

Faith IN WV

DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON



AUGUST 8, 2021

“ABOVE ALL WE MUST LOVE THE GOOD PLEASURE OF GOD, ACCEPTING WITH EQUANIMITY THINGS BOTH AGREEABLE AND THINGS PAINFUL, TRUSTING EVERYTHING TO HIM WHO DISPOSES OF ALL THINGS FOR THE GOOD OF HIS CHILDREN.”

~ St. Jane Frances de Chantal



MEMORIAL OF ST. JANE FRANCES DE CHANTAL ~ AUGUST 12

When reading about the life of St. Jane Frances de Chantal the bible verse Joshua 1:9 “Be strong and courageous,” comes to mind. She was a woman who seemed to have great advantages but was not immune to hardships and loss. Her losses were great. Although she often questioned if God could hear her prayers, she remained anchored in the belief that she must stay the course of a faithful servant, looking to the Blessed Mother for guidance and accepting God’s Will be done.

She was born in 1572 into a well to do French family. Although her mother died when she was a young toddler, Jane was raised by her loving father, M. Benigne Fremoit – the President of the Senate of Dijon. She was smart and kind and served her father and others as if she was serving God. She adored the Blessed Virgin Mary and found strength in her and her grace.

She was happily married at the age of 21 to Baron de Chantal. The couple had four children and seemed to have no struggles. Her life appeared very charmed, although Jane did have her struggles and failures. When she did, she – like us - questioned why God allowed things to happen, or why she prayed and still could not feel His presence.

Just seven years into her marriage, shortly after the birth of their youngest daughter, her husband was shot and killed in a hunting accident. While tormented by her sadness, feeling abandoned by God, and overwhelmed with living as a young widow, she was able to forgive the shooter for she knew it was an accident and God would want her to forgive.

Jane never remarried even though her family and friends told her it would make her happy again. She questioned if she ever would be happy and struggled with feelings that God seemed so far from her. However, her faith did not wander. Although discouraged, she kept living as a faithful servant. She was confused about what God really wanted from her life. She concentrated on listening to her heart and not her hindering mind. She prayed for spiritual guidance.

After hearing St. Francis de Sales speak, she found the beginnings of peace. He became her spiritual director. She chose to become a religious nun and later the Mother Superior

for the Order of the Visitation, which she founded with St. Francis de Sales.

In a book of her writings – *Selected Letters of Saint Jane Frances de Chantal* - she writes honestly her feelings of abandonment, confusion, joy, sorrow, and many other common feelings we all have, but fail to relate to a saint’s life. In a letter to her mentor St. Francis De Sales she wrote about her feelings of anxiety and feeling abandoned by God - “Oh, how far away His help seems!”

She rises above those human feelings of doubt and in many other letters offers advice to the various recipients, “Above all we must love the good pleasure of God, accepting with equanimity things both agreeable and things painful, trusting everything to Him Who disposes of all things for the good of His children.”

She writes of falling off the righteous path, but the importance of being focused on God. “Though we should fall fifty times a day, let us rise again quite simply, without wasting thought in self-reflections on what we may have done or left undone. Such useless discouragements are often greater faults than the ones that so disturb us.”

It is her humility and honesty that garnered her the admiration of other saints.

“If we follow His plans for us, though heaven and earth should be overturned, in truth it does not matter whether we suffer or enjoy, so long as the Divine Will be accomplished,” she wrote.

St. Vincent de Paul described her as, “Full of faith, yet all her life had been tormented by thoughts against it. While apparently enjoying the peace and easiness of mind of souls who have reached a high state of virtue, she suffered such interior trials that she often told me her mind was so filled with all sorts of temptations and abominations that she had to strive not to look within herself. But for all that suffering her face never lost its serenity, nor did she once relax in the fidelity God asked of her. And so, I regard her as one of the holiest souls I have ever met on this earth.”

St. Jane Frances, pray for us.

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading 1 KINGS 19:4-8

Elijah went a day's journey into the desert, until he came to a broom tree and sat beneath it. He prayed for death saying: "This is enough, O LORD! Take my life, for I am no better than my fathers." He lay down and fell asleep under the broom tree, but then an angel touched him and ordered him to get up and eat. Elijah looked and there at his head was a hearth cake and a jug of water. After he ate and drank, he lay down again, but the angel of the LORD came back a second time, touched him, and ordered, "Get up and eat, else the journey will be too long for you!" He got up, ate, and drank; then strengthened by that food, he walked forty days and forty nights to the mountain of God, Horeb.

Responsorial PSALMS 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9

R. (9a) Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall be ever in my mouth. Let my soul glory in the LORD; the lowly will hear me and be glad.

R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Look to him that you may be radiant with joy. and your faces may not blush with shame. When the afflicted man called out, the LORD heard, and from all his distress he saved him.

R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him and delivers them. Taste and see how good the LORD is; blessed the man who takes refuge in him.

R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Second Reading PHESIANS 4:30-5:2

Brothers and sisters:

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were sealed for the day of redemption. All bitterness, fury, anger, shouting, and reviling must be removed from you, along with all malice. And be kind to one another, compassionate, forgiving one another as God has forgiven you in Christ. So be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and handed himself over for us as a sacrificial offering to God for a fragrant aroma.

Alleluia JOHN 6:51

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the living bread that came down from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live forever.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel JOHN 6:41-51

The Jews murmured about Jesus because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven," and they said, "Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph? Do we not know his father and mother? Then how can he say, 'I have come down from heaven?'" Jesus answered and said to them, "Stop murmuring among yourselves. No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draw him, and I will raise him on the last day. It is written in the prophets: They shall all be taught by God. Everyone who listens to my Father and learns from him comes to me. Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the desert, but they died; this is the bread that comes down from heaven so that one may eat it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world."

PRAYER INTENTIONS

God sent food to Elijah to sustain him on his journey and the Bread of Life to all humankind to sustain us on ours.

Therefore, it is with confidence that we express our needs to the source of our sustenance, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For the Church, that we may always reach out in Christ's name to offer bread to those who hunger, drink to those who thirst, and life to those in despair, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For those who serve in public office, that guided by the ideals of justice and respect for life, they may uphold the sanctity of all human life, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For all who are ill in body, mind, or spirit, that they may experience God's healing touch through the care and treatment they receive from those who have dedicated their time and expertise to the care of others, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For our diocese and parish families, that we may be imitators of God: kind, compassionate, and forgiving of one another, let us pray to the Lord. . .

Lord hear our prayer



LET US GO *Rejoicing* TO THE HOUSE OF THE LORD.

PSALM 122



UPDATED GUIDELINES RELEASED

Bishop Mark E. Brennan released updated guidelines for our churches and facilities.

- New Norms for Reopening Parish Facilities for Meetings and Gatherings
- Updated Liturgical Guidelines
- Music Protocols for Liturgical Celebrations

These are available online at www.dwc.org.

Liturgy of the Hours

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Pray the prayer for this day, this hour!

Scan the QR code or visit the link below to view a PDF version of the Liturgy of the Hours.

EBREVIARY.COM [LITURGY OF THE HOURS](#)



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~Also Streaming in WV at www.rdo.to/WL0L~

WV Catholic Radio www.WVCatholicRadio.org

MASS ONLINE

Saturday 6pm Masses will continue to be livestreamed from the Cathedral of St. Joseph, and will be available on our website each Sunday at DWC.ORG.

Below are four options for enriching your spirit through daily Mass online.

- EWTN airs daily Mass from Our Lady of Angels Chapel, in Irondale, Alabama, at 8am, noon, and 7pm: [HTTPS://WWW.EWTN.COM/TV/WATCH-LIVE](https://www.ewtn.com/tv/watch-live)
- St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York has daily Mass live streamed at 7am: [HTTPS://SAINTPATRICKSCATHEDRAL.ORG/LIVE](https://saintpatrickscathedral.org/live)
- Catholic TV also streams its daily Mass: [HTTP://CATHOLICTV.ORG/MASSES/CATHOLICTV-MASS](http://catholicTV.org/masses/catholicTV-mass)
- Daily Mass Online at Notre Dame' Basilica of the Sacred Heart is live at 11:30 am Monday-Friday: [HTTPS://CAMPUSMINISTRY.ND.EDU/MASS-WORSHIP/BASILICA-OF-THE-SACRED-HEART/WATCH-MASS/SPECIAL-MASSSES/](https://campusministry.nd.edu/mass-worship/basilica-of-the-sacred-heart/watch-mass/special-masses/)