

A devotion, on bearing our crosses by total abandonment to CHRIST:
by Saint Jane Frances De Chantal, VHM (1572 - 1641 AD)



St. Jane Frances de Chantal
Feast Day: August 12

"You want to be humble? Try to know yourself well; desire for others to know you as imperfect; love contempt, in all its forms and in any which way it may come. Don't hide your defects; let them be known, accepting with love the abjection that will come by them. Never let your heart to be weakened because of a fault committed. Distrust self and trust only and continuously in God, persuaded that not able to do anything by yourselves, you can do all with His grace and powerful help."

www.archtoronto.org
Quote from www.piercedhearts.org

https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=60

"To rise above self - this is what must be done - above all feelings, all opinions, and dislikes, so that we gaze upon GOD and bind ourselves to Him by a simple assent. We must march on..., following His Providence with confidence even in the midst of temptation, feelings of abandonment, fears, and every sort of trouble if it be GOD's good pleasure that we serve Him in this way.

For what have we done if not to strip ourselves and abandon ourselves without recourse into His blessed hands. To Him we have confided the care of all that concerns us without exception. Look at GOD. Do this... [and] Remain in Him in peace of mind and utter trust, completely given over to His care.

Since you have confided to Him and placed in His hands all that you are, let Him now take charge, for you have handed over everything to His faithful Love. Now you must work out your salvation on This Cross. Let me assure you that He is sheltering you in His arms. So even though you feel nothing of this, remain content with your discontent.

To hold oneself in patience when suffering is already a high state of prayer, you may be sure... To gaze upon GOD while suffering with gentleness and submission is quite enough. ...virtuous conduct does indeed lie within our power. This is what GOD requires of you at the moment, while He holds you on The Cross.

The Way of generous suffering [united with The Wounds of our Redeemer JESUS CHRIST] is The Way to Heaven. Stand fast and bear your cross without thinking about it. Our "Isaac" must be sacrificed over and over again [daily] by the giving of ourselves to GOD without counting the cost." *

MATTHEW 18:21-35

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IXzmjNE-yLA>

21 Then came Peter to Him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times?

22 JESUS saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven.

23 Therefore is The Kingdom of Heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants.

24 And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents.

25 But forasmuch as he had not to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made.

26 The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.

27 Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt.

28 But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellowservants, which owed him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took him by the throat, saying, Pay me that thou owest.

29 And his fellowservant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.

30 And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should

pay the debt.

31 So when his fellowservants saw what was done, they were very sorry, and came and told unto their lord all that was done.

32 Then his lord, after that he had called him, said unto him, O thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desiredst me:

33 Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellowservant, even as I had pity on thee?

34 And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him.

35 So likewise shall My Heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses.

"Jane was born in Burgundy [France] and married Baron De Chantal at the age of twenty. Jane ably managed her husband's estate [and lovingly cared for him and their four children] to provide for the care of the poor and the bereft."

After the tragic death of her husband in a hunting accident, "...she embraced an austere life, caring for her children and her father-in-law. When she met Francis de Sales in 1604, she recognized him as the spiritual director GOD had chosen for her."

Although her husband forgave the man who accidentally shot him face-to-face on his deathbed, Jane struggled with forgiving the man. Eventually she was so able to forgive him in The Love of CHRIST that she became the godmother to one of his children. With Bishop Frances de Sales, he and Jane "founded The Visitation Order," [Visitation of Holy Mary].

To her daughters in religion, Jane wrote many letters of reassuring directness: "Hold your eyes on GOD... That is all the doing you have to worry about..." * Saint Jane Frances De Chantal, VHM, pray for The LORD to give us The Grace we need to forgive others as He forgives us.

Robert W. Baral*bearing our crosses in CHRIST*St Jane De Chantal*8/12/2021 AD*p 4

*["Saint Jane Frances de Chantal" The Magnificat, 8/12/2021. Optional memorial, p 154. Meditation of the Day, "Looking to GOD for the Strength to Forgive." Saint Jane Frances de Chantal, p 159-160.]