

St. Jane Frances de Chantal Parish

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

JULY 19, 2020

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN O<u>RDINARY TIME</u>



Pastor Ext. 102

FR. TONY SULKOWSKI During the early stage of the pandemic, I had the opportunity to do a great deal of reading. One of the books that I read was written by Father Jack Castlelot. Fr. Castlelot FrTony@sifparish.org was a world-renowned biblical scholar. His field of expertise was the New Testament. He wrote extensively about the books in the New Testament and was one of many biblical scholars whose examination of the Sacred Scriptures was compiled in the

Jerome Biblical Commentary—a commentary used by those who are studying the Sacred Scriptures in depth.

As a young seminarian at St. John's Provincial Seminary in Plymouth, Michigan, I and those studying for the priesthood had the honor of being taught by Fr. Castlelot. He shared his knowledge of the Sacred Scriptures and "broke open the Word" for us.

I recall the first day that our class arrived at St. John's Provincial Seminary. We had a rector's conference that evening, and Fr. Castlelot went to the lectern and began to speak. He said, "Gentlemen, when and if you are ordained priests, there are two things you will have to deal with: namely, ambiguity and change."

As I reflect upon my thirty-four years of priesthood, I can honestly say there has been a lot of ambiguity and change within the Church as well as in society. There have also been some challenging and disappointing times.

We all experience the ambiguity and change that life presents to us. We can't avoid it. It's a part of our life journey. The challenge that it places before us is this: do we see ambiguity and change as an opportunity to grow in our faith and in our understanding of the present situation? Hopefully, we do.

If there is one thing that this pandemic has taught us, it is that life is uncertain and that we are a people of hope. The Scriptures give us that hope to see beyond our present situation. St. Pope John XXIII echoed that thought when he said, "It is not that the Gospel has changed; rather, it is that we have begun to understand it better."

Bon mot: "Sacred Scripture is set up as a kind of lantern for us in the night of life."

-St. Gregory I the Great, Pastoral Care, c.590

Carpe Diem,

Fr. Tony

SIGN UP FOR PARISH NEWS!

Get the latest news and resources from St. Jane Frances de Chantal delivered straight to your inbox! Sign up at sjfparish.org.

LIVE MASS AT HOME

We offer live video Masses every weekend! Visit sjfparish.org at our normal weekend Mass times (listed on Page 2) to watch Mass from home.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

"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."

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!

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Weekend Masses Saturday Sunday	4:00pm 9:00am & 11:30am
Weekday Masses Tuesday Wednesday & Thu	7:00pm rsday 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

Susan Putrycus Daniel VanAcker Magdalene Risko Lucy Sieck Hugo Turner

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!



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

People often ask me about musical inspiration and where I find it. It can come from anywhere. To be truly inspired, you have to go beyond yourself and what you know and actually listen to what God might

be telling you. In this world of noise and confusion, sometimes it is difficult to stop, meditate, or even just slow down.

Through the years, there are certain songs I've been asked to sing that are classics. With some titles, I walk a tight line as to whether they are appropriate for Church or not. However, every song in a hymnbook had to be evaluated at one time or another to determine its value for inclusion. Just because a song isn't in a book doesn't mean it isn't proper. My yardstick? I study the words. If they're meaningful, respectful, and speak to the heart, I believe it's okay to use.

Here's one example: I've performed *The Rose* probably hundreds of times, mostly at funerals—even at my own mother's service in 1984. It was recorded

most famously by Bette Midler in 1979 for her movie of the same name. I hated the song at first. Listening to the radio, the first piano chords would come on, and I'd switch the station, fast.

Then one rainy evening, circa 1983, I had just landed in Chicago to attend a sales meeting for Jockey International. I'd picked up a rental car and was trying to navigate the controls on an unfamiliar car in an unfamiliar city in a blinding rainstorm—and that included fussing with the



radio. And then *that* song came on. Ugh! It had to go, so I hit scan and listened to the other stations. As the radio circled back, I caught the tail end of the song, and thought, *"Thank God; it's over!"*

But then the announcer did something I've never heard before or since. He said, "You know, it's a bad night out there, and this is such an inspirational song, so I'm going to play it again. This time, I want you all to really listen to the words." And then he did—and I did. I was blown away by the words. After I returned home, I learned the song by ear and played it for the next funeral at St. Rita Church in Detroit. Fr. John Nowlan loved it, and from then on, asked me to do the song frequently, as did Desmond Funeral Home, where I've been playing funerals since the 70s. It became a must-have for so many parishioners.

I don't believe I've done *The Rose* here at St. Jane Frances de Chantal, but I shall in the next set of songs for the Digital Music Series. Meanwhile, here are the words; you'll never look at a rose the same way again.

"Some say love—it is a river that drowns the tender reed; some say love it is a razor that leaves your soul to bleed; some say love—it is a hunger, an endless aching need.

"I say love it is a flower, and you, its only seed. It's the heart, afraid of breaking, that never learns to dance; it's the dream, afraid of waking, that never takes the chance; it's the one who won't be taken, who cannot seem to give, and the soul, afraid of dying, that never learns to live.

"When the night has been too lonely, and the road has been too long, and you think that love is only for the lucky and the strong, just remember, in the winter, far beneath the bitter snow, lies the seed that, with the sun's love, in the spring, becomes the rose."

ST. JANE FRANCES de CHANTAL | STERLING HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN





LAURIE HALL Pastoral Associate LHall@sjfparish.org Ext. 104

In today's Gospel, the long version, we hear three parables—one long and two short that serve to help us understand the longer parable. I'd like to share a word about parables.

A parable is a story that assists the listener in understanding a moral truth or a principle of faith. This is a particular style of literature, different from historical fact, legend, sermon, or other literary genres. It is important to understand the genre of parable so that the message is not taken literally or factually when it is not historically accurate or not an actual event that occurred.

A parable allows for the teaching of difficult concepts, making analogies that simplify and speak directly to the student. In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus is teaching about the "Kingdom of Heaven." The Jewish people to whom Jesus was speaking would have wanted to know who was to gain eternal life and how to achieve it. Jesus tells them through the parables that He is the sower, the world is the field, and the children of the Kingdom are the good seed. He extends His mercy to all, the good and the evil, but will winnow out the evil at the end of time.

This parable, like many told in the Gospel of Matthew, is intended to educate the Jewish people about the way to salvation, which would have been challenging, as it was different from what they believed in their faith. In His parables, Jesus uses examples that His listeners would relate to easily. This helped them to understand.

The examples used to clarify his message are often timeless. We can change some simple aspect of the lessons and make the parable equally valuable for teaching the contemporary listener.

This parable stands the test of time, as we still plant seeds and deal with the invasion of weeds. Like the people who originally heard Jesus speak this parable, we seek to know the path to the Kingdom of Heaven. From these parables today, we know that God has planted us with His grace, and that grace will lead us home.

JOIN US ONLINE! social Networks Connect with us at sifparish.org and find ways to engage on our Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter pages. We would love to see you there!

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DEVOTIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

We have two opportunities this week to spend time in prayer with others!

The Rosary group currently meets each Tuesday at 6:00pm in the Social Hall.

The Divine Mercy Chaplet is prayed on the fourth Saturday of each month, immediately following the 4:00pm Mass. This group also currently meets in the Social Hall.

Please join us for one or both of these devotions!

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK BETH WILLIAMS of ALL PRO HOME IMPROVEMENT

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

OFFERTORY INFORMATION JULY 12, 2020

Registered Families:	1386
Envelopes Returned:	165
Amount Offered:	\$8,506.00
Loose Offering:	\$342.00
Online Giving Contributor	s : 105
Contributions:	\$3,874.00
Total Offerings:	\$12,722.00
2020 Budgeted Offertory:	\$11,786.00
Actual Offertory:	\$12,722.00
Difference:	+\$936.00

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.

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With Deepest Sympathy

The community of **St. Jane Frances de Chantal** wishes to express our support & prayers to the families and friends of:

Donald Herppich

8.

John (Jack) Graver

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 LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

Article and image courtesy of *catholiccurrent.org*.

Feast Day: July 16th

Mount Carmel, which juts out into the Mediterranean near Haifa, Israel, has been considered a sacred place since the prophet Elijah built an altar there in his contest with the prophets of Baal. The Carmel headland is traditionally associated with the beginnings of the Carmelite order around 1195, when a group of lay hermits formed a community there. Mary had been honored there

as early as the fifth century, and by the twelfth century, Mount Carmel had become a site of Marian devotion. The Carmelites chose Mary as their protectress and dedicated their oratory on Mount Carmel to her. Our Lady of Mount Carmel is the patron of Bolivia and Chile.

Well-known Carmelites include St. Teresa of Avila, St. John of the Cross, and St. Therese of Lisieux—all of whom were powerhouses of spiritual writing.



A PRAYER TO COMBAT THE PANDEMIC

Adapted from mycatholic.life.

As COVID-19 cases increase, Lord, we ask you for health and healing:

Most Merciful and Triune God, We come to You in our weakness. We come to You in our fear. We come to You with trust, for You alone are our hope.

We place before You the disease present in our world. Bring healing to those who are ill. Protect those who are most at risk. Give comfort to those who have lost a loved one. Welcome those who have died into Your Eternal Home.

> Stabilize our communities. Unite us in our compassion. Remove all fear from our hearts. Fill us with confidence in Your care. Amen.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

Let us pray for you!

Although we are not all together again, our Intercessory Prayer team is still here for you. They are praying for all requests submitted.

Our Intercessory Prayer box remains open on our website. Please visit **sjfparish.org/intercessoryprayer** to submit Intercessory Prayer requests.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 19, 2020

Sunday, *Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time*: Wis 12:13, 16-19; Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16; Rom 8:26-27; Mt 13:24-43 or Mt 13:24-30

Monday, Saint Apollinaris, Bishop and Martyr: Mi 6:1-4, 6-8; Ps 50:5-6, 8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23; Mt 12:38-42

Tuesday, Saint Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest and Doctor of the Church: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 85:2-4, 5-6, 7-8; Mt 12:46-50

Wednesday, Feast of Saint Mary Magdalene: Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17; Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5-6ab, 15 and 17; Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

Thursday, *Saint Bridget, Religious*: Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13; Ps 36:6-7ab, 8-9, 10-11; Mt 13:10-17

Friday, *Saint Sharbel Makhlūf, Priest*: Jer 3:14-17; Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13; Mt 13:18-23

Saturday, *Feast of Saint James, Apostle*: 2 Cor 4:7-15; Ps 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6; Mt 20:20-28

Sunday, Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time: 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12; Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130; Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52 or Mt 13:44-46

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, JULY 20: NO MASS

TUESDAY, JULY 21 7:00pm Dec. Ray Mandziuk (Wife Pat)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22 8:00am Dec. John Morell (Ron & Annette Mobley)

THURSDAY, JULY 23

8:00am Dec. John Burnagiel (Judy Taylor)

FRIDAY, JULY 24: NO MASS

SATURDAY, JULY 25

4:00pm	Dec. George Barker (Putrycus Family)
	Liv. Fr. Leon Page (91 st Birthday) (Brian & Linda Brennan)
	Dec. Gabriel Durante (Durante Family)
	Dec. Pauline Gronowski (Gronowski Family)

SUNDAY, JULY 26

9:00am	Liv. Fr. Leon Page
	Dec. Gerald LaForest (LaForest Family)
	Dec. Wanda Sztaba (Son Dennis)
	Dec. Ronald Pellerito (Vera Pellerito)
	Liv. Maria Vacaj (Maria)
	Liv. Valentina Vacaj (Mom Maria)
11:30am	Dec. Jack Campo (Caradonna Family)
	Dec. Maria & Damiano Campo (Caradonna Family)
	Dec. Vincent & Bridget Caradonna (Caradonna Family)

For the Parishioners

STAFF

Pastor Rev. Anthony Sulkowski, ext. 102 FrTony@sjfparish.org

Pastoral Associate Laurie Hall, ext. 104 LHall@sjfparish.org

Business Manager Jody Gazo, ext. 112 JGazo@sjfparish.org

Director of Faith Formation & Youth Ministry Coordinator Ben Klassen, ext. 108 BKlassen@sjfparish.org

Director of Music Janina Jacobs, ext. 103 JJacobs@sjfparish.org

Communications Facilitator Lucas Jeffrey, ext. 101 LJeffrey@sjfparish.org

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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Ion Taylor Karen Tavlor Tom Taylor Paula M. Trombley Urbano & Pomnichowski Families Bernard & Mary Varani **Richard Volpe** Constance (Perliskey) Warchock Michael Warchock Barbara Ward George & Julia Wittner Wojtas & Rachwal Families Mary T. Woywood Merle Zakrzewski Zalewski & Confer Families Marsha Zanardelli Family Chester & Virginia Zurek



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