it is a wonderful season. These activities prepare us to celebrate the passion, death, and resurrection of Christ.

We will hear in the Gospel for Ash Wednesday that the three disciplines for Lent are prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. The important thing to note is that the Gospel does not say how we are to incorporate these disciplines into our lives. The three disciplines are open-ended and very broad, which allows us to think outside the box and gain a new perspective into the meaning of Lent. The disciplines allow us to be present in the moment. The Church allows us to choose how to implement these disciplines into our Lenten journey.

I would hope that we enter this season of Lent with a spirit of gratitude to God for the blessing and love He bestows upon us. We are called to share that love and gratitude with those that we meet on our journey. May we see these disciplines not as something we have to do, but as a way to refresh and renew our relationship with God.

I hope your Lent is a time of reflection and meditation on the life of our Lord in preparation for the great Feast of Easter. The parish of St. Jane Frances de Chantal has many prayer forms available to you so that you can enter into a deeper relationship with God and the people you meet along the way. Please refer to the postcard that was sent to your home or the church bulletin for more details.

Bon mot: "Time is so fleeting that if we do not remember God in our youth, age might find us incapable of thinking about him."

-Hans Christian Anderson

Carpe Diem,

Fr. Tony

CAPUCHIN RETREAT FOR MEN

There will be a Capuchin Retreat for men held the weekend of March 11-13, 2022. The retreat starts at 6:30pm on Friday and runs through 1:00pm Sunday. The theme for the retreat is "I Will Be with You Always" (Matthew 28:20). On the weekend, we are invited to let go—and let God. The retreat is silent, and the cost is \$225/person, which includes a private room and all meals. Please note that face coverings are required to enter the retreat house unless you are fully vaccinated. Contact Matthew LaRocca at 586-530-6075 or matthewjlaroccca@yahoo.com for further details or visit capretreat.org.

2022 ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

Ash Wednesday is **March 2, 2022** and marks the beginning of the Lenten season. Our parish will offer several opportunities to worship and receive ashes on Ash Wednesday:

Mass with Distribution of Ashes at 8:00am & 6:00pm Liturgy of the Word with Distribution of Ashes at 12:15pm & 4:00pm

FEBRUARY 27, 2022

EIGHTH 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, February 28, 2022

1:00pm Intercessory Prayer Team

Mtg. (via Zoom)

Tuesday, March 1, 2022

No Mass or Confession

9:00am Bible Study

6:00pm Rosary

Wednesday, March 2, 2022

8:00am Mass with Ashes

9:30am Needlecrafters

12:15pm Liturgy of the Word with Ashes

4:00pm Liturgy of the Word with Ashes

6:00pm Mass with Ashes

6:00pm Needlecrafters

Thursday, March 3, 2022

8:00am Mass

9:00am Swiffers Team #1

Friday, March 4, 2022

6:00pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 5, 2022

4:00pm Mass

Sunday, March 6, 2022

9:00am Mass 11:30am Mass

12:15pm Baptism

1:00pm Faith Formation



Laurie Hall
Pastoral Associate
LHall@sjfparish.org
Ext. 104

Our readings this weekend provide a strong message about personal authenticity and the importance of avoiding hypocritical behaviors.

This message will be the center of the readings we hear next week as we enter into the Lenten season on Ash Wednesday. While it is challenging to look at our own shortcomings, people in general are quick to point out the flaws of others. The readings remind us that we must seek to be people who are merciful and loving, as God is toward us when we fall short of the ideal.

The short verses from the prophet Sirach make a clear statement that one cannot hide from their shortcomings: "The fruit of the tree shows the care it has had." Our actions will always reveal who we are. If we are people of God, living out our call to holiness, we will bear fruit, demonstrating the care we have first received from our loving God. The Gospel is very clear on this point, as Jesus provides a parable about the need to be cared for and to learn from teachers so that we too can teach in reflection of the teacher. His reminder that we cannot be God is following by a direct approach to the problem of hypocrisy, saying, "Why do you notice the splinter in your brother's eye, but do not perceive the wooden beam in your own?" (Luke 6:42).

It is important to remember our own flawed nature as imperfect beings just like everyone else and practice love and mercy toward family, friends, and even strangers. Social media has become a place where people feel they can express their opinion on any topic, including attacking those who think differently than they do. This is a perfect example of where we must remember ourselves as disciples of Jesus, following his teachings, not the ways of the world. In a reflection of God's love, we examine our own behaviors and seek to work through the challenges that separate us from God. Are we bearing good fruit? When we speak of others, does our mouth speak from the "fullness of the heart"? Today is a good day to examine the wooden beam in our own eyes, reflect on God's love and mercy, and renew our commitment to be Jesus in the world, bearing the good fruit of the Gospel to all we meet. In preparation for Ash Wednesday's start to the season of Lent, ask yourself, "What can I do this Lent to more fully bear fruit in the world?"

ASH WEDNESDAY IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Lent is right around the corner; this year, Ash Wednesday is on March 2, 2022. On Ash Wednesday, we will celebrate Mass at 8:00am and 6:00pm. Video Mass will also be available online. There will be two additional opportunities to receive ashes at a Liturgy of the Word at 12:15pm and 4:00pm the same day.

You may recall that ashes were distributed by sprinkling last year. This year, we will return to the regular distribution of ashes. When you approach the minister, they will say, "Repent and believe in the Gospel" or "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." Ashes will then be placed on your forehead. No response is necessary.

The message of the ashes remains the same: we are creatures of the earth, and our earthly life will pass away. But we are also baptized people on a journey to "turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel."

At the liturgy for Ash Wednesday, we receive ashes and hear Matthew's Gospel, which explains that we are to cultivate three Lenten practices: fasting/abstinence, prayer, and almsgiving. These practices provide a structure for our penitential season. As we hear the message and receive the ashes on our foreheads, may we embark on a Lenten journey that brings us ever closer to our loving and merciful God.

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KIDS PRAY THE DARDNEST THINGS ABOUT COVID

Students of two faith formation programs in neighboring parishes were asked to write prayers about topics relating to COVID-19. These prayers were compiled into a book titled *Kids Pray the Darndest Things about COVID*.

The following is an excerpt from the unedited results, along with the first name, age, and program each student belongs to: SRG: St. Rene Goupil, and SJF: St. Jane Frances de Chantal.

Thank you to our parish chapter of the Knights of Columbus for sponsoring the publication of this book!

Kids Pray the Darndest Things about COVID is now available in the Parish Office. Suggested donation is \$10.



Please help people who are sick with corona, and also keep others safe, especially the younger ones. Please end this pandemic. We also pray for the people who loss their loved ones during the pandemic and also we pray that are in the hospital because of corona also please help the people who are helping us during the pandemic.

Jaiden, age 7, SRG

Dear Lord,

Please protect our family and friends through these difficult times right now. Ever since this pandemic has happened, everything has gone wrong like people having to shut down their businesses or losing their loved ones. So please protect them. Also the ones who are saving lives or working very hard day to night, please protect them. Seeing the homeless that can't afford to feed their loved ones is heart breaking to me. Please be with everyone that they may get back to their normal life very soon. Amen.

Adrianna, age 11, SJF

Dear God,

Please help keep us safe during the time of the coronavirus, help keep us smart, vigilant, and healthy. Help to keep us doing the right thing and guide us to your salvation.

Amen.

Samuel, age 14, SJF

LENTEN REFLECTION BOOKS

Both the Little Black Books and two additional reflection books for the season of Lent are available in the Gathering Space this weekend.

The Little Black Book contains six-minute reflections on some of the parables of Jesus. The reflections begin on February 27th and continue through Easter Sunday.

We also have a supply of two other booklets this year: A Time for Mending by Joseph F. Sica and A Season of Fresh Hope by Alice Camille. These booklets contain daily reflections from Ash Wednesday through Holy Saturday. These booklets are a great resource for learning more about your faith and deepening your relationship with Jesus through prayer.

Suggested donation for each of the books is \$1.





SCRIPTURE READINGS WEEK OF FEB. 27, 2022

Sunday

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time Sir 27:4-7 Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16 1 Cor 15:54-58 Lk 6:39-45

Monday

1 Pt 1:3-9 Ps 111:1-2, 5-6, 9 & 10c Mk 10:17-27

Tuesday

1 Pt 1:10-16 Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 Mk 10:28-31

Wednesday

Ash Wednesday JI 2:12-18 Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 & 17 2 Cor 5:20-6:2 Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday

Dt 30:15-20 Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 & 6 Lk 9:22-25

Friday

Is 58:1-9a Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19 Mt 9:14-15

Saturday

Is 58:9b Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 Lk 5:27-32

Sunday

First Sunday of Lent
Dt 26:4-10
Ps 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15
Rom 10:8-13
Lk 4:1-13

NO 7:00PM MASS OR CONFESSION THIS TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2022

Parishioners: There will be no 7:00pm Mass or Confession this Tuesday, March 1, 2022. Weekday Mass and Confession will resume their normal schedules the following week.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK MIKE GRAHAM of ALL ABOUT PLUMBING

Thank you for advertising in our bulletin! We ask that our parishioners support our advertisers, as they make our bulletin possible.

OFFERTORY INFORMATION FEBRUARY 20, 2022

Registered Families: 1,365
Envelopes Returned: 211
Amount Offered: \$5,258.50
Loose Offering: \$788.00

Online Giving Contributors: 111
Online Contributions: \$3,849.00
Total Offerings: \$9.895.50

2020 Budgeted Offertory: \$11,786.00 **Actual Offertory**: \$9,895.50

Difference: -\$1,890.50

Thank you to those who continue to donate. Your contributions help us to continue our operations during the pandemic.

Visit **sjfparish.org/onlinegiving** to sign up for online giving or email Jody Gazo at **JGazo@sjfparish.org** for assistance.

A NOTE ABOUT OUR 2022 FISH FRYS

Several people who enjoyed our delicious fish dinners in the past have been asking about this year's Fish Frys. While we were hoping to once again host these events, due to the current state of affairs, it is with a heavy heart that the committee has had to once again cancel this year's Fish Frys.

In lieu of supporting our parish ministries through the Fish Frys, we are asking you instead to please consider supporting local restaurants and diners. Many of these establishments have been hit hard during this pandemic. While we won't be serving our dinners, we are hoping that you will enjoy a meal from one of your favorite eateries—and in this way, we will all be helping the local economy during these trying times.

As we will not be hosting Fish Frys at our parish this year, we encourage you to share with us your favorite place to eat fish during Lent and what you love about it. Visit **sjfparish.org/fishfrys** and fill out the survey online. We will compile your responses and share them in a future bulletin so that everyone can enjoy delicious fish from local restaurants this Lent!

We thank you for supporting our parish activities. We pray that you and your families are healthy and safe.

FAITH FORMATION CALENDAR

Sunday, February 27, 2022

7:00pm—8:30pm High School Youth Group at St. Jane Frances de Chantal

Sunday, March 6, 2022

1:00pm—4:00pm Faith Formation

2022 EASTER FLOWERS

Intentions for the 2022 Easter Flowers insert are due **by Sunday, March 13, 2022**. Envelopes are included in the parishioner mailing packet.

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

ASH WEDNESDAY MINISTERS SCHEDULE								
	Wednesday Mar. 2, 2022							
	8:00am Mass	12:15pm Liturgy	4:00pm Liturgy	6:00pm Mass				
Sacristan	Ray Knapp	N/A	N/A	Brian Finn				
Lector	John Martin	Craig Smith	Eileen Clase	Stephanie Jones				

LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULE									
	Tuesday Mar. 1, 2022	Wednesday Mar. 2, 2022	Thursday Mar. 3, 2022	Saturday Mar. 5, 2022	Sunday Mar. 6, 2022				
	No Mass	See above	8:00am Mass	4:00pm Mass	9:00am Mass	11:30am Mass			
Sacristan	_	_	John Martin	Mary Wolf	Ray Knapp	Brian Finn			
Lector	_	_	Bernie Mikowski	Craig Smith	Kathy Pawlik	Robert Skwara			

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Janina Jacobs
Director of Music
JJacobs@sjfparish.org
Ext. 103

Considering the month of February's traditional designation as Black History Month, I didn't want the time to go by without acknowledging the importance of

spiritual gospel-inspired music in liturgy and to highlight a couple of Black female composers whose music we sing here at St. Jane Frances de Chantal.

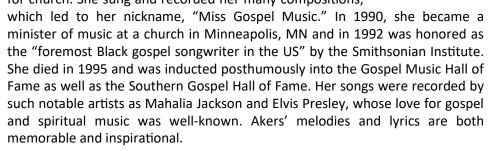
One popular song *The Lord is My Light* is by Lillian Bouknight. There aren't very many African-American female composers, and little is known about Bouknight. She was born February 15, 1902 and died at 88 years of age on July 9, 1990. Bouknight lived in the hills of Aliquippa, Beaver County, Pennsylvania, taught school, and was a soloist, composer, and a "prayer warrior." She was well thought of by her students—especially by one in particular named Ruth, who said, "I was in her Sunday School class and didn't want to leave. She was super—and she could sing!"

The song is taken from Psalm 27: "The Lord is my light and my salvation. Whom should I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life. Whom should I fear? In the time of trouble, He shall hide me. Wait for the Lord and be of good courage; He shall strengthen thine heart."

Another song we sing fairly frequently is *Lead Me, Guide Me*, also written by an African-American woman, Doris M. Akers. Doris Mae Akers, one of ten children, was born May 21, 1923 in Brookfield, Missouri. She and her brothers and sisters formed a group called "Dot and the Swingsters." She then created the Simmons-Atkins trio in 1948.

She then created the Simmons-Atkins trio in 1948.

In the 60s and 70s, Akers found her calling in gospel music for church. She sung and recorded her many compositions,



Lead Me, Guide Me is especially fitting for Lent in that it represents the true path God wants us to walk—with Him:

"Lead me, guide me along the way, for if You lead me, I cannot stray. Lord, let me walk each day with thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me. I am weak and I need Thy strength and power to help me over my weakest hour. Help me through the darkness Thy face to see. Lead me, O Lord, lead me! Help me tread in the paths of righteousness; be my aid when Satan and sin oppress. I am putting all my trust in Thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me! I am lost if You take Your hand from me; I am blind without Thy Light to see; Lord, just always let me Thy servant be. Lead me, O Lord, lead me!"

A NOTE FROM THE FAMILY OF THE LATE FR. LEON PAGE

We would like to thank everyone who helped us celebrate the life of Fr. Leon Page. It meant so much to our family to see so many of the people he served. Also, thank you for all the prayers, cards, donations, and monetary gifts. God bless you all.

With appreciation,

The Family of Fr. Leon Page

AID TO THE CHURCH IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

Next weekend, March 5 & 6, 2022, our parish will take up the collection for Aid to the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. The envelope for the collection is included in this bulletin.

Your gift to the collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe makes a difference for those living in more than 25 countries.

Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection this year. Learn more at **usccb.org**.

WHAT ARE THE SACRAMENTS?

What are the sacraments? How do they bring us closer to God?

This Lenten season, join us on The Way of Faith as we explore the seven sacraments, how God speaks to us through them, and the great grace they impart.

Tune in on our YouTube channel or at sjfparish.org/thewayoffaith.

CRS RICE BOWLS: NOW AVAILABLE

CRS Rice Bowls are now available in the Gathering Space to be picked up.

CRS currently offers a variety of Lenten resources. To improve access and reduce environmental impact, these resources are now only available online. The Lent Coordinator's Guide, in both English and Spanish, is available at crsricebowl.org/parishes. The Lent Educator's Guide, in both English and Spanish, is available at crsricebowl.org/1-8. Stories of Hope and other CRS Rice Bowl videos, in both English and Spanish, are available on the CRS YouTube channel.

These resources can all be viewed online and downloaded or shared as needed. Find more Lenten resources at **crsricebowl.org**.

ARMED SERVICES PRAYER LIST

Robert Bain, Army

Nicholas Brosowski, Army

Chris Burley, Navy

Shaun Chaplin, Air Force

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 Anthony Trotta, Navy Kyle Wiegand, Army Steven Zurek, Navy

PRAYER LIST

Hedy Jaracz Robert Zeleny

Deacon Gene Krzeminski

Christine LePoudre

Alice Mancina Daniel Reghi

Steve Sadecki

June Sadowski

Dorothy Weglarz Dorothy Zeleny

Names added to the Prayer List remain for four weeks. Please call the Parish Office to request prayers.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, February 28, 2022 No Mass

Tuesday, March 1, 2022 No Mass

Wednesday, March 2, 2022

8:00am For the Parishioners

6:00pm Dec. Gedolieve Boekhout (Family)

Thursday, March 3, 2022

8:00am Dec. Marsha Olson (Family)

Dec. Samuel F. Vivoli (Cowan Family)

Friday, March 4, 2022 No Mass

Saturday, March 5, 2022

4:00pm Dec. For the Parishioners

Dec. Sophia Kraft (Robert & Frances Kraft)

Dec. Mary Varani (Judy Taylor) Dec. Ron Kotulis (Judy Kotulis)

Dec. Tom Korfel (Dave & Mary Ellen Gatny) Dec. Albert Brylewski (Geraldine Brylewski)

Dec. Helen Zwada (Sons)

Sunday, March 6, 2022

9:00am First Sunday Monthly Memorial Members

Dec. Joseph Jarboe (Family)

11:30am Dec. Margaret Rayes (3rd Anniv.)



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!

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ST. JANE FRANCES de CHANTAL

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Hosie King

Maintenance Staff 586-977-8080

Maria Benvenuti

Evening Support Staff 586-977-8080

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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