

Joan Chittister: Her story, my story, our story

a one-woman play about the intersecting lives of women facing adversity, abuse and injustice

"The work is seamlessly, artfully and movingly welded together. It's a fresh and interesting approach to the notion of the universality of women today. It has heart and substance.... great praise."

Joan Chittister

Playwright's Note

Although this play is primarily about Joan Chittister, her life and her words, it is also about all women and their relationships and challenges. The threads of inspiration are advanced with another voice, that of the author, living or struggling with Joan's words. The hope is that you, too, will hear your voice in mine, discover that this is also your story, and as Joan says, go on to "have courage always."

Joan "lives" stage-right, the **left** side of the stage from the audience point of view; Teri "lives" on stage-left or your **right** side.

The duration of the play is about 1hr 5min.

There is no intermission.

Approximately midway through the performance Teri leaves the stage momentarily. Thank you for remaining in your seats while a short portion of her recording, *Where is it Written*, from *Spark of Creation*, will be played. It is just under 2 minutes.

The use of any recording device, either audio or video, and the taking of photographs, either with or without flash, is strictly prohibited. Thank you for turning off all electronic devices

Sr. Joan Chittister, O.S.B is a Benedictine Sister of Erie, and international speaker on justice, peace and equality. Sr. Joan is one of the most articulate social analysts and influential religious leaders of our age. For over 30 years she has been asking the critical questions impacting the global community. Courageous, passionate and charged with energy, she is a sought after speaker, and a clear voice across all religions. Joan was born April 26, 1936 in DuBois, PA. She attended St. Benedict's Academy, entering the monastery when she was 16. Joan received her Master's degree from University of Notre Dame and her Ph.D from Penn State University. She has held several leadership positions including: President of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious, Prioress of the Benedictine Sisters of Erie, and Co-chair of the Global Peace Initiative. Joan has written over 60 books and has appeared on Oprah Winfrey's *Super Soul Sunday*, *Meet the Press*, and *NOW* with Bill Moyers.

Visit JoanChittister.org for more information about Monasteries of the Heart, an on-line spiritual community and for Joan's books and spirituality material.

Teri Fiorito Bays, singer, writer and actress, is a graduate of the Hartt School of Music in CT. She has performed leading roles in summer stock, off-Broadway musicals and NYC cabarets. Teri has served as Director of Music and Liturgy at several parishes during her nearly forty years of ministry. She has recorded 2 CDs: *Spark of Creation* and *Sacred Songs, Sacred Space* and has written a book: *Through Stained Glass: the priests of my life. Teri and her husband, Dr. Bob Bays, live in Sedona, AZ.*
www.TeriBays.com

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10% of all proceeds/donations will benefit the Benedictine Sisters of Erie