

## SAINT JANE FRANCE DE CHANTAL: THE FOUR-FOLD SAINT

Jane Frances Fremiot, Baroness de Chantal, the foundress and first Mother Superior of the Order of the Visitation, is honored by the Church for the holiness of her youth, of her married life, of her widowhood, and of her religious life.

outh: Jane Frances de Chantal was born on January 28, 1572 at Dijon, France. From an early age, Jane demonstrated clear signs of her future sanctity. Her father—M. Benigne Fremiot—was the president of the parliament, a wealthy landowner, a respected jurist, a man of impeccable integrity, loyal to the Church and the Crown. He was also brave, learned, congenial, and a devoted father to his three children. Her mother, who died in childbirth when Jane was about eighteen months old, was descended from the same ancestral lineage as St. Bernard of Clairvaux. Jane took the message of Christianity to heart, dismissing her servant (while still a child), as she worried that the servant's presence would entice her to love the world and privilege, and cause her to sin. Instead, she shrank from worldly pleasures, devoting herself entirely to religious pursuits. She took the name Frances at her confirmation.

arriage: As was the custom of the time, when Jane turned 20 her father arranged a marriage for her, which she obediently accepted. She was married to the Baron de Chantal, a young soldier with proud military accomplishments. In this new state of life she strove to cultivate every virtue, and busied herself in instructing in faith and morals the children the couple produced (their first three children died shortly after birth, but the young spouses later had a boy and three girls), her servants and all under her authority. The Baroness loved her husband very much, dressing in a very modest way when he was traveling. If someone was to ask her why, she responded: "The eyes of who I want to please are very far away."

Jane devoted herself to sharing the wealth of the household with the poor, and she promised to never refuse anyone who begged for alms in the name of Jesus. She set up soup kitchens and ovens to bake bread to feed the hungry of the neighborhood, she went to the homes of the sick to serve them as nurse and housekeeper, and she organized a sort of relief work on a large scale, involving her servants and friends in her charitable interests.

idowhood: About two weeks after the birth of her sixth child, her husband was fatally wounded in a hunting accident, leaving his cherished wife distraught with grief. Jane's mourning was deep and thorough; she made a vow of chastity and gave her husband's and her own elaborate state clothing and jewelry to neighboring churches for vestments and revenue; she reduced her household staff and devoted her spare time to prayer and works of service to the poor.

Jane Frances spent the majority of each day (when she wasn't serving the poor) in prayer, pious reading, and works. Bound by vow to Jesus Christ, she received a number of honorable and advantageous offers to remarry, but declined them all. Her love for all grew, and she had the poor, the abandoned, the sick, and those who were afflicted with the most terrible diseases, brought to her. Not only did she shelter and nurse them, she comforted them, and washed and mended their garments.

eligious Life: Wishing for still higher ascensions in her heart, she bound herself by a most difficult vow always to do what she thought most perfect. She prayed to God incessantly to provide her with a holy spiritual director, capable of helping her perfectly fulfill God's will. Once, following this prayer, she was rewarded with a vision of a man whom she would later recognize as Saint Francis de Sales. That recognition occurred in 1604 as Francis de Sales, Bishop of Geneva, preached a Lenten homily in Dijon.

Bishop de Sales eventually became Jane's spiritual advisor, and instructed her in the ways of balance, encouraging her to relax some of her harsher penitential practices, and spend more time tending to the duties of her household—namely her children and her aging father-in-law. With his guidance, Jane was able to balance the urgings of her heart to the Lord with her many responsibilities in the world.

Following some years of spiritual direction with Saint Francis, Jane felt drawn to the religious life, and was inclined to enter a convent. Together, the two prayed about her vocation, and in 1607, Saint Francis announced his intention to found a new order—the New Congregation of the Visitation. With great joy, Jane embraced the project, but her joy was to be short lived as her father's age and illness, as well as the continued education of her children, required her to delay her involvement. Saint Francis directed her that her children were no longer little and that from the cloister she was better able to care of them, especially taken into account that the two elders were old enough to "enter the world" and care for their grandfather.

In this logical and serene way, Jane Frances resolved her difficulties, and the Baroness de Chantal took her vows, and was made Mother Abbess of the convent in 1610. She traveled throughout the region, establishing new convents and bringing more and more young women to God. When people criticized her for accepting women of poor health and old age, she famously said, "What do you want me to do? I like sick people myself; I'm on their side."

other de Chantal fell ill while visiting the convent of Moulins, where she died on December 13, 1641 at the age of 69. Her body was taken to Annecy—her first convent—and buried close to Saint Francis de Sales. At the time of her death, Saint Vincent de Paul was visiting, and reported a vision of Saint Francis escorting the pious saint to heaven. She was canonized by Pope Clement XIII on July 16, 1767.



## **IN OUR PARISH**

Can't find the bulletin you brought home from church? Want to keep up on what's happening in the parish even when you are away on vacation or sick in bed? Visit our parish website, www.stjanedechantal.org to view a copy of the bulletin and for more information on parish events and organizations.

#### **WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS**

St. Jane de Chantal Parish welcomes those who have recently registered in our parish. If you attend Mass at St. Jane Frances de Chantal regularly, we encourage you to register as a member. Please complete a registration form and drop it in the collection basket when you attend Mass.

## **SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION**

This Thursday, August 15, is the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a holyday of obligation. Masses at St. Jane will be celebrated on Wednesday at 8:00 am and 7:30 pm.

#### RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Interested in learning more about the Catholic Church and becoming a Catholic? Are you a Catholic who would like to prepare for confirmation or other sacraments? St. Jane de Chantal parish offers a program called RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) where you can explore the Catholic faith as well as prepare for reception into the Church at Easter. There will be an information session early this September, and classes will run from late September through May of next year. Look for more announcements in future bulletins. For information, contact Ken Clansky at ken.clansky@gmail.com or 301-922-5017.

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

- . . . those who are sick, and all those in our nursing homes and hospitals, especially John and Pat Krisko, and Pierre Benjamin.
- ... those who have died, especially Mary Ann Fisher.

## IN OUR LITURGY & MUSIC MINISTRIES

Visit the Music Ministries page at www.stjanedechantal.org/ministries/music-ministry for information on the many music ensembles at St. Jane.

## ASPIRING CONGA DRUMMER NEEDED @ 5PM SUNDAY MASS

The Contemporary Ensemble, which provides music at the 5:00 pm Sunday Mass, needs a new member to play the conga drums (and other percussion). Our current drummer will be leaving in June for a two-year tour of duty overseas. We have the instruments and instructional videos. Volunteers need only a good sense of musical rhythm. If interested, contact Patrice Roe at patrice.roe@gmail.com.

## IN OUR FAITH FORMATION PROGRAMS

Visit the Faith Formation page at www.stjanedechantal.org for information on the various programs, registration forms and calendars.

### 2019-2020 FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION

Registration for next year's Faith Formation programs is open. We have classes for Pre-K (grades 3/4) through grade eight, as well as High School Teen Ministry. Please visit the parish website to register your children. Pre-K

# A LETTER FROM FATHER GIESE

My dear parishioners,

Since 1955, there have been at least three priests living in the rectory and serving the community. At times, there have been as many as five priests assigned to the parish and living in residence on the property. Now, however, with Fr. McKay taking early retirement and Fr. Venditti being recalled to his diocese, it leaves the parish for the first time in 64 years with only two priests, which will have an impact on the daily Mass schedule.

Beginning Monday, September 2, the parish will have one daily Mass, which will begin at **8:30 am Monday through Saturday**. This change will accommodate parishioners who want to attend daily Mass, the school children's Mass schedule, and the several different nursing homes for which the parish is responsible. This change was reviewed and approved by the Pastoral Council. Should the archdiocese assign more priests to the parish, the matter of the daily Mass schedule could be revisited. The flexibility and understanding of all concerned is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Rw. fff.

Fr. Giese

(grades 3/4) as well as Kindergarten meet on Sunday mornings during the 10:00 am Mass. Grades 1–8 meet on Tuesday evenings from 6:00–7:15 pm. High School Youth Ministry meets on Sunday nights from 6:00–8:00 pm. Classes for first Communion and confirmation are also being formed. You need to register your child for the sacraments. If your child was not in CCD this past year, contact the Director of Religious Education. If you would like to enroll your child in the sacraments or would like more information, contact the Religious Education office at 301-530-1640 or seton.center@stjanedechantal.org. To register your child go to http://stjanedechantal.org/faith-formation/religious-ed-k-8/register/.

## **HIGH SCHOOL TEEN MINISTRY**

High School Teen Ministry is a great way for our teens to stay in contact with friends they have made while at St. Jane's School or CCD as well as to stay connected to the Parish. High School Youth Ministry is not CCD for high schools students. While there are times we focus on a particular topic of faith and life, everything we do is to help the teens grow in their faith and live it out by participating in social activities, service opportunities, parish involvement, and retreats. High School Teen Ministry meets about 3 times a month, mostly on Sundays from 6pm – 8pm, with an occasional outing outside of that time. There is a teen leadership team who assist with the youth minister. To register go to: http://stjanedechantal.org/faith-formation/religious-ed-k-8/register/

## **FAITH FORMATION VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

CCD Teachers, co-teachers and High School Teen Ministry adult leaders are needed for next year. These are vital ministries in the parish so that our young people can learn and grow in their faith. You do not need to have teaching experience to teach the faith. You only need a love of the faith and a love of being with children. Training and help will be given with materials to use, in-service, as well as a guidebook on planning lessons. The Virtus child protection requirements need to be completed before volunteering can begin. If you would like more information or to volunteer, contact the Religious Education office at 301-530-1640 or seton.center@stjanedechantal.org.

## IN OUR BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

Check out the St. Jane de Chantal School website at www.dechantal.org to get information on admissions, see what each classroom is studying, and more.

#### **2019-20 ENROLLMENT**

There is availability for new students in a few grades for the 2019-20 school year at St. Jane de Chantal School. If you are interested in submitting an application for next school year, and would like to schedule a tour of our school, contact Catherine Tomsheck at ctomsheck@dechantal.org.

## IN OUR ARCHDIOCESE

For more information on vocations, education, family, youth, social concerns, & other events in the Archdiocese of Washington, visit www.adw.org. The website also has a media center, which includes social media tools, a YouTube channel, and apps.

### DC THEOLOGY ON TAP: Q & A WITH THE ARCHBISHOP

All young professionals (21-late 30s) are invited to the next monthly DCCatholic Theology on Tap this Tuesday, August 13, at Buffalo Billiards in Dupont Circle. The guest speaker will be Archbishop Wilton Gregory, who will lead a Q & A session. All are welcome, Catholic or not! Bring your friends and meet other young professionals for Happy Hour specials from 6:00-7:00 pm with a talk and Q/A to follow from 7:00-8:00 pm. You must have a valid 21+ ID to enter. Learn more at www.facebook.com/DCCatholic, www.adw.org/tot, or email DCCatholic@adw.org.

## **NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING**

Natural Family Planning is a morally sound and highly effective method for couples to manage their fertility in a way that respects God and each other. The archdiocesan Office for Family Life will offer a Natural Family Planning Introductory Class on four Saturdays, the first on September 7 Fee: \$20 (materials are included). For more information and to register, visit https://adwnfp101.eventbrite.com, or contact the Office for Family Life at 301-853-4546 or visiblesign@adw.org.



9525 Old Georgetown Rd Bethesda, MD 20814 301-530-1221

Learn more at www.dechantal.org



# St. Jane de Chantal School

Catholic Education for Children Pre-K through Grade 8

St. Jane de Chantal Catholic School is a Christ-centered educational community committed to meeting the individual needs of students through a flexible and innovative curriculum.



#### **RUN OR RIDE FOR VOCATIONS**

Help support our seminarians and vocations to the priesthood. The "Run for Vocations"/Marine Corp 10K will be held on Sunday, October 27. The "Ride for Vocations"/Southern Maryland Century bicycle ride will be held on Monday, September 2. Visit www.DCpriest.org/promote for more information and to register for each of these events. Please note that there are three steps to register for each event: registration for the run or ride event + archdiocesan registration + agreement to raise funds. Questions, contact Sarah Baugher in the Office of Priest Vocations at baughers@adw.org or 202-636-902.

## BETHESDA HELP DRIVER

In this volunteer position, you will deliver a three-day supply of food from the Bethesda Help food pantry to clients in their service area. Volunteers may serve as a driver one day a month, or as a reserve driver on an as-needed basis. Drivers are scheduled in advance and you can pick your driving day. Training is provided. They have an ongoing need for substitute or reserve drivers. Volunteers must have access to email, possess a valid driver's license and insurance, and attend a short training session. To volunteer and/or for more information, call 301-365-2022 or email info@bethesdahelp.org.

## **STEWARDSHIP**

We ought to cultivate a simple lifestyle, not so as to accumulate wealth for our own material conveniences, but so that we might be charitable to the needy.

Let us give generously and boldly to the poor in the name of our Lord. The blessings of peace and joy will be our reward for such stewardship! — St. Jane de Chantal

## SECOND COLLECTION: CCC & CCHD

The second collection this weekend, August 10/11, will provide funds for both the Catholic Communications Campaign (CCC) and the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD). Funds for the CCC support various communications initiatives of the Church - at the local level, the national level, and in developing countries. Funds for the CCHD support non-profit groups, locally and in other parts of the country, working to help the poor and

disenfranchised. Thank you for your generosity.

Parish Support for August 4, 2019 (* not including Faith Direct)		
* <b>Offertory</b> * August 5, 2018	<b>\$ 7,773.00</b> \$10,425.00	
Attendance August 5, 2018		

#### **POOR BOX**

The Poor Box next weekend, August 17/18, will benefit Interfaith Works, whose mission is to pursue social justice with an emphasis on identifying and meeting the needs of the poor by leading and engaging Montgomery County's faith communities in service, education, and advocacy. For more information, visit www.iworksmc.org.

#### **IRA CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION**

If you are age 70 ½ or older, you can transfer up to \$100,000 each year directly from your traditional IRA account to St. Jane Frances de Chantal Parish. This smarter way to give may satisfy a portion or all of your annual required minimum distribution (RMD) and serve as a qualified charitable distribution for your IRA, which can save you on taxes even if you do not itemize! Contact your plan custodian to complete the IRA transfer. For IRA charitable distribution checks, please make sure the check stub lists the "donor" name and the fund the distribution should benefit (e.g., offertory, donation, St. Martin's Cloak, etc.).





# While you are on vacation this summer . . .

please remember that your parish expenses continue and that we need your offerings in order to meet these expenses. If you miss any envelopes this summer, please bring your contributions up to date.

An easy way to support our parish offertory and the maintenance collection is to enroll in Faith Direct.
You can choose to have your contributions debited from your bank account or charged to your credit card.

You can enroll online at www.faithdirect.net or call 866-507-8757 (toll free). Our parish code is MD30.

"Dear brother priests, I thank you for your fidelity to the commitments you have made. It is a sign that, in a society and culture that glorifies the ephemeral, there are still people unafraid to make lifelong promises. In effect, we show that we continue to believe in God, who has never broken his covenant, despite our having broken it countless times. In this way, we celebrate the fidelity of God, who continues to trust us, to believe in us and to count on us, for all our sins and failings, and who invites us to be faithful in turn. Realizing that we hold this treasure in earthen vessels (cf. 2 Cor 4:7), we know that the Lord triumphs through weakness (cf. 2 Cor 12:9). He continues to sustain us and to renew his call, repaying us a hundredfold (cf. Mk 10:29-30)." (Letter of His Holiness Pope Francis to Priests on the 160th anniversary of the death of the Curé of Ars, St John Vianney; Saint John Lateran, Rome, 4 August 2019)

.org. "Complete Parish Calendar" at www.stjanedechantal. C = Church ◆ CH = Caulfield Hall ◆ CGS = Gathering Space ◆ CLL = Church Lower Lobby Sunday, August 11 – Saturday, August 17, 2019 CRH = Christopher Hall ◆ SMR = Scanlan Meeting Room ◆ DCR = De Chantal Room MR = Music Room ◆ NMR = Nalls Meeting Room ◆ RBR = Rectory Board Room SCH = School ◆ SC = Seton Center for Religious Education AF = Athletic Field PG = Parish Grounds SUNDAY, AUGUST 11 3:00 pm ......Family Choir ......MR MONDAY, AUGUST 12 9:00 pm ......Venturing Crew 461 ......DCR **TUESDAY, AUGUST 13** WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14 7:30 pm ......St. Martin's Cloak ......SMR View THURSDAY, AUGUST 15: SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION PARISH CALENDAR FRIDAY, AUGUST 16

# **CELEBRANTS** Aug. 18 5:00 pm Vigil Fr. Luckett 8:00 am Fr. Luckett 10:00 am Fr. Gardiner 12:00 pm Fr. Gardiner 5:00 pm Fr. Luckett

# **READINGS** Aug. 18 Reading I Jer 38:4-6, 8-10 Reading II Heb 12:1-4 Gospel Lk 12:49-53

INTENTION	NS _	Sun., August 11 – Sat., August 17
Sunday	10:00 am 12:00 pm	Parishioners Paul Proccaci/D Mary Fay/D Jeanne Vass/D
Monday	8:00 am	Allen Pratt/D
Tuesday	8:00 am	Eileen Cahill/L
Wednesday	8:00 am	Timothy Knestout/D
Thursday		Christopher & Mary Griffin/D Dodwell Soyza/D
Friday	8:00 am	Special Intentions
Saturday		Kristin Yohannan/D Julia Timm/D

SATURDAY, AUGUST 17

ALTAR SEF	RVERS	Mon., August 12 – Sun., August 18
Monday Tuesday		P. Kelley, T. Kelley L. Jana, N. Sissoko
Wednesday		S. Boehm, J. Maxwell
Thursday		M. Bailey, J. Connors, M. Connors L. Owens, N. Trent, K. Weber
Friday	8:00 am	R. Hutko, N. Sissoko
Saturday	8:00 am 5:00 pm	K. Aquino, K. Dinh B. Harman, P. Harman, S. Townsend
Sunday	8:00 am 10:00 am 12:00 pm 5:00 pm	K. Dinh, M. Kish, L. Wolf