ST. JANE FRANCES DE CHANTAL

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Fr. Tony Sulkowski
Pastor
FrTony@sjfparish.org
Ext. 102

Christ is Alive

In response to the October 2018 Synod on Young People, Pope Francis issued an apostolic exhortation titled *Christ is Alive*, (Christus Vivit.). As an aside, the pilgrimage that I led

to Italy last October, our group had the opportunity to attend the opening Mass for the Synod for young people with Pope Francis in St. Peter's square. The document is reader friendly and is written as a letter to a specific group of people; namely young people.

I had the opportunity to read the Pope's apostolic exhortation and found it to be a wonderful document that encourages young people to actively renew the Church. The document defines the age of young people as between the ages of 16-29. We often hear that young people are the future of the Church. In the document, Pope Francis reminds and challenges young people by stating that they are the "now of God".

In paragraph 64 of *Christ is Alive*, Pope Francis explains the meaning of the "now of God". He says: "We cannot just say that young people are the future of the world. They are its present, even now; they are helping to enrich it. Young people are no longer children. They are at a time of life when they begin to assume a number of responsibilities, sharing alongside adults in the growth of the family, society, and the church. Yet the times are changing, leading us to ask: What are today's young people really like? What is going on in their lives?"

Throughout the document, the Pope encourages young people to share the talents and gifts that God has bestowed upon them to renew the church. This document is written and directed to young people. I would encourage young people to read this document and discern what your gifts and talents are and how they will enrich the church. The Pope ends with a wish; that young people "keep running the race", as the church needs your momentum, your enthusiasm, your intuition, your faith.

As we journey towards the Feast of Pentecost, may we call down the Holy Spirit to enlighten our hearts and minds in our response to the needs and life of the church. I recall the words of Cardinal John Dearden as he returned from Rome after attending Vatican Council II. He would often say: "the more difficult the task, the more the Spirit will be given".

Bon mot: Difficulties are God's errands; and when we are sent upon them we should esteem it a proof of God's confidence--- as a compliment from him.

--- Henry Ward Beecher

Carpe Diem, Fr. Tony

You can go to the USCCB website to download the document

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Weekend Masses

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

Weekday Masses

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

Holy Day Masses As Announced

Confession

Tuesday 5:30pm

Rosary

6:00pm Tuesday

OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Wednesday, & Thursday

9:00am-1:00pm & 4:30pm-7:45pm

Tuesday

2:00pm-7:45pm

Saturday

3:00pm-5:00pm

Sunday

10:00am—12:30pm

PARISH HAPPENINGS

Monday, December 11, 2023

10:00am SVdP Meeting 1:00pm Intercessory Prayers (Zoom) 6:00 pm Advent Reconciliation

Tuesday, December 12, 2023

1:00pm Adoration 5:30pm Confessions 6:00pm Rosary 7:00pm Mass

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

8:00am Mass

9:30am **Needlecrafters** 6:00pm **Needlecrafters**

Cantor/Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm 7:00pm Lectio Divina (Zoom)

Thursday, December 14, 2023

8:00am Mass

9:00am Swiffers Team #3

10:30am Book Club

K of C Officer's Meeting K of C General Meeting 6:00pm 6:30pm

Friday, December 15, 2023 Parish Office Closed/No Events

Saturday, December 16, 2023

10:45am Christmas Treble Choir

4:00pm Mass

Sunday, December 17, 2023

9:00am Mass

10:00am Holiday Grief Group

11:30am Mass

12:15pm Baptism



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

On this second Sunday of Advent, our Gospel reading from St. Mark is one of contrast. John the Baptist appears in the desert, a hot, dirty, dry land, proclaiming baptism with water, cool and decidedly

not dry, to be cleansed of sin. When we think of a desert, we often perceive an absence of living things; those who hear John the Baptist are given a message of abundant life, cleansed of sin, and made new.

Think of a time spent in the desert, or on a hot beach, or working in your garden in the heat and humidity of summer. Maybe you felt your clothing sticking to your skin, sweat accumulating on your body, and a general slowing of your activity to accommodate the physical aspects of heat and sand or dirt. Think also of the feeling of a cleansing shower after, refreshed, skin breathing again, cooled, and made new. It is a relief and a joy! We go from the scarcity of cleanliness and comfort to overwhelming bounty.

John the Baptist seems to be telling his listeners that what he is giving them is wonderful, a refreshing new start. But he also is making it clear that this joy of baptism is just the beginning, and the best is yet to come! "One mightier than I is coming after me...I have baptized you with water, he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." (Mark 1:7-8)

We have been baptized in the Holy Spirit; we follow the mighty one. As we go through this season of Advent, let us reflect on the refreshing gift of baptism and seek to follow Jesus and his teachings more closely, enjoying the overwhelming bounty of God's love and mercy.

Peace, Laurie

Coming this Week:

- Our Advent Reconciliation Service will be this Monday, December 11th at 6:00pm. An additional opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation is available at SS. Cyril and Methodius on Tuesday, December 19th from 10:00am to 12:00pm and from 6:00pm to 9:00pm.
- Eucharistic Adoration with Recitation of Divine Praises is on Tuesday, December 12th, from 1:00pm to 6:30pm in the Chapel.

CHRISTMAS DECORATORS NEEDED!

Once again, we need your help to bring the beauty of the Christmas season to our worship space! Would you like to help decorate the Worship and Gathering spaces for Christmas? During the last two years we moved from decorating everything in one day to a more manageable process of decorating throughout the week before Christmas. If you have time during the week to decorate a tree or help with flowers or other Christmas celebration decorations, please email me at LHall@sjfparish.org or call 586-977-8080 ext. 104. We have something for everyone!



JWJ Catholic Academy

2nd Sunday of Advent

Family Page



John the Baptist baptized people and called them to turn away from sin. He had some interesting habits. He wore rough scratchy clothes, and he ate bugs with honey! He was sort of a wild man in some ways. He also announced to people that Jesus was coming. We have a similar job to John the Baptist. We can rejoice and be glad that God has sent a savior. We can "prepare the way" by telling other people about Jesus and celebrating the "good news" of the gospel.

adapted from: https://ministry-to-children.com/john-prepares-way-sermon-for-kids/

ACTIVITY

Make a colorful map on a piece of paper or on a brown lunch bag. Have the map lead all through your house to a treasure at the end. Have family members follow the map and find the treasure. The treasure can be a game to play, a treat to eat or a box full of fun stuff to share and talk about.

Dear God.

Thank you for your news and messengers.
Thank you that you sent us Jesus.
Help us to prepare for His birth.
Keep us mindful of the hope of His coming and share that good news with others.
Thank you for your love.

We love you, God! In Jesus name, Amen!

GOSPEL: Mark 1:1-8

John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him

and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins.

John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist.

He fed on locusts and wild honey.

And this is what he proclaimed:

"One mightier than I is coming after me.

I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals.

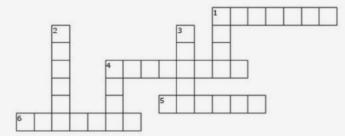
I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Preparing the Way

"A voice calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him." Mark 1:3

Puzzle is based on Mark 1:1-8





ACROSS

- 1. To make ready ahead of time
- 4. Not having any curves or bends
- A dry, barren region with only a few plants
- 6. To admit your sins to God

DOWN

- 1. A trail made for traveling on foot
- The river where John baptized people
- 3. What people use for speaking
- 4. Actions that break God's law

VOICE	PREPARE	SINS	STRAIGHT	
JORDAN	DESERT	PATH	CONFESS	

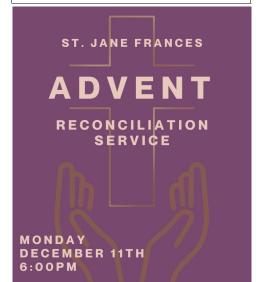
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OFFERTORY INFORMATION December 3, 2023

Registered Families: 1.365 **Weekly Envelopes:** 194 **Amount Offered:** \$7,036.00 **Loose Offering:** \$882.00 **Online Contributors:** 103 **Online Contributions** \$4,109.00 \$12,027.00 **Total Offerings:** \$11,786.00 **Budgeted Offertory:** Difference: \$241.00



Congratulations to the St. Jane Frances de Chantal and St. Rene Goupil 2023 First Reconciliation Class!



PREPARE THE WAY of the Lord!

Isaiah 40:3

Christmas 2023

As you are aware, this year Christmas is on Monday. Because the 4th week of Advent is on Sunday there are two separate collections, the Christmas collection as well as the weekly Sunday offertory collection (the 4th Sunday of Advent). We do rely on the weekly offertory collection to make our budget. Thank you for your consideration in this matter. I wish to thank you for your ongoing generosity to the parish of St. Jane Frances de Chantal. As in years past, the Christmas collection stays in the parish.

I wish all of you an awesome Advent season. Fr. Tony

LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULE								
	Tuesday Dec. 12, 2023	Wednesday Dec. 13, 2023	Thursday Dec. 14, 2023	Saturday Dec. 16, 2023	Sunday Dec. 17, 2023			
	7:00pm Mass	8:00am Mass	8:00am Mass	4:00pm Mass	9:00am Mass	11:30am Mass		
Sacristan	Brian Finn	John Martin	Cindy Guzi	Janet Sepanik	Selma & Paul Marzec	Dan Rys		
Lector	Chris Bajercius	Kathy Pawlik	Barb Milczynski	James Torres Keith Morris	Denise Dara Kathy Pawlik	Matthew Pawl Robert Skwara		

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Baptism

The community of **St. Jane Frances de Chantal** welcomes into our parish family the following child who was baptized by Fr. Tony Sulkowski on December 3, 2023:





EUCHARISTIC ADORATION WITH RECITATION OF DIVINE PRAISES

Come spend an hour with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament! Please join us in the chapel on Tuesday, December 12th anytime from 1:00pm until 6:30pm for Eucharistic Adoration, ending with recitation of the Divine Praises at 6:30pm.

SCRIPTURE READINGS WEEK OF December 10, 2023

Sunday

Second Sunday of Advent

Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

Monday

Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab & 10, 11-12, 13-14; Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday

Zec 2:14-17; Judith 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Wednesday

Is 40-25-31; Ps 103: 1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10; Mt 11:28-30

Thursday

Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab; Mt 11:11-15

Friday

Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6; Mt 11:16-19

Saturday

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday

Third Sunday of Advent

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Show us, Lord, your mercy; grant us your salvation

Psalm 85:8

ADVENT GIVING TREE
DONATIONS ARE DUE ON
MONDAY, DECEMBER 11TH.
THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR
GENEROSITY!

Kaylyn Giang

Godfather: Richard Yu

Godmother: Anna Huong

ARMED SERVICES PRAYER LIST

Robert Bain, Army

Nicholas Brosowski, Army

Chris Burley, Navy

Shaun Chaplin, *Air Force*

Alexander J. Hendzell, *Marines*

Gregory Hielle, Army

Louis B. Kasper III, Coast Guard

Carmen LaForest, Navy

Matthew McDowell, Air Force

Lauren Patterson, Air Force

Cassidy Kicinski Rose, Air Force

Kyle Wiegand, Army

PRAYER LIST

Hosie King Jack O'Mara Mary Thacker Rose Van De Velde

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

PARISH NEWS

Parish News keeps our parishioners up-to-date with regular updates from our parish. Any parishioner with an email address can sign up for Parish News.

All news will be delivered to your email inbox.

Sign up at **sifparish.org/news**.



MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 11, 2023

No Mass

Tuesday, December 12, 2023

7:00pm For the Parishioners

Wednesday, December 13, 2023 8:00am For the Parishioners

> Dec. Roberto Huang (Sister) Liv. Judy Taylor (Nancy Volpe)

Thursday, December 14, 2023 8:00am For the Parishioners

Friday, December 15, 2023

No Mass

Saturday, December 16, 2023

4:00pm Dec. Carol Trinity Miller (Robert & Frances Kraft)

Dec. Euguene & Frances Berthiaume (Joyce) Dec. Ron & Sandi Kotulis (Judy Kotulis) Dec. Josephine Roby (Appleton Family)

Dec. Stella Lobaza (Family)
Dec. Carolyn DiMinno (Family)

Sunday, December 17, 2023

9:00am Liv. Nathan Repke (Judy Taylor)

Dec. Dennis Briston (Carolyn Briston)
Dec. Patricia Mazur (Pietle Family)

11:30am For the Parishioners

Dec. Al Schatz (Family)

Dec. Les & Zelma Esper (Annette Majka) Dec. Celeste Caleel (Annette Majka) Dec. Bill Smythe (Judy & Kids)

Dec. Manny P. Malicsi (Aida M. Family)

Due to advanced bulletin printing deadlines, Mass intentions and prayer list requests for December 25, 2023 through January 14, 2024 are due by December 14th



The community of **St. Jane Frances de Chantal** extends support and prayers to the family and friends of:

Walter T. Stacey

Husband of the late Gloria

Father of Shelley, Eric, and Ryan Cherished grandfather & great-grandfather

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

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 sifparish.org/joinus. We would love to have you!

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DECEMBER 10, 2023

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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