

AUGUST 21, ST. JANE FRANCIS DE CHANTAL, WIDOW

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St. Jane Frances Fremiot was born in France and was married to Baron de Chantal. She made her house the model of a Christian home. On the death of her husband, with the assistance of St. Francis de Sales, she founded the Order of the Visitation, of which she became the first superior.

INTROIT Psalms 118: 75, 120

Cognóvi, Dómine, quia æquitas iudicia in veritate tua humiliasti me: confige timore tuo carnes meas, a mandatis tuis tímui. (Psalm 118) Beáti immaculáti in via: qui ámbulant in lege Dómini. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spirítui Sancto, sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Cognóvi, Dómine, quia æquitas iudicia in veritate tua humiliasti me: confige timore tuo carnes meas, a mandatis tuis tímui.

COLLECT

Omnípotens et miséricors Deus, qui beátam Joánnam Franciscam, tuo amóre succénsam, admirábili spíritus fortitúdine per omnes vitæ sémitas in via perfectiónis donásti, quique per illam illustráre Ecclésiám tuam nova prole voluísti: ejus méritis et précibus concéde; ut, qui infirmitátis nostræ cónscii de tua virtúte confidimus, cæléstis grátiae auxilió cuncta nobis adversántia vincámus. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(An alternate Epistle for a widow is found at the end of this Mass)

LESSON Proverbs 31: 10-31

Mulíerem fortem quis invéniet? Procul et de últimis finibus prátium ejus. Confidit in ea cor viri sui, et spólis non indigébit. Reddet ei bonum, et non malum, ómnibus diébus vitæ suæ. Quæsivit lanam et linum, et operáta est consílio mánuum suárum. Facta est quasi navis institóri, de longe portans panem suum. Et de nocte surréxit, dedítque prædam domésticis suis, et cibária ancillis suis. Considerávit agrum, et emit eum: de fructu mánuum suárum plantávit víneam. Accínxit fortitúdine lumbos suos, et roborávit bráchiúm suum. Gustávit, et vidit, quia bona est negotiátio ejus: non exstinguétur in nocte lucérna ejus. Manum suam misit ad fórtia, et dígití ejus apprehénderent fustum. Manum suam apéruit ínopi, et palmas suas exsténdit ad páuperem. Non timébit dómni suæ a frigóribus nivis: omnes enim doméstici ejus vestíti sunt duplicibus. Stragulatam vestem fecit sibi: byssus et púrpura induméntum ejus. Nóbilis in portis vir ejus, quando séderit cum senatóribus terræ. Síndonem fecit et véndidit, et cíngulum tradidit Chananæo. Fortitúdo et decor induméntum ejus, et ridébit in die novíssimo. Os suum apéruit sapiéntiæ, et lex cleméntiæ in lingua ejus. Considerávit sémitas domus suæ, et panem otíosa non comédit. Surrexerunt fílii ejus, et beatíssimam prædicáverunt: vir ejus, et laudávit eam. Multæ filiæ congregáverunt divítias, tu supergréssa es univérsas. Fallax grátia, et vana est pulchritúdo: mulier timens Dóminum, ipsa laudábitur. Date ei de fructu mánuum suárum, et laudent eam in portis ópera ejus.

GRADUAL Psalms 44: 3

Diffúsa est grátia in lábiis tuis: propterea benedixit te Deus in ætérnum. Própter veritátem et mansuetúdinem, et justítiam: et dedúcet te mirabíliter dèxtera tua. Allelúja, allelúja.

LESSER ALLELUJA Psalms 44:5

Spécie tua, et pulchritúdine tua inténde, prospere procéde, et regna. Allelúja.

GOSPEL Matthew 13: 44-52

In illo tempore: Dixit Jesus, discípulis suis parábolam hanc: Símile est regnum cælórum thesáuro abscondito in agro: quem qui invénit homo, abscondit, et præ gáudio illíus vadit, et vendit univérsa quæ habet, et emit agrum illum. Íterum símile est regnum cælórum hómini negotiátóri, quærénti bonas margaritas. Invénta autem una pretiósá margaríta, abiit, et véndidit ómnia quæ hábuit, et emit eam. Íterum símile est regnum cælórum sagénæ missæ in mare, et ex omni génere piscium congregánti. Quam, cum impléta esset, educéntes, et secus líttus sedéntes, elegérunt bonos in vasa, malos autem foras misérunt. Sic erit in consummatione sæculi: exibunt Ángeli, et separábunt malos de médio justórum, et mittent eos in camínium ignis: ibi erit fletus, et stridor déntium. Intellexistis hæc omnia? Dicunt ei: Étiam. Ait illis: Ideo omnis scriba doctus in regno cælórum, similis est hómini patrifamílias, qui profert de thesáuro suo nova et vétera.

OFFERTORY Psalms 44: 3

Diffúsa est grátia in lábiis tuis: propterea benedixit te Deus in ætérnum, et in sæculum sæculi.

SECRET

Illo nos amóris igne, quæsumus. Dómine, hæc hóstia salutáris inflámmet: quo beátæ Joannæ Franciscæ cor vehementer incéndit, et flammis adússit ætérnæ caritátis. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

COMMUNION Psalms 44: 8

Dilexísti justítiam, et odísti iniquitátem: propterea unxit te Deus, Deus tuus, óleo lætítiae præ consórtibus tuis.

POSTCOMMUNION

Spíritum nobis, Dómine, tuæ caritátis infúnde: ut, quos cæléstis panis virtúte satiásti, beáta Joánná Francisca intercedénte, fácias terréna despícere, et te solum Deum pura mente sectári. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(An alternate Epistle)

EPISTLE 1 Timothy 5: 3-10

Caríssime: Víduas honóra quæ vere viduæ sunt. Si qua autem vídua fílius, aut nepótes habet, discat primum domum suam régere, et mútuam vicem réddere paréntibus: hoc enim accéptum est coram Deo. Quæ autem vere vídua est, desoláta, quæret in Deum, et instet obsecrationibus, et orationibus nocte, ac die. Nam quæ in deliciis est, vivens mórtua est. Et hoc præcipe, ut irreprehensibiles sint. Si quis autem suórum, et máxime domesticórum non habet, fldem negávit, et est infidélí detérior. Vídua eligátur non minus sexagínta annórum, quæ fúerit unius viri uxor, in opéribus bonis. testimónium habens, si fílios educávit, si hospítio recépit., si sanctórum pedes lavávit, si tribulationem patiéntibus ministrávit, si omne opus bonum subsecrúta est.

I know, O Lord, that Thy judgments are equity, and in Thy truth Thou hast humbled me: pierce Thou my flesh with Thy fear, I am afraid of Thy judgments. (Psalm 118) Blessed are the undefiled in the way: who walk in the law of the Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. I know, O Lord, that Thy judgments are equity, and in Thy truth Thou hast humbled me: pierce Thou my flesh with Thy fear, I am afraid of Thy judgments.

Almighty and merciful God, Who didst endow blessed Jane Frances, burning with love of Thee, with an admirable strength of soul through all the paths of life in the way of perfection, and Who wast pleased to glorify Thy Church with a new family by her means, grant to her merits and prayers that we, who, conscious of our own infirmity, trust in Thy power, may, by the assistance of divine grace, conquer all obstacles which beset us. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

(An alternate Epistle for a widow is found at the end of this Mass)

When one finds a worthy wife, her value is far beyond pearls. Her husband, entrusting his heart to her, has an unfailing prize. She brings him good, and not evil, all the days of her life. She obtains wool and flax and makes cloth with skillful hands. Like merchant ships, she secures her provisions from afar. She rises while it is still night, and distributes food to her household. She picks out a field to purchase; out of her earnings she plants a vineyard. she is girt about with strength, and sturdy are her arms. She enjoys the success of her dealings; at night her lamp is undimmed. She puts her hands to the distaff, and her fingers ply the spindle. She reaches out her hands to the poor, and extends her arms to the needy. She fears not the snow for her household; all her charges are doubly clothed. She makes her own coverlets; fine linen and purple are her clothing. Her husband is prominent at the city gates as he sits with the elders of the land. She makes garments and sells them. She stocks the merchants with belts. She is clothed with strength and dignity, and she laughs at the days to come. She opens her mouth in wisdom, and on her tongue is kindly counsel. She watches the conduct of her household, and eats not her food in idleness. Her children rise up and praise her; her husband, too, extols her: Many are the women of proven worth, but you have excelled them all. Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting; the woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Give her a reward of her labors, and let her works praise her at the city gates.

Grace is poured abroad in thy lips: therefore hath God blessed thee for ever. Because of truth, and meekness, and justice: and thy right hand shall conduct thee wonderfully. Alleluia, alleluia.

With thy comeliness, and thy beauty, set out, proceed prosperously, and reign. Alleluia.

(An alternate Epistle)

At that time, Jesus, spoke this parable to His disciples: The kingdom of heaven is like unto a treasure hidden in a field; which a man having found, hid it, and for joy thereof goth, and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field. Again the kingdom of heaven is like to a merchant seeking good pearls. Who when he had found one pearl of great price, went his way, and sold all that he had, and bought it. Again the kingdom of heaven is like to a net cast into the sea, and gathering together of all kind of fishes; which, when it was filled, they drew out, and sitting by the shore, they chose out the good into vessels, but the bad they cast forth. So shall it be at the end of the world. The angels shall go out, and shall separate the wicked from among the just. And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Have ye understood all these things? They say to him: Yes. He said unto them: Therefore every scribe instructed in the kingdom of heaven, is like to a man that is a householder, who bringeth forth out of his treasure new things and old.

(An alternate Epistle)

Grace is poured abroad in thy lips: therefore God hath blessed thee for ever and for ages of ages.

SECRET

May this saving Victim, O Lord, inflame us with that fire of love with which it vehemently kindled the heart of blessed Jane Frances, burning it away with the flames of eternal charity. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

(An alternate Epistle)

Thou hast loved justice and hated iniquity: therefore God thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

POSTCOMMUNION

Pour forth upon us, O Lord, the Spirit of Thy love, that those whom Thou hast filled with strength imparted by this bread from heaven, may through the intercession of blessed Jane Frances be enabled to despise the things of earth and with pure hearts to seek after Thee alone. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

(An alternate Epistle)

Dearly beloved: Honor widows, that are widows indeed. But if any widow have children, or grandchildren, let her learn first to govern her own house, and to make a return of duty to her parents: for this is acceptable before God. But she that is a widow indeed and desolate, let her trust in God, and continue in prayers and supplications night and day. For she that liveth in pleasures, is dead while she is living. And this give in charge, that they may be blameless. But if any man have not care of his own, and especially of those of his house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel. Let a widow be chosen of no less than threescore years of age, who hath been the wife of one husband, having testimony for her good works, if she have brought up children, if she have received to harbor, if she have washed the saints' feet, if she have ministered to them that suffer tribulation, if she have diligently followed every good work.