

FOR  
EVERYTHING  
A SEASON



Joan Chittister

ORBIS  BOOKS  
Maryknoll, New York 10545

Founded in 1970, Orbis Books endeavors to publish works that enlighten the mind, nourish the spirit, and challenge the conscience. The publishing arm of the Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers, Orbis seeks to explore the global dimensions of the Christian faith and mission, to invite dialogue with diverse cultures and religious traditions, and to serve the cause of reconciliation and peace. The books published reflect the views of their authors and do not represent the official position of the Maryknoll Society. To learn more about Maryknoll and Orbis Books, please visit our website at [www.maryknollsociety.org](http://www.maryknollsociety.org).

Copyright © 1995, 2013 by Joan Chittister

Published by Orbis Books, Box 302, Maryknoll, NY 10545-0302.  
All rights reserved.

An earlier version of this text was published as *There is a Season* by Joan Chittister with art by John August Swanson in 1995 by Orbis Books.

No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or any information storage or retrieval system, without prior permission in writing from the publisher.

Queries regarding rights and permissions should be addressed to: Orbis Books, P.O. Box 302, Maryknoll, NY 10545-0302.

Manufactured in the United States of America  
*Design: Roberta Savage*

---

### Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Chittister, Joan.

For everything a season / Joan Chittister.

pages cm

ISBN 978-1-62698-019-8 (pbk.)

1. Bible. O.T. Ecclesiastes III, 1-8—Meditations. I. Title.

BS1475.54.C48 2013

242'.5—dc23

2012036656

## CONTENTS

Acknowledgments	11
The Seasons of Life	13
A Time to Be Born	19
A Time to Lose	27
A Time to Love	35
A Time to Laugh	44
A Time for War	52
A Time to Heal	61
A Time to Sow	69
A Time to Die	77
A Time to Kill	85
A Time to Build Up	93
A Time to Embrace	102

A Time to Reap 110

A Time to Weep 119

A Time to Refrain from Embracing 128

A Time to Gain 136

A Time for Peace 144

A Time for Every Purpose under Heaven 153