

About Joan Chittister

Joan Chittister is one of the most influential religious and social leaders of our time. For 40 years she has passionately advocated on behalf of peace, human rights, women's issues, and church renewal. A much sought-after speaker, counselor and clear voice that bridges across all religions, she is also a best-selling author of more than 50 books, hundreds of articles, an online column for the *National Catholic Reporter*, and a blog for the Huffington Post. She has received numerous writing awards and honors for her work, and is a noted international lecturer as well as a Visiting Research Fellow at St. Edmund's College, Cambridge University, England.

In 2015 Sister Joan was the featured guest of Oprah Winfrey on "Super Soul Sunday." She has appeared on "Meet the Press with Tim Russert," "60 Minutes," "CBS News," and "NOW with Bill Moyers" and numerous BBC and NPR programs including "Weekend Edition Sunday" with Liane Hansen and "On Being" with Krista Tippett. She is one of the most popular and requested speakers at the iconic Chautauqua Institution in southwestern New York State.

In 2014 the Annual Joan Chittister Lecture Series was inaugurated at Mercyhurst University, Erie, PA, in conjunction with the dedication of the Helen Boyle Memorial Archive in Honor of Joan D. Chittister. Tom Roberts, editor-at-large for the *National Catholic Reporter*, was the first lecturer. Maria Shriver joined with Joan Chittister in 2015 for "A Conversation with Maria Shriver and Sr. Joan Chittister."

Joan Chittister currently serves as co-chair of the Global Peace Initiative of Women, a partner organization of the UN, facilitating a worldwide network of women peace builders. She was an adviser for the groundbreaking report, "A Woman's Nation," led by Maria Shriver (2009) and was a member of the TED prize-sponsored "Council of Sages," an interfaith group that developed a Charter for Compassion (2009) being promulgated worldwide with all faith organizations.

She served as president of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious, an organization of the leaders of Catholic religious women in the US, president of the Conference of American Benedictine Prioresses, and was prioress of the Benedictine Sisters of Erie for 12 years. She received her doctorate in speech communications from Penn State University, the primary site of her archive collection.

Joan Chittister is a member of the Benedictine Sisters of Erie, PA. She is executive director of Benetvision, a resource and research center for contemporary spirituality and the founder and animator of Monasteries of the Heart, a web-based movement sharing Benedictine spirituality with contemporary seekers.

Major Book Publications—selected sample

- *Two Dogs and a Parrot*, Blue Bridge, 2015.
- *In God's Holy Light*, Franciscan Media, 2015.
- *Between the Dark and the Daylight*, Image Books, 2015.
- *Our Holy Yearnings*, Twenty-Third Publications, 2014.
- *The Sacred In-Between*, Twenty-Third Publications, 2013.
- *The Way of the Cross*, Orbis Books, 2013, Art by Janet McKenzie.

- *For Everything a Season*, Orbis Books, 2013 (reprint of *There is a Season*—without art).
- *Following the Path: the search for a life of passion, purpose and joy*, Image, 2012.
- *Happiness*, Eerdmans, 2011.
- *The Radical Christian Life*, Liturgical Press, 2011.
- *Songs of the Heart*, Twenty-Third Publications, 2011.
- *The Monastery of the Heart*, Blue Bridge, 2011.
- *The Rule of Benedict: a spirituality for the 21st century*, Crossroad, 2010. (Revision of *The Rule of Benedict: Insights for the Ages*, 1992).
- *God's Tender Mercy: reflections on forgiveness*, Twenty-Third Publications, 2010.
- *Uncommon Gratitude*, with Rowan Williams, Liturgical Press, 2010.
- *The Liturgical Year: the spiraling adventure of the spiritual life*, Harper Collins/Thomas Nelson, 2009.
- *The Breath of the Soul: reflections on prayer*, Twenty-Third Publications, 2009.
- *The Gift of Years: growing older gracefully*, BlueBridge, 2008.
- *Welcome to the Wisdom of the World: and its meaning for you*, Wm. B. Eerdmans, 2007.
- *The Ten Commandments: laws of the heart*, Orbis Books, 2006.
- *In Search of Belief*, Triumph Books, 2006 (Reprint of 1999 original.)
- *The Tent of Abraham, Stories of Hope and Peace for Jews, Christians and Muslims*. with Chishti, Waskow, Beacon Press, 2006.
- *Called to Question: a spiritual memoir*, Sheed & Ward, 2004.
- *Scarred by Struggle; Transformed by Hope*, Wm. B. Eerdmans, 2003.
- *The Story of Ruth: twelve moments in every woman's life*, Wm. B. Eerdmans, 2000.
- *Heart of Flesh: a feminist spirituality for women and men*, Wm. B. Eerdmans, 1998.
- *The Fire in these Ashes: a spirituality of contemporary religious life*, Sheed & Ward, 1995.
- *Wisdom Distilled from the Daily: living the rule of St. Benedict today*, Harper, 1990.