

# St. Jane Frances de Chantal Parish

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

#### TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

<u>AUGUST 30, 2020</u>



Pastor Ext. 102

FR. TONY SULKOWSKI Recently, I read an article by Dr. Jeff Mirus, entitled Proverbs, read spiritually. In it, Dr. Mirus informs his readers that the Book of Proverbs is an instruction on the art of FrTony@sifparish.org right living. He states that "the Book of Proverbs deals with the full range of life, from the spiritual heights to the pragmatism of daily life."

The Book of Proverbs is about everything. The same can be said about the Book of Psalms, which addresses every human emotion, including life, death, forgiveness, sin, love, and hate. Every human emotion that we experience can be found in the Book of Psalms.

I would encourage you to pick up the Sacred Scriptures (the Bible), open it to either the Book of Proverbs or the Book of Psalms, and use them as a form of meditation. In the hustle and bustle of the world, we need to step out of our day-to-day lives and reflect in light of the situation that we find ourselves in.

Dr. Mirus suggests that Chapters 17 and 26 in the Book of Proverbs are of the greatest spiritual interest. With regard to the Book of Psalms, each psalm lends itself to a deeper reflection and allows the reader to center their attention on a power that is much greater than us—namely, God.

You have heard me say often that God has a plan for each one of us—and He does. It may not be the plan we envision for ourselves. In our lives, we need to see God's hand and the many ways He blesses and enriches us with the people and experiences we deal with. I am reminded of a saying that I heard many years ago which helps me keep my life centered: "Do you want to make God laugh? Tell Him your plans for the day."

Bon mot: "God is the poet of the world, with tender patience leading it by his vision of truth, beauty, and goodness."

-Alfred North Whitehead

Have a great day.

Fr. Tony

Carpe Diem,



#### 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 sjfparish.org/joinus. We would love to have you!

#### **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 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 Eric Rzeppa Robert Bruce Steve Sadecki Magdalene Gehring Lucy Sieck** Joan Knapp **Daniel VanAcker** Kelsey Mazur-Baker **Brad Wilson** Joan Prill Mike Prill

Names on the Prayer List remain for four weeks. To request a listing, please contact the Parish Office.

# RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

#### **ENCOUNTER THE LOVE OF CHRIST THROUGH THE CATHOLIC CHURCH!**



LAURIE HALL Pastoral Associate Ext. 104

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a religious instruction program—a LHall@sifparish.org conversion (turning) process for the non-baptized and those baptized in other Christian churches. It is a process for

welcoming adult newcomers or returning Catholics into a relationship with Jesus Christ through the sacraments of the Roman Catholic Church. It's even a great place for lifelong Catholics to ask questions, find answers, and cultivate faith-filled relationships.

RCIA is a community journey in which seekers and church members reflect together on their own relationship with God. It is also a personal journey that leads to a transformation of mind and spirit.

#### Are you looking for a community of faith-filled people who will learn and grow along with you? RCIA may be for you.

Sessions begin the first weekend of October. If you are curious, or know someone who is, please call me, and I'll be happy to talk more about the process, no commitment necessary. All are welcome!

Two of last year's participants, Derek and Eshtar, graciously agreed to share their experiences—one as a catechumen (seeker), and the other as a sponsor. If you want to know what RCIA at St. Jane Frances de Chantal is like, read on!

Derek's catechumen experience: My experience in the RCIA program was a very enlightening one that brought my fiancée and I closer to God. I feel as if, unbeknownst to me, God has always been looking over my shoulder. As I entered into RCIA, I knew very little about the faith—but I quickly realized that any questions I had, Laurie would answer. I have learned so much while gaining the tools needed to grow my relationship with the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. One particular element I enjoyed about the program was the no-pressure learning environment. I felt as if I was given the proper tools and enough space to came to my own decision of becoming a Catholic, rather than being convinced to convert. Everything was so interesting, and our discussions were very engaging. I would highly recommend attending the RCIA program if you are interested in Catholicism.

Eshtar's sponsor experience: My experience with the RCIA program was wonderful and exceeded my expectations. As somebody who was raised Catholic, I thought being a sponsor wouldn't be stimulating—that I would already know about the basics and wouldn't get much from the program. You can only imagine my delight when we ended up having such exciting, thoughtprovoking discussions! I learned so much, not only about my faith and beliefs, but also about myself. It was an amazing feeling, being able to self-reflect after each session and work together with my fiancé at home. We were learning and growing together. This is a five-star program that I would really recommend for anybody interested. Regardless of your educational background or how much you know or don't know about Catholicism, you'll definitely love being here!



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

Where do your troubles lie? Do we blame others for the things that we do? Do we blame God for the ills of the world and the things that happen to us?

We are in pretty good company if we do. Just look at our first reading from this weekend: the prophet Jeremiah, while prophesizing about the upcoming exile of the Israelites to Babylon, is thrown in the stocks by the head of the Temple police—and Jeremiah blames God for it! Jeremiah thinks people were mocking and laughing at him because of God's words—and he thinks God deceived him. As a "punishment," Jeremiah will no longer speak God's name or mention His words.

In the Gospel reading (Mt 16:21-27), Jesus shows His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly, be killed, and rise on the third day. This passage immediately follows last week's Gospel, where Jesus forbade His Disciples to tell anyone that He was the Messiah.

Jesus allows His disciples to tell Him who they think He is—the Messiah. Then, using scriptures, He reminds them of the fate that was laid out for the Messiah. Peter tells Jesus that he would never let anything happen to Him, but Jesus knows that these things must happen for humanity. Jesus then challenges His disciples to deny themselves, take up their crosses, and follow Him.

Rewind, now, to the story of Adam and Eve, where God gave a single command to those "first" of humankind—to not eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil (Gn 2:17). The man (Adam) made his choice (but tried to blame the woman, Eve) and was banished from an eternity with God.

Now, back to Jeremiah (the first reading), his blaming of God for being mocked and laughed at, and his "punishment" of not speaking God's name again. By the end of our first reading, we hear that Jeremiah cannot hold the Name of God to himself. "It becomes like fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones; I grow weary holding it in, I cannot endure it." (Jer 20:9b) Even the name of God is so powerful that it creates in Jeremiah, and in us, a yearning for so much more. It's something that, when properly "tuned," allows us to be, and do, so much more than we could ever have imagined.

As we approach the end of summer and take up once again the tasks of the fall and winter months, let us remember this week's second reading as a guide to how we should live our lives.

"...offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God, your spiritual worship.

Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect"

(Rom 12:1b-2).



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# OFFERTORY INFORMATION AUGUST 23, 2020

**Registered Families:** 1386 **Envelopes Returned:** 143 \$5,852.00 Amount Offered: **Loose Offering:** \$253.00 Online Giving Contributors: 103 **Contributions:** \$3,239.00 **Total Offerings:** \$9,344.00 **2020 Budgeted Offertory**: \$11,786.00 Actual Offertory: \$9,344.00 Difference: **-\$2,442.00** 



#### INTERCESSORY PRAYER

Let us pray for you!

Although we are not together, 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 prayer requests.

If you have any questions, or would like assistance finding the online Intercessory Prayer box, contact Laurie Hall at LHall@sjfparish.org.



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

What does it mean to communicate?

Last weekend, I lectored for the first time in front of a congregation. To lector is to proclaim the Word of

God—a task so important that the entire first half of Mass is dedicated to proclamation of some form!

Lectoring—and proclamation—is a form of communication. When we communicate, we speak to make something known to whoever is listening. In Mass, this is simple: we communicate the teachings of the Lord and the foundation of our faith to those who have gathered to worship. But when we talk about communication as a church, it becomes a little more complicated.

Never has church communication been more important than now, during the COVID-19 pandemic. We are not all physically together. St. Jane Frances de Chantal is working hard to deliver Mass, resources, and information to those who need it, whether they're here in person or at home.

We're communicating what our parishioners need to know—and that need can change based on who is listening. Someone who attends multiple Masses per week, serves in various ministries, attends formation events, and participates in parish life might be feeling very disconnected, right now. For those people, we try to communicate as much as we can—online resources, digital Mass, videos, articles, music, and more. But someone who's less involved with church activities might not feel particularly isolated—for them, we may simply need to provide a link to digital Mass for them to feel connected to our parish family.

There is no one right way to communicate with everyone—but we try. Like with lectoring, we proclaim to a group. And, like listening to the readings in Mass, everyone takes away something different. So long as we all come away feeling fulfilled and connected, we've succeeded in communicating.

## **Baptism**

The community of **St. Jane Frances de Chantal** welcomes the following children who were baptized by Fr. Anthony Sulkowski:

#### **Asher Benjamin Pooley**

Baptized August 16, 2020

Parents: Benjamin & Samantha Pooley
Godmother: Muriel Carlisle
Christian Witness: Joshua Pooley

#### Lucy Eileen Pratt

Parents: Kyle & Kelly Pratt
Godfather: Jason Donaghue
Godmother Colleen Peterson

#### Sylvia Rose Bracci

Baptized August 23, 2020
Parents: Jonathan & Allison Bracci
Godfather: Nicholas Vagnetti
Godmother: Stephanie Robotnik







#### SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF AUG 30, 2020

**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

Monday:

1 Cor 2:1-5; Ps 119:97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102; Lk 4:16-30

Tuesday:

1 Cor 2:10b-16; Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13ab, 13cd-14; Lk 4:31-37

Wednesday:

1 Cor 3:1-9; Ps 33:12-13, 14-15, 20-21; Lk 4:38-44

**Thursday**, Memorial of Saint Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church:

1 Cor 3:18-23; Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Lk 5:1-11

Friday:

1 Cor 4:1-5; Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 27-28, 39-40; Lk 5:33-39

Saturday:

1 Cor 4:6b-15; Ps 145:17-18, 19-20, 21; Lk 6:1-5

Sunday, Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time:

Ez 33:7-9; Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9; Rom 13:8-10; Mt 18:15-20

#### **MASS INTENTIONS**

**MONDAY, AUGUST 31: NO MASS** 

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1** 

7:00pm Dec. John Graver (Friends)

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2** 

8:00am Dec. Robert Ihlenfeldt (Jayne Jeffrey)

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3** 

8:00am Dec. Marsha Olson (Family)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4: NO MASS

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5** 

4:00pm Dec. Mary Mayernik (Debi Teran)

Dec. Fr. Mike Kazer (Appleton Family)
Dec. Gerald Williams (Williams Family)

Dec. Joseph & Maria Gronowski (Gronowski Family)

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6** 

**9:00am** First Sunday Monthly Memorial Mbrs.

Dec. Henry Varani (Judy Taylor) Dec. Enrico Flaviani (Judy Taylor)

Liv. Stephani & Brynn Jullette (Tom & Phyllis Harris)

Liv. Paulin Vacaj (Mom Maria)

**11:30am** For the Parishioners

Dec. Gary Jaracz (Paul & Georgia Osak (Sister))
Dec. Frank & Lottie Sloeck (Rodman 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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#### & Youth Ministry Coordinator

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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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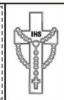


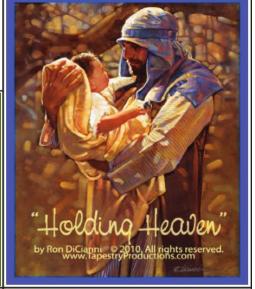
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