



St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

Saint Stephen's welcomes everyone who wishes to follow Christ, worship together, grow in faith and share God's love through service to others.

FEAST OF

FRANCIS DE SALES & JANE DE CHANTAL

Wednesday 4 Dec 2024 9:30 AM



From [Wikipedia the free encyclopedia](#)

[Francis de Sales](#), C.O., O.M. (French: *François de Sales*; [Italian](#): *Francesco di Sales*; 21 August 1567 – 28 December 1622) was a [Savoyard Catholic](#) prelate who served as [Bishop of Geneva](#) and is a [saint](#) of the [Catholic Church](#). He became noted for his deep [faith](#) and his gentle approach to the religious divisions in his land resulting from the [Protestant Reformation](#). He is known also for his writings on the topic of [spiritual direction](#) and spiritual formation, particularly the [Introduction to the Devout Life](#) and the [Treatise on the Love of God](#).

Life

Early years

Francis de Sales was born two months premature on 21 August 1567 in the [Château de Sales](#) into the noble Sales family of the [Duchy of Savoy](#), in what is today [Thorens-Glières](#), Haute-Savoie, France. His father was François

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Greeting

Presider: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

People: **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

All: Most Gracious God, who has bidden us to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly before you; Grant that we, like your servants Francis and Jane, may see and serve Christ in all people, and know him as the giver of all good things; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Word of God (*please be seated for the lessons*)

First Reading : Judges 6:11–24:

The angel of the Lord came and sat under the oak at Ophrah, which belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, as his son Gideon was beating out wheat in the wine press, to hide it from the Midianites. The angel of the Lord appeared to him and said to him, “The Lord is with you, you mighty warrior.” Gideon answered him, “But sir, if the Lord is with us, why then has all this happened to us? And where are all his wonderful deeds that our ancestors recounted to us, saying, ‘Did not the Lord bring us up from Egypt?’ But now the Lord has cast us off, and given us into the hand of Midian.” Then the Lord turned to him and said, “Go in this might of yours and deliver Israel from the hand of Midian; I hereby commission you.” He responded, “But sir, how can I deliver Israel? My clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my family.” The Lord said to him, “But I will be with you, and you shall strike down the Midianites, every one of them.” Then he said to him, “If now I have found favor with you, then show me a sign that it is you who speak with me. Do not depart from here until I come to you, and bring out my present, and set it before you.” And he said, “I will stay until you return.”

So Gideon went into his house and prepared a kid, and unleavened cakes from an ephah of flour; the meat he put in a basket, and the broth he put in a pot, and brought them to him under the oak and presented them. The angel of God said to him, “Take the meat and the unleavened cakes, and put them on this rock, and pour out the broth.” And he did so. Then the angel of the Lord reached

out the tip of the staff that was in his hand, and touched the meat and the unleavened cakes; and fire sprang up from the rock and consumed the meat and the unleavened cakes; and the angel of the Lord vanished from his sight. Then Gideon perceived that it was the angel of the Lord; and Gideon said, "Help me, Lord Lord! For I have seen the angel of the Lord face to face." But the Lord said to him, "Peace be to you; do not fear, you shall not die." Then Gideon built an altar there to the Lord, and called it, The Lord is peace. To this day it still stands at Ophrah, which belongs to the Abiezrites.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 111

1 Hallelujah!

**I will give thanks to the Lord with
my whole heart, *
in the assembly of the upright, in
the congregation.**

**2 Great are the deeds of the Lord! *
they are studied by all who de-
light in them.**

**3 His work is full of majesty and
splendor, *
and his righteousness endures for
ever.**

**4 He makes his marvelous works to
be remembered; *
the Lord is gracious and full of
compassion.**

**5 He gives food to those who fear
him; *
he is ever mindful of his cove-
nant.**

**6 He has shown his people the power
of his works *
in giving them the lands of the
nations.**

**7 The works of his hands are faith-
fulness and justice; *
all his commandments are sure.**

**8 They stand fast for ever and ever, *
because they are done in truth
and equity.**

**9 He sent redemption to his people;
he commanded his covenant for
ever; *
holy and awesome is his Name.**

**10 The fear of the Lord is the begin-
ning of wisdom; *
those who act accordingly have a
good understanding;
his praise endures for ever.**

Second Reading: James 3:13-18:

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Mark (12:41–44):

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke:

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

Jesus sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ

SERMON

The Nicene Creed *All say together*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People:

Leader: Show us your mercy, O Lord;

All: And grant us your salvation.

Leader: Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

All: Let your people sing with joy.

Leader: Give peace, O Lord, in all the world

All: For only in you can we live in safety.

Leader: Lord keep this nation under your care;

All: And guide us in the way of justice and truth

Leader: Let your way be known upon Earth;

All: Your saving health among all nations.

Leader: Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

All: Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Leader: Create in us clean hearts, O God;

All: And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

Leader: In the Anglican cycle of prayer we pray for *The Diocese of Kolhapur – The Church of North India (United)*.

In the Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for *St. Christopher's, in Sun City*

We acknowledge and pay respect to the first peoples of this land especially the Apache and Tohono O’Oodham who call this area their home. Rejoicing in the fellowship of all your saints,

All: We commend these we pray for, ourselves, and the whole creation to your unfailing love. Amen.

Confession of Sin

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

(The people stand, sit, or kneel. A short pause may be kept)

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name.

Amen.

Absolution

Presider: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

Exchange of the Peace

Presider: May the peace of Christ be always with you

All: And also with you.

(The Ministers and People exchange signs of peace (peace sign, hugs, handshakes, fist bumps...))

Offertory

Presider: Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name, bring offerings and come into his courts.

Doxology - (*Peoples' offerings are brought to the altar*)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise him all creatures here below
Praise him, above, ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving Rite II Prayer B BCP p. 372

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Presider:

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

All: *Sanctus H1982 S-124*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, heav - en and
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people stand, sit, or kneel.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son.

For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts (+) that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant.

Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified (+) by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN.**
And now as Jesus taught us, we are bold to pray:

Lord's Prayer (Traditional):

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.*

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

*For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.*

The Breaking of the Bread (In silence the Presider breaks the bread)

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the hymn 'Lamb of God'. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. It contains the lyrics: '*Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the'. The second staff continues with the lyrics: 'world, have mer-cy on us. world, grant us peace.' and includes a 'Final' section. The notation includes various note values, rests, and a repeat sign.

Fraction Anthem

Lamb of God

JS #194

Invitation to Communion:

Presider: The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith and with thanksgiving.

(In this church, everyone is welcome to receive the bread and wine of Holy Communion. The bread is gluten free and it is real wine. If you prefer to dip/intinct your bread into the wine, please come to the left altar rail. If you prefer to sip the wine from the cup, please come to the right altar rail. If you prefer to receive a blessing instead of the bread and wine, come to either rail and cross your arms over your chest and the priest will bless you).

Birthdays, Anniversary, Healing, Travel and Gratitude sharing

Post Communion Prayer *The people stand as they are able.*

Presider: Let us pray:
Presider and People

**Almighty and ever-living God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.**

**And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.**

**To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

Blessing/Benediction:

Presider: May the simplicity, stillness, and serenity of this Advent season bring peace and fulfillment to your hearts and homes; and the blessing of God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you now and always. **Amen.**

The Dismissal:

Deacon: People of St. Stephen's, what does God call us to do?

People: We are called to love and serve.

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! Alleluia, alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Continued from front:

de Sales, Lord of [Sales](#), and Novel, and by marriage, de Boisy. His mother was a noblewoman, Françoise de Sionnaz, the only child of the prominent magistrate, Melchior de Sionnaz, Seigneur de Vallières, de la Thuile, and de Boisy. This being one of the noblest families in Savoy, Francis's father was generally known as M. de Boisy.^[1]

He was baptized **Francis Bonaventura** after his godparents, François de la Fléchère and Damoiselle Bonaventure de Chevron-Villette, who was also his widowed, maternal grandmother.^[2] His father wanted him, the first of his six sons, to attend the best schools in preparation for a career as a [magistrate](#). He, therefore, enjoyed a privileged education in the nearby town of [La Roche-Sur-Foron](#), and at the age of eight at the [Capuchin](#) college in [Annecy](#).^[3]

Education and self-consecration

In 1578, de Sales went to the [Collège de Clermont](#), then a [Jesuit](#) institution, to study [rhetoric](#) and [humanities](#). On this first visit to Paris, he lived near the [Église Sainte-Geneviève](#) with his three cousins.^[4] As a nobleman, he was accompanied by his servant and by a priest tutor, Abbé Déage. To please his father, he took lessons in the gentlemanly pursuits of riding, dancing, and fencing. De Sales is described as intelligent and handsome, tall and well built with blue-grey eyes, somewhat reserved and quiet, and a welcome guest in the homes of the nobility among whom his father had connections.

Jane Frances de Chantal, VHM (born **Jeanne-Françoise**

[Continued online](#)

Frémyot, Baroness of Chantal; 28

January 1572 – 13 December 1641) was a [French Catholic](#) noble widow and nun who was [beatified](#) in 1751 and [canonized](#) in 1767. She founded the [Order of the Visitation of Holy Mary](#).^[1] The religious order accepted women who were rejected by other orders because of poor health or age.^[2]

When people criticized her, Chantal famously said, "What do you want me to do? I like sick people myself; I'm on their side."

During its first eight years, the new order also was unusual in its public outreach, in contrast to most female religious who remained cloistered and adopted strict ascetic practices.

Biography

Jane Frances de Chantal was born in [Dijon](#), [France](#), on 28 January 1572, the daughter of the royalist president of the [Parliament of Burgundy](#), Bénigne Frémyot and his wife, Margaret de Berbisey.

Her paternal uncle was the prior at [Val des Choux](#).^[3] Her brother André became the [Archbishop of Bourges](#) (1602–1621).

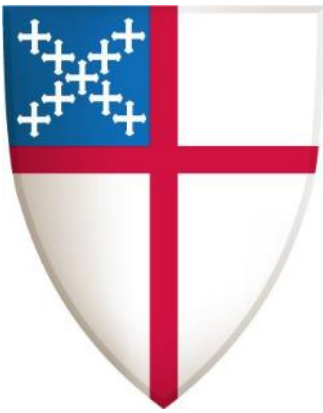
Her mother died when Jane was 18 months old. Her father became the main influence on her education. She developed into a woman of beauty and refinement.^[4]

Baroness

Having turned down two prior suitors, in 1592, she married the Baron de Chantal when she was 20 and they lived in the feudal [Castle of Bourbilly](#). There they hosted hunting parties and other entertainments for the neighboring nobles. Their first two children died

[Continued online](#)





ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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