ST. JANE FRANCES DE CHANTAL 38750 RYAN ROAD, STERLING HEIGHTS, MI 48310 586-977-8080 SJFPARISH.ORG



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

During the early months of the pandemic, I had the opportunity to do a great deal of reading. One of the books that I read was written by Fr. Jack Castlelot. Fr. Jack was a world-renowned biblical scholar. His field of expertise was the New Testament, and he wrote extensively about the books in the New Testament. He 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. Jack 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. Jack went to the lectern and began to speak. He said, "Gentlemen, when and if you are ordained priests, there are two things that you will have to learn to deal with—namely, ambiguity and change."

As I reflect upon my 35 years of priesthood, I can honestly say that there has been a lot of ambiguity and change within the Church as well as in society at large. 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 the journey of life. 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, or don't we? 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 the hope we need to see beyond our present situation. A quote from St. Pope John XXIII echoes that thought; 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

Have a great week.

Carpe Diem,

Fr. Tony

WEEKDAY MASSES & CONFESSION

There will be **no weekday Mass** on Tuesday, August 24th, Wednesday, August 25th, or Thursday, August 26th.

There will be **no Confession** on Tuesday, August 24th.

Weekday Masses and Confession will resume their normal schedules beginning August 31st.

HELP FUEL THE MISSION: THE 2021 CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL

We have not yet reached our 2021 CSA goal. Thank you to all who have already made a pledge. If you have not, please, prayerfully consider contributing to the 2021 Catholic Services Appeal.

The Catholic Services Appeal is an annual campaign that raises funds for the Archdiocese of Detroit ministries, programs, and services that benefit all the faithful in southeast Michigan. This archdiocesan-wide campaign communicates that the local Church extends beyond the parish.

Our parish goal is \$91,324.00. Any money raised over and above our goal comes back to our parish. If you have not yet pledged, we ask that you please consider making a contribution.

Visit sjf.aodcsa.org to make a pledge and learn more.

AUGUST 22, 2021

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Weekend Masses	
Saturday	4:00pm
Sunday	9:00am & 11:30am
Weekday Masses	
Tuesday	7:00pm
Wednesday & Thu	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 & 4:30pm—8:00pm

Tuesday 2:00pm—8:00pm **Saturday** 3:00pm—5:00pm **Sunday** 10:00am—12:30pm

PARISH HAPPENINGS

Monday, August 23, 2021 9:00am Panera 1:00pm Intercessory Prayer Team Mtg. (via Zoom)

Tuesday, August 24, 2021No Weekday Mass or Confession6:00pmRosary

Wednesday, August 25, 2021 No Weekday Mass 9:30am Needlecrafters 6:00pm Needlecrafters

Thursday, August 26, 2021 *No Weekday Mass* 9:00am Swiffers Team #4

Friday, August 27, 2021 Parish Office closed

Saturday, August 28, 202111:00amBaptism4:00pmMass4:45pmDivine Mercy Prayers

Sunday, August 29, 2021 9:00am Mass 10:00am K of C Family Rosary 11:30am Mass 12:15pm Baptism



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

Choices—we make them every day. Some are small, like when we choose what to wear or whether to stay home or go out. But many of the choices we make are so much more

important than that—they are choices that impact our own lives, and often the lives of others.

Today's first reading from the book of Joshua tells of a choice the tribes of Israel were asked to make—a choice that affected those who gathered and the many people they led. Joshua, the successor to Moses, who led the people to take possession of the land of Canaan, has grown old and is reaching the end of his life. In the Scriptures that lead to today's passage, Joshua reminds the people that God has never failed them. Joshua recounts the saving actions of God in the history of the Israelites, from Abraham up to the present day. Joshua then implores the members of the tribes of Israel to serve the Lord "completely and sincerely" (Joshua 24:14).

He asks the leaders of the tribes to make a choice: "Decide today whom you will serve" (Joshua 24:15). The options he presents to them are to either serve the Lord or to serve some other gods. Wonderfully, the tribes all choose to remain loyal to the Lord. After all, their God led them out of enslavement, gave them hope during their hardships in the desert, and guided them to the Promised Land. The choice may have seemed obvious.

In the Gospel today, Jesus asks the Twelve, his closest friends, to make a choice. Many of Jesus' disciples struggled with Jesus telling them that he is the living bread, and that in order for them to have life, they must eat his flesh and drink his blood. This was shocking to many of Jesus's disciples—so much so that they left Jesus and returned to their former way of life. Upon seeing the people leaving, Jesus asks the Twelve if they also wanted to leave him. Surely, they too were shocked and confused by Jesus' words, but Simon Peter speaks to the truth of those who have truly encountered Jesus: "Master, to whom shall we go?" No matter how confused or shocked the Twelve may have been, Peter gets down at once to the essential truth: "You have the words of eternal life" (John 6:68). Having encountered the living God, the choice was obvious.

Through baptism, God rescued us from the enslavement of sin, gave us the hope of eternal life, and guided us along right path. Each of us can choose to serve the Lord and his people or to serve ourselves or some other god, such as power, honor, pleasure, or wealth. Some paths may be easier or more socially acceptable for us to follow, but our moral conscience tells us that they are not the paths that will lead us to our eternal home. While there are other gods to serve, as the Israelites experienced, none are the God who sent his Son to suffer and die for our salvation. The choice to serve God seems obvious.

We are called to choose God—to put him first in our lives, above all else. We choose to serve God in the way we live our lives and in the decisions that we make each day. We choose to live a life in Christ, aided by the grace of the sacraments and by regular encounter with God in liturgy and prayer.

Do we make our choice to follow God obvious? The Israelites made a public commitment to God; the Twelve told Jesus of their commitment to him in response to his direct question. We demonstrate our commitment to the Lord through our worship and through our love of neighbor. Spend time in prayer and reflection today and ask yourself, "What specific action can I take to show my commitment as a disciple of our Lord?"

<u> PAGE 2</u>

WHY SHOULD CATHOLICS READ THE BIBLE?

Adapted from unleashthegospel.org.

Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ. Scripture enlightens our minds, unveils God's glorious plan of salvation, teaches us his ways, and shows us how to live as his people. In order to meet with confidence and wisdom the many challenges of our time, Catholics need to be renewed in their zeal to study the Bible and to teach it. Discover now how you can personally draw closer to Jesus through the Bible:

It's well known that Saint Jerome says that ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ. Jesus Christ is the Word of the Father. He's the living Word. And so we can encounter his Word. We encounter Jesus whenever we read the scriptures. Whether we are beginning in the book of Genesis or in the Gospels, Jesus is always present.

People will often ask, "Where do I begin in the Scriptures?" I would say if you're just starting out, start in the New Testament. Pick a Gospel—perhaps the Gospel of Mark. It's the shortest, and you'll feel accomplished when you're finished reading, as you have made your way through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. After you've read through a Gospel, try one of Paul's letters, and then begin to make your way through the Old Testament. Just pick a book. Start. Be committed to it. Spend at least 15 minutes each day delving into the Word of God. Sometimes we can get overwhelmed with names that we can't pronounce or places that we've never heard of. We have to be disciplined in our reading of the scriptures.

There are different ways that we can pray with the scriptures. One way is through Lectio Divina, or divine reading. Lectio Divina calls us to spend some time to contemplate the scriptures—to see how the Word speaks to us—and then calls us to action. Another way would be to use our imagination while we're reading the scriptures. Using our imagination means that we enter into the passage as though we're there. We recognize the details—what the weather feels like to us, how Jesus might look at us. And then we use all of those images. Reading the scriptures is a necessary part of every Christian life. Be disciplined, ask the Lord what he wants to speak to you, and then ask for the grace to live it out.



LECTOR SCHEDULE				
Tuesday Aug. 24, 2021	Wednesday Aug. 25, 2021	Thursday Aug. 26, 2021	Saturday Aug. 28, 2021	Sunday Aug. 29, 2021
No Mass	No Mass	No Mass	<i>4:00pm</i> Keith Morris	<i>9:00am</i> Chris Darner
				<i>11:30am</i> Barb Milczynski

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SCRIPTURE READINGS WEEK OF AUG. 22, 2021

Sunday

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b Ps 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21, 22-23 Eph 5:21-32 or 5:2a 25-32 Jn 6:60-69

Monday

St. Rose of Lima, Virgin 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10 Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a & 9b Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

St. Louis; St. Joseph Calasanz, Priest 1 Thes 2:9-13 Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab Mt 23:27-32

Thursday

1 Thes 3:7-13 Ps 90:3-5a, 12-13, 14 & 17 Mt 24:42-51

Friday

Memorial of St. Monica 1 Thes 4:1-8 Ps 97:1 & 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12 Mt 25:1-13

Saturday

Memorial of St. Augustine, Bishop & Doctor of the Church 1 Thes 4:9-11 Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9 Mt 25:14-30

Sunday

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Dt 4:1-2, 6-8 Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27 Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK NAJY JABORO of RUSTY KEG NAJOR ENTERPRISES

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OFFERTORY INFORMATION AUGUST 15, 2021

Registered Families:	1,365
Envelopes Returned:	180
Amount Offered:	\$5 <i>,</i> 842.00
Loose Offering:	\$555.00
Online Giving Contributors:	104
Online Contributions:	\$4,158.00
Total Offerings:	\$10,555.00
2020 Budgeted Offertory:	\$11,786.00
Actual Offertory:	\$10,555.00
Difference:	-\$1,231.00

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.





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

During these waning weeks of summer, each day seems even more precious than those days back in May or June when we looked forward to an endless supply of

summer. As I write this, it's a beautiful Saturday morning, and I'm sitting on the back deck overlooking the pond and surrounding woods—a happy place. Marcus is out here too, ever vigilant for wandering deer, rabbits, or any birds that have the nerve to land. The sun is about to rise over the trees. Are there problems to worry about? Certainly. Is the world in a state of major unease? Yes. Do any of us have solutions? Probably not. All we can do is pray, let go, and let God.

Where is your happy place—your special place of respite, peace, or prayer? I have several, but they are usually outside and near water or woodlands where I can hear the quiet interspersed with sounds of nature—tree frogs, birds, and the incessant cacophony of insect whirrs. We live in a world of artificial noise, and it's truly important to get away from that. I used to be able to escape to the golf course, where quiet was expected. But even there, golf carts often come



equipped with Wi-Fi and iPod adapters—and so, the music blares. We can never underestimate the importance of quiet, for it allows us to think, to dream, and to appreciate what the Lord has given us. Being outdoors reminds me of God's creation of the world: to see light evolve into dark as the day wears on; to walk the land, see the animals, and wade in the waters with fish darting about; to marvel at vegetation and green plants fashioned for food and shelter; and finally, to exist with other human beings. All of this, God designed. However, we sometimes forget the final part of the great story of creation: rest. Yes, even God needed a break. We do too.

Last week, a good friend invited me out on her pontoon. After a very busy week and weekend, I was tired and didn't feel like making the drive, but when she said they were pulling the boat for the season the next day due to her husband's upcoming surgery, the realization hit that I hadn't accepted even one

invitation to go out this summer. Not good. I went and enjoyed their hospitality along with a gorgeous sunset on the lake. After they left, I wandered over to the nearby St. Mary's of Orchard Lake Catholic campus, which some of you may know is fronted by yet another lake. There, I admired a very spiritual place made even more holy by those who devoutly prayed at the Grotto as darkness descended upon us all. The next time you need a special retreat and



you're not sure where to go, I highly recommend a visit there. You'll leave feeling refreshed and at peace.



BIKE CLUB

Want to join others for a non-competitive bike ride once a week? Come along on our summer rides!

This year, the Bike Club will be meeting **every Tuesday at 6:15pm, with rides beginning at 6:30pm.** We will be meeting in the Onyx Ice Arena parking lot located at 24 Mile Road and Dequindre. From there, we will ride either the Macomb Orchard Trail or the Clinton River Trail.

You don't need to register to join, but you must wear a helmet! Please bring bug spray, sunscreen, water, and anything else you might need.

Sign-up: As a means to let everyone know who will be attending each Bike Club ride, we have made available an online sign-up sheet. To access the sign-up sheet, visit **sjfparish.org/bikeclub** and click "Bike Club Sign-up Sheet."

The dates for each ride are indicated on the sheet. Type in your name under the ride(s) you plan on attending. This information is updated real time and is available to everyone who plans on riding.

We hope to see everyone at future rides!

Reminders: For reminders of each ride or notifications of cancellations due to the weather, etc., sign up for our Remind 101 by texting **@sjf-bike to 81010 or to 857-256-0255**. You can unsubscribe at any time.

Liability: At no time does St. Jane Frances de Chantal Parish, the Archdiocese of Detroit, employees, or volunteers assume liability for any event that may occur during these workouts. The members participate of their own free will, understanding that any exercise program has the inherent risk of injury. No one associated with this group is operating as a doctor or as a licensed medical practitioner. Members should consult with their doctor or with another licensed care representative if they have any questions and/or concerns about participating in an exercise program.

EUCHRE NIGHT: WELCOME BACK!

Who: Whether you are a pro or a beginner, join us for a fun night of Euchre!

What: We'll be playing Euchre and having a fun evening together! The games will be played using rotating partners.

When: Saturday, September 25, 2021 from 5:00pm until about 10:00pm.

Where: In the Fr. Page Activity Center.

How: Sign up in the Parish Office. The cost is \$10.00 per player; this covers the cost of dinner, snacks, dessert, beverages, and prizes. We ask that the \$10.00 please be paid **before** the night of the event. The cutoff for signing up is Monday, September 20, 2021. (No refunds for cancellations will be issued after September 20, 2021.)



Questions: Contact Linda Smith at LSmith@sjfparish.org or 586-977-8080, Ext. 113.

Baptism

The community of **St. Jane Frances de Chantal** welcomes into our parish family the following children who were baptized by Fr. Tony Sulkowski on Sunday, August 15, 2021:



Abigail Rose Golonka Parents: Matthew & Andrea Golonka Godfather: Mark McCoy Godmother: Deanna McCoy



Bennett Stephen Goodrich Parents: Derek & Sarah Goodrich Godfather: Christopher Doppel Christian Witness: Elise Doppel



Walker Harvey Squire Parents: Ryan & Nicole Squire Godfather: Ethan Sroka Godmother: Kendra Brown

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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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 Scot D. Skoczylas, Navy Anthony Trotta, Navy Kyle Wiegand, Army

PRAYER LIST

Jayn Brannon	Steve Sadecki
Sherrie Chudnicki	June Sadowski
John Fisher	Tom Sadowski
Gary Jacobs	David Sweet
Kevin McDonald	Joanna Sweet
Jacob Runkle	Laura Thomson
Stephanie Runkle	Rockne Whitehead
Mark Sadecki	

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, August 23, 2021 No Mass

Tuesday, August 24, 2021 No Mass

Wednesday, August 25, 2021 No Mass

Thursday, August 26, 2021 No Mass

Friday, August 27, 2021 No Mass

Saturday, August 28, 2021

Dec. John J. D'Angelo (Family)		
Dec. Suzanne DeDonatis (1 st Anniv.) (Family)		
Dec. Frank Franczyk (4 th Anniv.) (Franczyk Family)		
Dec. Kathleen Hales (Linda Franczyk)		
Dec. Eugene Saja (Stender Family)		
Dec. Marilou Carais (Priscilo & Teresita Carais)		
Sunday, August 29, 2021		
For the Parishioners		
Dec. Gerald De Lisle (Judy Taylor)		
Dec. Jack Campo (Caradonna Family)		
Dec. Maria & Damiano Campo (Caradonna Family)		
Dec. Vincent & Bridget Caradonna (Caradonna Family)		
Dec. Betty Cianfarani (Family)		

- Dec. Eugenia Chrostowski (11th Anniv.) (Family)
- Dec. Darlene (Corona) Chrostowski (1st Anniv.) (Family)



JOIN US ON THE WAY OF FAITH. SJFPARISH.ORG/THEWAYOFFAITH

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!

AUGUST 22, 2021

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View Our Parish Supporters at www.DiscoverMass.com

ST. JANE FRANCES de CHANTAL

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Maria Benvenuti Evening Support Staff 586-977-8080

Hosie King Maintenance Staff 586-977-8080

Rich & Maurene Centalla Maintenance 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!



ST. JANE FRANCES DE CHANTAL FIRST SUNDAY MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

Apdal & Rebucal Families Cresencio E. Apdal **Bajercius & Nowak Families Carol Bardelline** Michael Baranski Family Joseph Beauregard **Bielinski Family** Blacker & Bartz Families Bonk & Szymanski Families Anthony & Mary Ann Bratke **Dennis Briston Broski & Schaff Families Brower & Ficaro Families** Albert Brylewski Caradonna & Campo Families Nancy Ann Cardamone Fr. James Challancin **Coussens & Petracci Families Desmond Cushing** Louis & Elvira D'Ambrosio **DeHayes & Kulhawik Families** Andrew & Eleanor Delie Mark Dolata **Betty Eschrich** Raymond & Mary Fante

Finn & McNamara Families Florek & Soldatek Families Sr. Mary Frederick **Riley James Frush** Jesus & Mercedes Garcia James Golombek Norbert & Emily Golonka Henry & Irene Grifka **Gurney Family Donald Herppich** Kay Herrmann Hughes & Przedwojewski Families John Kapeluch Family Richard H. & Richie Karasinski Father Mike Kazer Anthony & Jane Klik Jean Koscielski Bernard Kosnik John & Dorothy Kotulis Peter & Elizabeth Kotulis Ron Kotulis Sandi Kotulis Anthony Krull Family Frances Kulwicki Kulwicki & Spellman Families

James Kwapis John Kwapis Family James & Dolores LaRocca John & Marisa LaRocca Joseph & Helen Levenski Joann Lichocki Stanley & Dolores Lichocki Maguran & Baglama Families Raymond J. Mandziuk Mandziuk & Skonieczny Families **Richard Marshall** Thomas & Rose Medved Clara & Stanley Milczynski Sr. Alice Miller Liz & Pam Miller Family Conrad Modlinski Harry & Lottie Musialowski George Muylaert Family Vincent Nesci, D.C. Tuan Nguyen Family Edward J. Novak & Family Brian Oakes Kenneth Oakes Jack O'Connell Marsha A. Olson

Bruno Osak Leandre & Vina Page Parrott Family & Friends Helen & Henry Perliskey Genevieve Perliski Joseph Pistono Pokrywka & Zalucki Families Lois Polkinghorne Aniela Poslaiko Fred Andrew Post Arnold & Shirley Putrycus Deborah Puzzuoli **Joseph Quitter Family** Luigi & Elvira Rastelli **Reghi & Mahon Families Rucinski & Kennedy Families Rudzewicz & Timko Families** Rudzinski & Bartkowski Families Sadecki & Wojtkiewicz Families Esse & Grace Salamie Jim Sawicki **Richard Schriedel** Arnold Semrau Norman & Mary Ann Setter Frank & Lucille Steinhebel

Ursula Steinhehel Jean Stevens Anthony & Phyllis Sulkowski Sr. **Ronald Suwinski** Jack Taylor James & Mae Taylor Jon Taylor Karen Taylor Tom Taylor Paula M. Trombley Urbano & Pomnichowski Families Bernard & Mary Varani **Richard Volpe** Constance (Perliskey) Warchock Michael Warchock Barbara Ward George & Julia Wittner John & Mary Wojtas Anton Wolf Mary T. Woywood Zaglaniczny & Morris Families Merle Zakrzewski Zalewski & Confer Families Marsha Zanardelli Family Chester & Virginia Zurek

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