

# St. Jane Frances de Chantal Parish

38750 Ryan Rd. Sterling Heights, MI 48310 | 586-977-8080 | sjfparish.org

## TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST 23, 2020



FR. TONY SULKOWSKI Pastor FrTony@sjfparish.org Ext. 102

**FR. TONY SULKOWSKI** Although it has been a different type of summer in the midst of the pandemic, it has flown by nonetheless. I hope all of you had a chance to get some rest and relaxation.

Ext. 102

Last week, I received a copy of Matthew Kelly's latest book, I Heard God Laugh:

A Practical Guide to Life's Essential Daily Habit. The central focus of the book is the importance of prayer in our life and our daily activities. It emphasizes that our life is

centered on prayer and that our relationship with God is strengthened through prayer. In the later part of the book, Matthew Kelly presents what he calls the prayer process. This process invites people to a deeper understanding of how their prayer life impacts their relationship both with God and people we come in contact with in our daily life. I hope you find this prayer process helpful and enlightening.

#### **The Prayer Process**

- **1. Gratitude**: Begin by thanking God in a personal dialogue for whatever you are most grateful for.
- **2. Awareness**: Revisit the times in the past 24 hours when you were—or were not—the best version of yourself. Talk to God about these situations and what you learned from them.
- **3. Significant Moments**: Identify something you experienced today and explore what God might be trying to say to you through that event (or person).
- **4. Peace**: Ask God to forgive you for any wrong you have committed.
- **5. Freedom**: Speak with God about how He is inviting you to change your life, so that you can experience the best version of yourself.
- **6. Others**: Lift up to God anyone you feel called to pray for today, asking God to bless and guide them.
- 7. Finish: Pray the Our Father.

Have a wonderful week.

Bon mot: "Hold your eyes on God and leave the doing to Him. That is all the doing you have to worry about."

—St. Jane Frances de Chantal (Feast day August 12<sup>th</sup>)

Carpe Diem,

Fr. Tony

# DISPENSATION FROM MASS EXTENDED UNTIL MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2020

Parishioners:

The Archdiocese of Detroit recently announced that "Archbishop Vigneron has extended the dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation for all the faithful in the Archdiocese of Detroit, as well as for all travelers during their time within the territory of the Archdiocese of Detroit, until Monday, November 23, 2020." In doing so, they stressed that "all baptized Catholics are reminded of the grave necessity they have to keep holy the Lord's Day."

St. Jane Frances de Chantal will continue to offer live Mass at 4:00pm on Saturdays, as well as video Mass every weekend, until further notice. To learn more, visit **aod.org**.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT	NEW TO OUR PARISH?
"Nourished by God's Word & the Eucharist, St. Jane Frances de Chantal Parish is a welcoming Catholic community dedicated to living and proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ."	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 sifparish.org/joinus. We would love to have you!

#### **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

 Tuesday
 2:00pm—8:00pm

 Saturday
 3:00pm—5:00pm

 Sunday
 10:00am—12:30pm

# ARMED SERVICES PRAYER LIST

Robert Bain, Army Nicholas Brosowski, Army Chris Burley, Navy **Shaun Chaplin,** *Air Force* Charles Cosnowski, 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

Charlene Brown Mike Prill
Robert Bruce Lucy Sieck
Magdalene Gehring Leroy Solomon
Kelsey Mazur-Baker Daniel VanAcker
Joan Prill

Names on the Prayer List will remain for four weeks. If the illness or situation persists after that time, and additional prayers are needed, please call the Parish Office. Thank you!



BEN KLASSEN Youth Ministry Coordinator & Director of Faith Formation BKlassen@sjfparish.org Ext. 108

"But who do you say that I am?" (Mt 16:15). That's a question posed by Jesus. Specifically, he's asking the disciples surrounding him—but in more ways than one, he's

asking that question to us every day that we live!

The first reading describes how quickly "power" and "influence" can be taken from anyone and given to someone else. In the Gospel, Jesus is allowing His disciples to learn through their own experience and to live their lives based on what they learn. He asks them who "the Son of Man" is. Not "a" son of man, or the son of man (capitalized nouns denote importance!). The article "the" versus "a" denotes a very particular individual, not any random one (out of many).

Jesus allows His disciples to reach the conclusion that He *is* the Son of Man that the scriptures have foretold. They have reached this understanding based on the things that Jesus did, how He spoke, and how He taught. But then what did Jesus tell the disciples? "...he strictly ordered his disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ." (Mt 16:20).

The nature in which I personally learn is not just by reading about something. Neither is it simply by being told about something. My nature calls me to experience things to be able to understand them better—and to walk with others as they experience things.

Years ago, I went camping with my sister, brother-in-law, niece, and two nephews (the kids are triplets). Being about six or seven years old, the kids were fearful of using the restroom on their own and getting lost. So after the umpteenth trip to lavatory, I took the kids on a hike.

We went into the woods just far enough to lose sight of the road. With us, we took a map of the campground and a compass. We made a couple of trips back and forth, and I showed the kiddos basic land navigation techniques, lining up the map to landmarks (the roads), how maps are oriented (the cardinal directions), how to look for familiar things, and, most importantly, how to put all this together to find the right path to our destination.

Many times, we feel like we are lost—like things have been taken away, or that we may not have the knowledge necessary to complete a task. The fact of the matter is that God gives us the things we need (which are not always the things that we want).

We have been tasked with one simple thing: to tell the world about Jesus. He died for us on the cross, and we can now, through God's mercy, join God's heavenly glory when our time on Earth comes to an end. Simple, right? Not always—but all we have to do is put one foot in front of another, read our map (the Bible), line it up to the landmarks in our lives, and get back to the journey. I look forward to seeing everyone on my journey and sharing our experiences in the future!

DIGITAL MASS AT OUR PARISH LIVE AT 4:00PM ON SATURDAYS AT SJFPARISH.ORG VIDEO MASS ANYTIME AT SJFPARISH.ORG/MASS



JANINA JACOBS
Director of Music
JJacobs@sjfparish.org
Ext. 103

During last week's Masses, you may have heard some songs that were "oldies but goodies." Certainly, there is a lot of contemporary music out there, and new music is being composed every day—but

that doesn't mean you can't blow off the dust off of some songs that do indeed fit in very well with the weekend's readings and Fr. Tony's homily.

In case you're wondering, the songs I sang on Saturday were *O Lord Hear My Prayer* (Taize) and *Healer of Our Every III* (Gather); that bouncy closing song I played was *Pass Me Not O Gentle Savior* (Lead Me Guide Me). On Sunday, I went retro and sang *Hear O Lord the Sound of My Call, Come Down Lord, There is A Balm in Gilead*, and *Blessed Assurance*. You may remember some of those from the 70s, when music selections in the Church were more relaxed and contemporary. In fact, to play some pieces, I read from an old, black, metal-bound book I have from St. Rita Church.

Some of you may have been on committees tasked with picking out various songs and compiling them to form your parish's own hymnal. Almost all churches adopted the above music (some, into personal black books—I'll show you if you come up and see me at the organ) in some form or fashion, but a few did not.

Now, it seems, many are discontinuing the use of more modern songs in favor of Latin and chant. Personally, I will pull out a few Latin pieces from time to time, like *Panis Angelicus* (Bread of Angels) and *Ave Maria*, or a chant or two like *Of the Father's Love Begotten* at Christmastime. A small amount of chant and Latin goes a long way. But for the most part, I like to stay more modern.

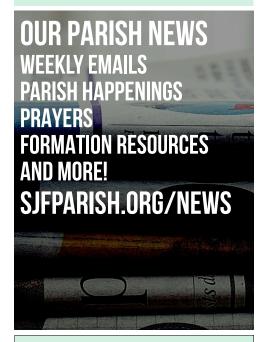
Some parishioners have asked for some advance notice about songs I'll be using during Mass—so they can look them up online or hear them in the Digital Music Series. And so, for the rest of August, you can take a gander at these:

- Father We Thank You Who Has Planted
- Holy God, We Praise Thy Name
- Only This I Want
- The Church's One Foundation
- Center of My Life
- Christ is Made the Sure Foundation
- Change Our Hearts
- Now We Remain
- Take Up Your Cross
- Tree of Life
- Two Fishermen
- We Remember
- The Summons
- Where He Leads Me
- Yes, God is Real!
- Is Your All on the Altar
- I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

Soon, I'll provide some songs for September's Masses. Looking ahead, it appears Mass will continue as it has been, at least through November 23<sup>rd</sup>, as the Archdiocese of Detroit has extended the dispensation from public Mass. Until then, please do keep songs in your heart, both at Church and in your everyday lives!

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# OFFERTORY INFORMATION AUGUST 16, 2020

Registered Families: 1386 Envelopes Returned: 160

Amount Offered: \$8,482.00 Loose Offering: \$597.00

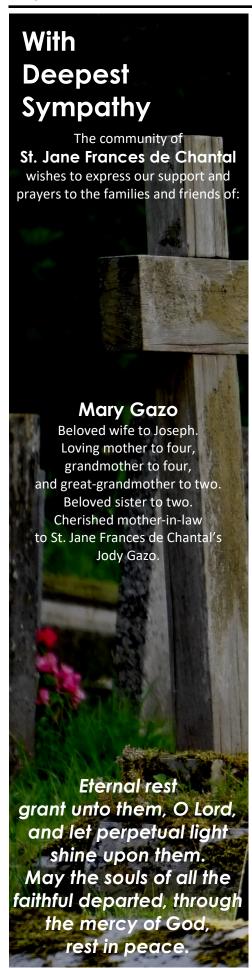
Online Giving Contributors: 126 Contributions: \$4,707.00

Total Offerings: \$13,786.00

**2020 Budgeted Offertory**: \$11,786.00 **Actual Offertory**: \$13,786.00 **Difference**: +\$2,000.00

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 586-977-8080, ext 112.





**LUCAS JEFFREY**Communications Facilitator
LJeffrey@sjfparish.org
Ext. 101

At the 11:30am Mass this Sunday, I'll be lectoring for the first time in front of a congregation. If you watched our video Masses during the suspension of public Masses, you may have seen

me lector virtually—but this Sunday is the first time I'll be doing it in front of others!

I don't get stage fright, but lectoring is still something new for me. When I'm faced with something new, I like to learn as much as I can about it, become familiar and comfortable, and practice, practice, practice. Luckily, I'm socially isolating at home with my family, which means I have plenty of people around to practice lectoring for.

We encounter new things and experiences frequently, these days. In the end, we always adjust—I remember my first time going out with a mask on, trying very hard to maintain a six-foot distance from those around me. Now, five months on, that comes naturally. But as we continue to live in a changing world, we might struggle to understand and adapt.

There's a line in this Sunday's second reading that can help us in times of struggle: "From him [the Lord] and through him and for him are all things" (Rom 11:33-36). When we're faced with a new circumstance, situation, or direction, we can take a moment to remember that change, however difficult, is from, through, and for the Lord.

Let's say my first time lectoring was a change that challenged and frightened me. Let's say I wasn't isolating with my family, but rather by myself. How can I adapt? How can I get through it?

Pausing to remember the Lord's hand in all things is good on paper, but if I'm faced with anxiety and stress, I might not be in the headspace to do that just yet. Maybe a better first step would be to learn as much as I can about the new situation.

I see lectors ever weekend as they do the readings at Mass. If I want, I can visit our YouTube channel and watch back those Masses. I can analyze and understand what it means to proclaim the Scriptures at Mass, and in doing so, make myself more comfortable. I can learn about the situation I'll be in and where it'll happen.

I might not yet be comfortable reading in front of others, though—and if I'm isolated at home, how will I rehearse? Luckily, the pandemic has seen a popularity boom for video conferencing services. Whether it's with FaceTime, Zoom, or Google Meet, I can connect with someone who's willing to listen to me lector and give me constructive feedback.

Hopefully, at the end of this road, I'll have a clear enough mind to turn to the Lord and recognize His hand in all things. Although I may be alone at the ambo, the Lord is with me, guiding me in all that I do.

Change can be difficult. Many of the challenges we're facing right now are a bit more severe than having to lector for the first time. Our society is reorienting itself to navigate through a pandemic. But, no matter how big the struggle, we can always stop, take a breath, and prepare. At the end of it all, we must remember that "From him and through him and for him are all things" (Rom 11:33-36).

### SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF AUG 23, 2020

**Sunday**, Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time:

Is 22:19-23; Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8; Rom 11:33-36; Mt 16:13-20

**Monday**, Feast of Saint Bartholomew, Apostle: Rv 21:9b-14; Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18; Jn 1:45-51

**Tuesday**, Saint Louis; Saint Joseph Calasanz, Priest: 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17; Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13; Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday:

2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18; Ps 128:1-2, 4-5; Mt 23:27-32

Thursday, Memorial of Saint Monica:

1 Cor 1:1-9; Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Mt 24:42-51

**Friday**, Memorial of Saint Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church:

1 Cor 1:17-25; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11; Mt 25:1-13

**Saturday**, Memorial of the Passion of Saint John the Baptist:

1 Cor 1:26-31; Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20-21; Mk 6:17-29

**Sunday**, Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time:

Jer 20:7-9; Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Rom 12:1-2; Mt 16:21-27

#### **MASS INTENTIONS**

**MONDAY, AUGUST 24: NO MASS** 

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 25** 

7:00pm Liv. Pepaj Family (Maria)

Dec. Anthony Maguran (Family) Liv. Gjok Pepaj Family (Husband)

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26** 

8:00am Dec. Robert Bruce (Sam & Sharron Randazzo)

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 27** 

8:00am Dec. Ed Varani (Judy Taylor)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28: NO MASS

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 29** 

**4:00pm** Dec. Gabriel Durante (Durante Family)

Dec. Pauline Gronowski (Gronowski Family)

Liv. Gjyste Pepaj (Husband)

Dec. Kimberly Kozian (3<sup>rd</sup> Anniv.) (Family)

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 30** 

**9:00am** For the Parishioners

Dec. Geraldine Dugas (Tom & Phyllis Harris)
Liv. Diane Martin (Tom & Phyllis Harris)

Liv. Fr. Tony (Gjok Pepaj)

**11:30am** Dec. Jack Campo (Caradonna Family)

Dec. Maria & Damiano Campo (Caradonna Family)
Dec. Vincent & Bridget Caradonna (Caradonna Family)

#### **STAFF**

#### **Pastor**

Rev. Anthony Sulkowski, ext. 102

FrTony@sjfparish.org

#### **Pastoral Associate**

Laurie Hall, ext. 104 LHall@sjfparish.org

#### **Business Manager**

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# Director of Faith Formation

## & Youth Ministry Coordinator

Ben Klassen, ext. 108 BKlassen@sjfparish.org

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#### **Communications Facilitator**

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#### Office Assistant

Mary Ann Gleich MGleich@sjfparish.org

#### Stewardship Liaison

Linda Smith, ext. 113 LSmith@sjfparish.org

#### **SACRAMENTS**

### Children's Baptism

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

#### Reconciliation

Available Tuesdays at 5:30pm.

#### Marriage

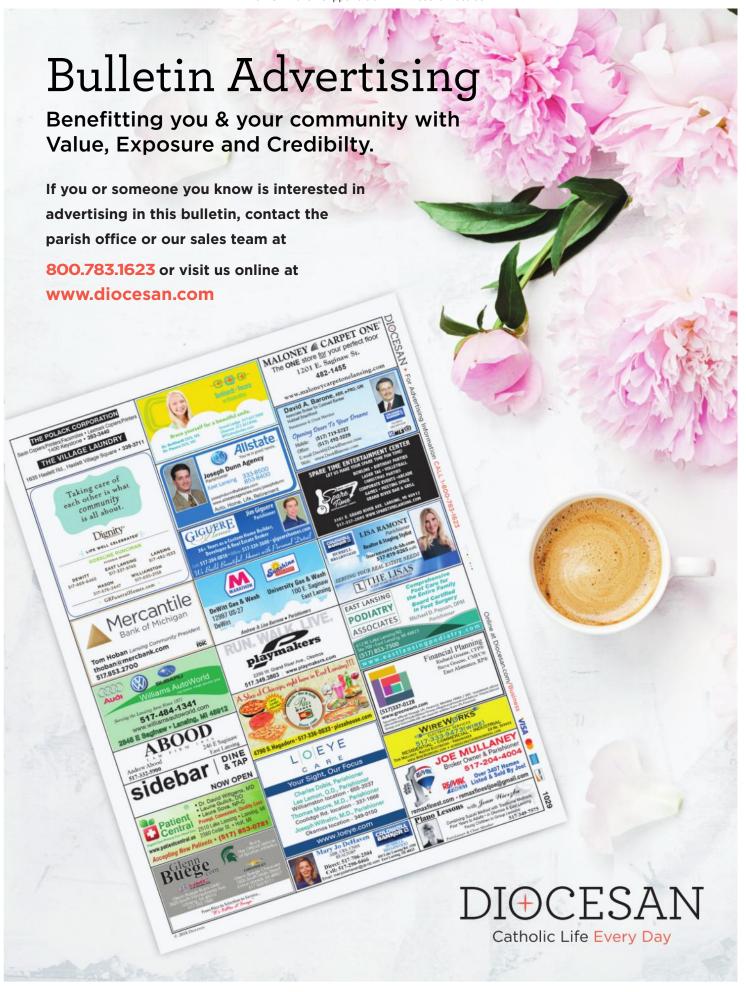
Congratulations! Please contact the Parish Office at least six months prior to your desired wedding date to begin preparations.

#### Anointing of the Sick

Contact the Parish Office to schedule regular or one-time 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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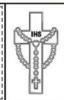


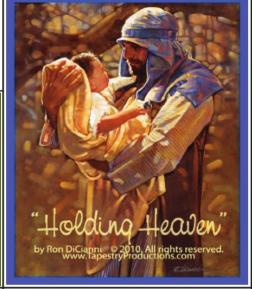
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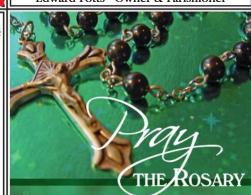
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