



# ST. JANE FRANCES DE CHANTAL

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## Joy Advent



**Fr. Tony Sulkowski**

*Pastor*

FrTony@sjfparish.org

Ext. 102

### Advent Themes

We begin this third week of Advent with the anticipation that Christmas is soon approaching. When we began the season of Advent, we heard in Luke's Gospel for the first week of Advent, Jesus telling his disciples to be watchful, stay alert.

Luke's gospel presents us with four themes in our preparation for the feast of Christmas. Each of these themes enables us to reflect upon this season and points us to the birth of Christ. The themes that the scriptures present to us are preparation, joy, hope, and love.

Each one is a stepping stone for our celebration of Christ being born into the world. They are themes that allow us to focus on what is important in our lives. In my office I have many mementos that I have received from people throughout my years of being a priest. In the early days of my priesthood, I received a framed piece of needlepoint. In every assignment I had, that framed needlepoint was the last thing I packed and the first thing I unpacked when I arrived at a new parish.

It serves as a point of focus for me when events or situations became overwhelming. Life can sometimes be overwhelming, we begin to feel pulled in various directions and we lose our focus. The words on the needlepoint help me to focus on what is important in my life and pulls me back to the events and situation at hand. Those three simple, yet powerful words are family, faith, and friends.

As we draw closer to our journey towards Bethlehem, may we prepare ourselves to receive Him who is our joy, our hope, and our love.

**Bon Mot: As the print of the seal on the wax is the express image of the seal itself, so Christ is the express image – the prefect representation of God.**

---- Ambrose of Milan

**Carpe Diem,  
Fr. Tony**

### Christmas 2023 Mass Schedule

**Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>**

4:00pm, 6:00pm, 10:00pm (with 9:30pm Music Prelude)

**Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup>**

9:00am & 11:30am

## 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 & 4:30pm—7:45pm

### Tuesday

2:00pm—7:45pm

### Saturday

3:00pm—5:00pm

### Sunday

10:00am—12:30pm

## PARISH HAPPENINGS

### Monday, December 18, 2023

*No Events*

### Tuesday, December 19, 2023

5:30pm Confessions  
6:00pm Rosary  
7:00pm Mass w/Anointing

### Wednesday, December 20, 2023

8:00am Mass  
9:30am Needlecrafters  
6:00pm Needlecrafters  
6:30pm Cantor/Choir Rehearsal  
7:00pm Lectio Divina (Zoom)

### Thursday, December 21, 2023

8:00am Mass  
9:00am Swiffers Team #4

### Friday, December 22, 2023

*Parish Office Closed/No Events*

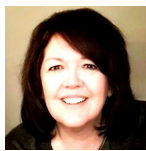
### Saturday, December 23, 2023

10:45am Christmas Treble Choir  
4:00pm Mass

### Sunday, December 24, 2023

*Parish Office Closed*

9:00am 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent Mass  
4:00pm Christmas Mass  
6:00pm Christmas Mass  
9:30pm Music Prelude  
10:00pm Christmas Mass



Laurie Hall

Pastoral Associate  
LHall@sjfparish.org

We have now entered the second half of the Advent season - Gaudete Sunday! "The Third Sunday of Advent, (like the Fourth Sunday of Lent) is a day of joy in the midst of our spiritual preparations for

Christmas. It is traditionally called Gaudete Sunday, from the Latin of the Entrance Antiphon for today. The antiphon captures the mood of the entire liturgy as we move into the second part of Advent: there is a sense of joyful expectation, an awareness that the fulfillment of God's great plan for us is near" (Sourcebook for Sundays. Seasons and Weekdays, 2020).

John the Baptist is an interesting character. He is a prophet, not a person who tells of the future, but a person who serves as God's messenger. Prophets in the Old Testament brought warnings to the people to return to God's ways, which they generally struggled to follow. We see the role of the prophets throughout the Old Testament, including John who is known as the last prophet. His message was also a call to repentance, but also to ready the way of the Lord. His role was to prepare the people for the earthly mission of Jesus.

There is a decidedly joyful sense in today's readings. In the reading from Isaiah we hear of the Israelites returning from Exile, singing, "I will greatly rejoice in the Lord...for God has clothed me with the garments of salvation (61:10). In Paul's letter to the Thessalonians, he reminds his readers to "rejoice always" (5:16). John the Baptist provides us a beautiful example of joy and humility, "there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie." (John 1:26-27). As we reflect on God's word, let us rejoice, for we know that God is with us.

It is sometimes challenging to look around us and see reasons for rejoicing. We can look to the readings today for inspiration and a renewal of hope, hope in the Lord, not the things of this world. Advent is a journey towards Bethlehem and today, we are half-way there. "Let yourself be drawn in by the light of God made man" (Pope Francis). So rejoice, but as we rejoice, we also must prepare. We prepare for the coming of the Son of God, into the world, into our hearts, and at the end of time. Let us try to put aside all the busyness and craziness of the world and concentrate on preparing our hearts for the divine presence in us and among us.

Peace, Laurie

## Christmas 2023

As you are aware, this year Christmas is on Monday. Because the 4<sup>th</sup> week of Advent is on Sunday there are two separate collections, the Christmas collection as well as the weekly Sunday offertory collection (the 4<sup>th</sup> 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



# JWJ Catholic Academy

## 3rd Sunday of Advent



### Family Page

#### GOSPEL: John 1:6-8

A man named John was sent from God.  
He came for testimony, to testify to the light,  
so that all might believe through him.

He was not the light,  
but came to testify to the light.

#### REFLECTION

The reason lights are so wonderful is that they remind us of the light of the world. Do you know who that is? Jesus, of course! He came into the world to not only be light, but to be the way, the truth and the life as well. We celebrate his birth during winter, when it sometimes tends to be a little gloomy and dismal. Thinking about the savior of the world during tough dark times gives us a bit of hopeful cheer. And celebrating Christmas during a challenging season can give us cheer and something to look forward to.

adapted from: <https://ministry-to-children.com/light-of-the-world-childrens-sermon/>

#### The Light of the World

There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. John 1:6, 8 (NIV)

Based on John 1:6-8, 19-28 (NIV)



R L P R O P H E T E M E S V X  
F N W E G I W Y N Y Z A U N K  
R K A L E C Y H N I Y C N T P  
U L T I O G O A T N S H S C R  
J T E J X J D P A K Y R N O I  
E L R A H R A H Z J L I E N E  
R W Z H O B T U Z J B S Q F S  
U I I J T E B N A M E T L E T  
S T X M B S L E V I T E S S S  
A N U T R E H K F O W A L S O  
L E I R Q N V K T E S T I F Y  
E S V F E T I H D N F K G W P  
M S M L S L V R D Y R R H Y L  
L M D E G O D P O S G I T R S  
M C B T D B E L I E V E B W Q

BETHANY	JOHN	BELIEVE	SENT	LEVITES
CHRIST	TESTIFY	NAME	GOD	WATER
JORDAN	BAPTIZE	JERUSALEM	CONFESS	PRIESTS
LIGHT	PROPHET	ELIJAH	MAN	WITNESS

#### ACTIVITY

#### **PARENT SUPERVISION NECESSARY!**

Get a mason jar or another clear jar with a lid.  
Have a parent snap the bracelet to glow, cut the bracelet and pour the liquid into the jar.  
Use several different colored bracelets for better effect. The jar is a reminder of "The Light of the World."

The glow will last a few hours. And don't worry, you can rinse out the liquid and use your jar again. It is not permanent. Be careful of possible slivers of glass. Have fun!

*Dear God,*  
*Thank you for sending Jesus*  
*The light of the world!*  
*Help us to remember that hope*  
*At Christmastime and always*  
*Help us to share His light with those*  
*around us*

*Thank you for your love*  
*We love you, God!*  
*In Jesus name, Amen!*

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**OFFERTORY INFORMATION  
December 10, 2023**

<b>Registered Families:</b>	1,365
<b>Weekly Envelopes:</b>	249
<b>Amount Offered:</b>	\$8,474.00
<b>Loose Offering:</b>	\$1,069.00
<b>Online Contributors:</b>	98
<b>Online Contributions</b>	\$3,793.00
<b>Total Offerings:</b>	\$13,336.00
<b>Budgeted Offertory:</b>	\$11,786.00
<b>Difference:</b>	\$1,550.00

**Tuesday, December 19  
Confession Day at  
Ss. Cyril and Methodious**

EXPERIENCE RECONCILIATION WITH  
GOD, YOUR NEIGHBOR, AND  
YOURSELF

Many priests will be available to hear  
individual confessions on Tuesday,  
December 19<sup>th</sup>:

**10:00am – 12:00noon  
6:00pm – 9:00pm**



**2023 COFFEE HOUSE CHRISTMAS PARTY!**

Thank you Jacquelin LaRocca, The Knights of Columbus,  
our amazing volunteers, and SANTA!

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULE**

	<b>Tuesday Dec. 19 7:00pm</b>	<b>Wednesday Dec. 20 8:00am</b>	<b>Thursday Dec. 21 8:00am</b>	<b>Saturday Dec. 23 4:00pm</b>	<b>Sunday Dec. 24 9:00am</b>	<b>Sunday Dec. 24 4:00pm</b>	<b>Sunday Dec. 24 6:00pm</b>	<b>Sunday Dec. 24 10:00pm</b>
<b>Sacristan</b>	B. Finn	J. Martin	C. Guzi	J. Torres	M. K. Storen	R. Knapp	M. Wolf	J. Trotta
<b>Lector</b>	C. Bajercius	A. Mobley	J. Machusak	K. Morris P. Sutton	W. Burr E. Clase	C. Smith L. Smith	J. Torres J. Seefried	K. Pawlik G. Bjornrud

## 2023 SENIORS CHRISTMAS PARTY



IT'S THE  
**most wonderful**  
TIME OF THE YEAR



## SCRIPTURE READINGS WEEK OF December 17, 2023

### 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

### Monday

Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19;  
Mt 1:18-25

### Tuesday

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a;  
Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25

### Wednesday

Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6;  
Lk 1:26-38

### Thursday

Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a;  
Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45

### Friday

1 Sm 1:24-28;  
1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd; Lk 1:46-56

### Saturday

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24;  
Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14; Lk 1:57-66

### Sunday

#### Fourth Sunday of Advent

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16;  
Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27;  
Lk 1:26-38



**JOY**

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## ARMED SERVICES PRAYER LIST

Robert Bain, *Army*  
 Nicholas Brosowski, *Army*  
 Chris Burley, *Navy*  
 Shaun Chaplin, *Air Force*  
 Alexander J. Hendzell, *Marines*  
 Gregory Hjelle, *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

Ellen Chase  
 Joann Crachiolo  
 Hosie King  
 Robert Kraft  
 Marilyn Luberti  
 Maureen Marsh  
 Jim Ochenski  
 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 [sjfparish.org/news](http://sjfparish.org/news).



## MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 18, 2023

*No Mass*

Tuesday, December 19, 2023

7:00pm Liv. Jeannie Rathamel (Dolores Shomock)  
 Dec. William Rathamel (Dolores Shomock)

Wednesday, December 20, 2023

8:00am Liv. Alice Padilla (Judy Taylor)  
 Liv. Barbara Taylor (Judy Taylor)  
 Liv. Sami Roumaya (Muzik & Semanisin Families)

Thursday, December 21, 2023

8:00am Dec. Helen Jarboe (Family)  
 Dec. Mrbs. of the Maiani & Gasperoni Families (Rosa Maiani)

Friday, December 22, 2023

*No Mass*

Saturday, December 23, 2023

4:00pm For the Parishioners  
 Dec. Grace Beaufait (Robert & Frances Kraft)  
 Dec. Raymond & Juanita DeBusscher (Family)  
 Dec. Mbrs. of the Mandziuk Family (Pat Mandziuk)  
 Dec. Mbrs. of the Skonieczny Family (Pat Mandziuk)  
 Dec. Betty Cianfarani (Family)  
 Dec. Barbara DeLisle (Judy Taylor)  
 Dec. Jillian Tockstein (Family)  
 Dec. Fatima Habacon (Basil & Fran Caogas)

Sunday, December 24, 2023

9:00am Dec. Carolyn LaForest (Mike & Janet Sepanik)  
 Liv. Camilo C. (Lauren)

4:00pm

Dec. Arnold & Shirley Putrycus (Putrycus Family)  
 Dec. Gerald Williams (Williams Family)  
 Dec. Gabe Durante (Durante Family)  
 Dec. Joe & Maria Gronowski (Gronowski Family)  
 Dec. Pauline Gronowski (Gronowski Family)  
 Dec. Mbrs. of the Kwapis & Krull Families (Family)

6:00pm

Dec. Lisa Vrabel (Mom & Dad)  
 Dec. Leonard Bergmoser (Family)  
 Dec. Joani Zwada (Husband)  
 Dec. Mbrs. of the Brown & Haydn Families (Charlene Brown)

10:00pm

Dec. Willard & Shirley Fasczewski (Graziano Family)

## 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](http://sjfparish.org/joinus). We would love to have you!

# ST. JANE FRANCES de CHANTAL

38750 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, MI 48310 586-977-8080 [sjfparish.org](http://sjfparish.org)

## STAFF

**Rev. Anthony Sulkowski**  
Priest in Solidum/Moderator  
[FrTony@sjfparish.org](mailto:FrTony@sjfparish.org) // Ext. 102

**Laurie Hall**  
Pastoral Associate & Worship Coordinator  
[LHall@sjfparish.org](mailto:LHall@sjfparish.org) // Ext. 104

**Jody Gazo**  
Business Manager  
[JGazo@sjfparish.org](mailto:JGazo@sjfparish.org) // Ext. 112

**Maria Benvenuti**  
Evening Support Staff  
586-977-8080

**Michael Novak**  
Faith Formation & Youth Ministry  
[MNovak@sjfparish.org](mailto:MNovak@sjfparish.org) // Ext. 108

**James Torres**  
Communications Facilitator &  
Christian Service Coordinator  
[JTorres@sjfparish.org](mailto:JTorres@sjfparish.org) // Ext. 107

**Madeleine Krick**  
Director of Music Ministry  
[MusicMinistry@sjfparish.org](mailto:MusicMinistry@sjfparish.org) // Ext. 103

**Mary Ann Gleich**  
Office Assistant  
[MGleich@sjfparish.org](mailto:MGleich@sjfparish.org) // 586-977-8080

**Linda Smith**  
Stewardship & Evening Support Staff  
[LSmith@sjfparish.org](mailto:LSmith@sjfparish.org) // Ext. 101

**Karen Graziano**  
Evening Support Staff  
586-977-8080

**Hosie King**  
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!

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# ST. JANE FRANCES DE CHANTAL FIRST SUNDAY MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

- |                             |                                 |                                |                                  |                                |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Bajercius & Nowak Families  | Raymond & Mary Fante            | James & Dolores LaRocca        | Pokrywka & Zalucki Families      | Karen Taylor                   |
| Michael & Mary Baker        | Finn & McNamara Families        | John & Marisa LaRocca          | Lois Polkinghorne                | Tom Taylor                     |
| Michael Baranski Family     | Florek & Soldatek Families      | Joann Lichocki                 | Aniela Poslaido                  | Arthur Touchtone               |
| Carol Bardelline            | Sr. Mary Frederick              | Stanley & Dolores Lichocki     | Arnold & Shirley Putrycus        | David Touchtone                |
| Joseph Beauguard            | Riley James Frush               | Louis & Grace Loconte          | Deborah Puzzuoli                 | Paula M. Trombley              |
| Bielinski Family            | Gadzinski & Solak Families      | Maguran & Baglama Families     | Quitter & Duncan Families        | Urbano & Pomnichowski Families |
| Blacker & Bartz Families    | Jesus & Mercedes Garcia         | Raymond J. Mandziuk            | Luigi & Elvira Rastelli          | Bernard & Mary Varani          |
| John J. Boczar              | James Golombek                  | Mandziuk & Skonieczny Families | Reghi & Ditaranto Family         | Richard Volpe                  |
| Bonk & Szymanski Families   | Norbert & Emily Golonka         | Frank & Joan Mazur             | Rucinski & Kennedy Families      | Constance (Perliskey) Warchock |
| Anthony & Mary Ann Bratke   | Henry & Irene Grifka            | Thomas & Rose Medved           | Rudzinski & Szutkowski Families  | Michael Warchock               |
| Dennis Briston              | Gurney Family                   | Clara & Stanley Milczynski     | Steve Sadecki                    | Barbara Ward                   |
| Broski & Schaff Families    | Hascher & Bartkowski Families   | Sr. Alice Miller               | Sadecki & Wojtkiewicz Families   | George & Julia Wittner         |
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| Albert Brylewski            | Hughes & Przedwojewski Families | Padraic I. Mullin              | Jim Sawicki                      | Anton Wolf                     |
| Isabel S. Cabalun           | John Kapeluch Family            | Harry & Lottie Musialowski     | Joan Schnepf                     | Mary T. Woywood                |
| William (Bill) Caiozzo      | Richard H. & Richie Karasinski  | George Muylaert Family         | Ruth Schramski                   | Margaret Yandora               |
| Clare Campbell              | Father Michael Kazer            | Vincent Nesci, D.C.            | Doreen Schriber                  | Joan Youngblood                |
| Caradonna & Campo Families  | Anthony & Jane Klik             | Edward J. Novak & Family       | Richard Schriedel                | Zaglaniczny & Morris Families  |
| Sammy P. Castelli           | Joan Knapp                      | Brian Oakes                    | Arnold Semrau                    | Merle Zakrzewski               |
| Fr. James Challancin        | Jean Koscielski                 | Kenneth Oakes                  | Marsha Snider                    | Zalewski & Confer Families     |
| Thomas Chase                | Bernard Kosnik                  | John "Jack" O'Connell          | Helen & Earl Starr               | Marsha Zanardelli & Family     |
| Dr. Jeffery Cook            | John & Dorothy Kotulis          | Marsha Olson                   | Jean Stevens                     | Nicole Zapinski                |
| Desmond Cushing             | Ron Kotulis                     | Edward & Bernadine Ostin       | Anthony & Phyllis Sulkowski, Sr. | Chester & Virginia Zurek       |
| DeHayes & Kulhawik Families | Sandi Kotulis                   | Rev. Leon Page                 | Lee Sutton, Sr.                  |                                |
| Mark Dolata                 | Anthony Krull Family            | Jane & John Pastor             | Ronald Suwinski                  |                                |
| Tina Dubiel                 | Kulwicki & Spellman Families    | Helen & Henry Perliskey        | Jack Taylor                      |                                |
| Robert F. Endres            | James Kwapis                    | Genevieve Perlisi              | James & Mae Taylor               |                                |
| Betty Eschrich              | John Kwapis Family              | Joseph Pistono                 | Jon Taylor                       |                                |

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