



# THE BASILICA OF SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST

*The Mother Church of Stamford, Connecticut*



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 24, 2023



## MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil, 4 PM  
Sunday, 7:30 AM, 10 AM,  
12 PM, and 5 PM

Monday - Friday  
8 AM and 12:10 PM  
Saturday  
12:10 PM

## CONFESSIONS

Monday: 11:30 to 12 Noon  
Wednesday: 11:30 to 12 Noon  
Friday: 11:30 to 12 Noon  
Saturday: 2:45 to 3:45 PM

## CLERGY

PASTOR  
VERY REV. CYPRIAN P. LA PASTINA

PAROCHIAL VICAR  
REV. JHON J. GOMEZ

## STAFF

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION  
ANNE MARIE MBABAALI

SECRETARY  
LINDA RUZZI

RECEPTIONIST  
JUANITA EVANS

CHOIRMASTER & ORGANIST  
NICK BOTKINS

LAY MEMBERS OF THE PARISH CORP.: JOHN REGAN & ANNIE SCHRECK

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday  
9 AM - 4:30 PM

(The Office entrance is located  
on Padre Pio Way, between the  
church and the rectory)



## **MASS INTENTIONS**

### **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24**

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

7:30 am, The Parishioners

10 am, Michael Thomas Vaccaro, Spec. Intention  
*req. Family*

4 pm, † Vito & Josephine Melfi  
*req. Joe Melfi*

12 am, (midnight) Special Intention

### **MONDAY, DECEMBER 25**

*The Nativity of The Lord*

7:30 am, Angela Rose Piria, Spec. Intention  
*req. Family*

10 am, Anthony Labroschiano, Spec. Intention  
*req. Angela Labroschiano*

12 pm, Special Intention

### **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26**

*Saint Stephen*

9 am, † Estabana Camey  
*req. Jose Reyes*

### **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27**

*Saint John*

8 am, † John & Mary Maloney  
12:10 pm, † William Borkowski  
*req. Michael Borkowski*

### **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28**

*The Holy Innocents*

8 am, † Thomas Keery  
12:10 pm, † Milan Krupa  
*req. Florence Krupa*

### **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29**

*Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of The Lord*

8 am, Anthony Labroschiano, Spec. Intention  
*req. Angela Labroschiano*

12:10 pm, Vargas Family, Spec. Intention

### **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30**

*Sixth Day within the Nativity of The Lord*

12:10 pm, † Maria Trivino req. Lilian & Alvina Ramos  
4 pm, Leon Taricani, Spec. Intention  
*req. Mary Jean Dal Molin*



Sanctuary Candle:

In Loving Memory of Joseph Kung  
*req. Kung Family*

### **PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:**

Monsignor DiGiovanni, Frank Carpanzano, Phil DeFelice, Ruby Lang, Barbara Smith, Jennifer Iannarelli, Julia Oliveira, Gail Piria, Julian Lucas Randal, Anthony Labroschiano, Richard Conti, Junjie & Aileen Ibanez, Evan Gaine, Ram Jhunja, Marie Anne Guillaume, Leon Taricani, Joseph Prevot, Rita Hausman, Michael Thomas Vaccaro, Boniface & Mary DiProperzio, Monique D'Auteuil, Sofia D'Auteuil-Traista, Nora Figueroa Krap, Mary Ann Gascon, Louis Lambiasi, Ewa & Sylwester Indyk, Greg K.

### **PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE RECENTLY DIED:**

Alfred Sanseverino, Gordon Evans, Irene Sansone, Joseph Kung, Mary Serock, Daniel Fronc, Mrs. Anna J. Jones, Rev. Albert Audette, Mary Maloney, Paul Mignogna, Laurence Hayes, Alfred Maffucci, Aleana Armwood Stroman, Shirley A. Simmons, Ron Cox, Terersa Szostak, Laura Lee Barzetti, Rev. Dr. Tommie Jackson, Patrick Glynn, Kenneth M. Mirch, Helen C. Annis, Elizabeth Barron, Albert Stephens, Robert Nasso, Andrew J. Kirkland, Oscar D. Guilford, Helen L. McNeil, Robert N. Brown, James Farrison, Lois Cavaliere, Michele Cappelli, Marie Jean-Charles

### **Mass Intentions**

The 2024 Mass Intentions book is available for Mass requests. All requests are first-come, first-serve and are \$10.00 each. Please contact the parish office: [office@stjohnbasilica.org](mailto:office@stjohnbasilica.org) or 203-324-1553.



Dear Friends in Christ,

Of all the Christmas cards I have ever received, one stands out in my memory. The front was a beautiful image of the Madonna and Child and on the inside was one simple line: "In the birth of this Child, is the hope of the world".

That one sentence sums up what we celebrate at Christmas. In a world that at times seems confused and without direction, this Child born in a manger in Bethlehem gives hope and meaning to our lives. When we become anxious and worried about life, when we feel overwhelmed we remember that Christ is Emmanuel, God is with us. He never abandons us, He is our hope!

The Lord came to be part of our world, to give meaning to what we do and offer us the hope of eternal life with Him in the Kingdom of Heaven.

I wish you all a Happy and Blessed Christmas!  
Father La Pastina

### Children at Mass

Children in Mass are gifts, not distractions! But if a young child does become disruptive, which is natural, please be respectful of other parishioners and remove the child from church and feel free to return once it is appropriate. Please do not let young children wander from the pew or run up and down aisles or disturb others. Also, if late for Mass, please do not proceed to the front of the church but instead occupy a pew closer to the rear. Consideration of others & reverence help to maintain a prayerful atmosphere for all.

### Changes to Mass Schedule

Please note changes below to Sunday's Mass schedule due to Christmas falling on Monday.

There is no Noon or 5:00 PM Mass on Sunday instead there will be a 4 PM Vigil Mass and a Solemn Mass at Midnight.

#### PARKING

Please, there is **no parking allowed in front of the church**. The spaces in front of the church are for busses and emergency vehicles ONLY.

#### CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday, December 23:

Confessions 2:45-3:45PM

Weekly Vigil Mass 4:00 PM

Sunday, December 24:

Weekly Sunday Masses 7:30 AM & 10:00 AM

*Please Note: There is NO 12:00 PM or 5:00 PM Sunday Mass*

Christmas Vigil Mass: 4:00 PM

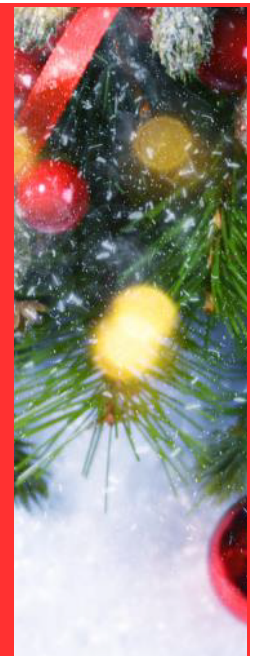
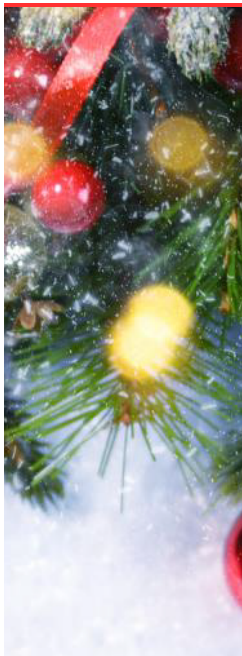
Christmas Midnight Mass: 12:00 AM

Monday, December 25:

Christmas Day Masses: 7:30 AM, 10:00 AM & 12:00 PM

Tuesday, December 26:

ONE Daily Mass: 9:00 AM





## TE DEUM AND BENEDICTION SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31ST AT 6:00 PM

There are many traditions associated with this time of the year. One of the lesser known is the singing of the “Te Deum” a hymn of thanksgiving sung for special occasions. It is the custom to sing the “Te Deum” on New Year’s Eve to offer thanks to God for the graces given during the previous year.

The Church offers a plenary indulgence to those who participate in this devotion under the usual conditions. (Sacramental Confession, reception of Holy Communion and prayers for the intentions of the Holy Father within 8 days of the devotion.)

This year our choir will sing the “Te Deum” followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 6:00pm on New Year’s Eve.

## THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY January 7th, Solemn Mass at 12 pm, Vespers at 3:30 pm



### THE FEAST OF THE EPHIPHANY

Many would have us think the Christmas season ends December 26th. Just look at how quickly the stores remove their Christmas decorations. The church celebrates the season of Christmas from Christmas Eve to the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord in the beginning of January. In the middle of this season is the Feast of the Epiphany, the day we recall the visit of the Wise Men bearing their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

This year, we will celebrate the Epiphany on Sunday, January 7, 2024 with Solemn Vespers (Evening Prayer) at 3:30 PM. Please mark your calendars and join us!



**WEEKLY SUNDAY COLLECTION:**

In Mass: \$5,963.54

Online Giving: \$5,413.00

Total for Sunday, December 10, 2023: \$11,376.54

Collection for Sunday, December 17th not available at time of printing.

**ONLINE GIVING:**

Our church offers Online Giving as an additional option to support the parish. Online Giving is convenient, secure, flexible and simple! Visit our website: [www.stjohnbasilica.org](http://www.stjohnbasilica.org) to sign up and get started.

**FEAST OF SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST**

Please join us on Wednesday, December 27, 2023 for Mass to celebrate Our Patron Saint, Saint John the Evangelist. We will have the traditional Blessing of Wine following the Mass.



A few pictures from our St. Nick party on Decemr 3, 2023.



One In Christ – The 2023 Bishop’s Appeal  
2023 Bishop’s Appeal as of 12/07/2023

ABA Goal: \$93,500 Total Pledged:

\$71,620 (76.60%) Donors to Date: 150

The Bishop’s Appeal supports the ministries of the Catholic Church throughout Fairfield County. If you have not yet given your support, please prayerfully consider doing so. Your support is critical to the continued success of the ministries.

To make a gift, or for more information, please visit us at [2023 BishopsAppeal.org](http://2023BishopsAppeal.org), call (203) 416-1470 or scan with your phone.





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*The Mother Church of Stamford, Connecticut*

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR FALL 2023

### SEPTEMBER

**Friday, September 8th at 7:30 PM**  
Solemn High Mass for the Feast of the Birth of Mary  
(Latin Mass according to the 1962 Missal)

**Thursday, September 14th at 7:30 PM**  
Young Adult Society  
Guest Speaker: Bishop Caggiano  
(Church and Rectory)

**Monday, September 18th at 7:30 PM** **Monday, September 25th at 7:30 PM**  
Lecture Series

“Masters of the Spiritual Life: Saint Francis de Sales” “Masters of the Spiritual Life: Saint Teresa of Avila”  
(Rectory Ballroom)

**Friday, September 29th at 7:30 PM**  
An Evening of Recollection for Women  
(Church and Rectory)

### OCTOBER

**Monday, October 2nd at 7:30 PM**  
Lecture Series  
“Masters of the Spiritual Life: Saint Therese of Lisieux”  
(Rectory Ballroom)

**Tuesday, October 10th at 7:30 PM**  
Candlelight Rosary Procession in Honor of Our Lady  
for the Month of the Rosary  
(Church and Piazza)

**Monday, October 16th at 7:30 PM**  
Lecture Series  
“Masters of the Spiritual Life: Saint Francis of Assisi”  
(Rectory Ballroom)

**Tuesday, October 17th at 7:30 PM**  
Basilica Young Adult Society  
(Church and Rectory)

### NOVEMBER

**Thursday, November 2nd at 7:30 PM**  
Solemn Mass for All Souls Day

**Monday, November 13th at 7:30 PM**  
Basilica Young Adult Society  
(Church and Rectory)

**Friday, November 17th at 7:30 PM**  
An Evening of Recollection for Men  
(Church and Rectory)

**Sunday, November 26th at 3:30 PM**  
Solemn Vespers for the Feast of Christ the King

#### November 30th to December 8th

Novena in Preparation for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception  
(Weeknights at 7:30 PM on Saturday following the 4 PM and Sunday following the 5 PM)

### DECEMBER

**Sunday, December 3rd, following the 10 AM Mass**  
Saint Nicholas Celebration for Children  
with treats, crafts, and a visit from Saint Nicholas  
(Nagle Hall)

**Friday, December 8th at 7:30 PM**  
Solemn Mass with Orchestra  
in Honor of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
(Light reception to follow in the Nagle Hall)

**Saturday, December 16th at 6:30 AM**  
Candlelight Rorate Mass in Honor of Our Lady during Advent  
(Latin Mass according to the 1962 Missal)

**Monday, December 18th at 7:30 PM**  
Basilica Young Adult Society  
(Church and Rectory)

**Wednesday, December 27th at 12:10 Mass**  
Feast of Our Patron, Saint John the Evangelist  
Traditional Blessing of Wine following the 12:10 Mass

**Sunday, December 31st at 6 PM**  
Te Deum and Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament  
in Thanksgiving for the Graces granted by God for the Year 2023



**MATER SALVATORIS**

Is an Independent Catholic College Preparatory School for girls and boys under the direction of the Sisters of the Company of the Savior. We provide a faithful Catholic Education, committed to educating the whole person. Currently enrolling from PreK3 through 8th Grade for girls and from PreK3 through 6th Grade for boys. Contact Mater Salvatoris at (203) 489-0977 or at [stm.admissions@matersalvatoris.org](mailto:stm.admissions@matersalvatoris.org). Visit us at [stamford.matersalvatoris.org](http://stamford.matersalvatoris.org)



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**CONTACT:**

[admissions@cardinalkungacademy.org](mailto:admissions@cardinalkungacademy.org)



**REGINA PACIS ACADEMY**

Is an independent, Catholic classical school located in Norwalk, CT, serving students in grades K-8. We offer an academically rigorous curriculum from the classical tradition at a reasonable cost for all who desire to attend. Our families live in Stamford, Norwalk, other parts of Fairfield County and surrounding areas in Westchester, NY. Our goal is to form scholars and saints. There is still time to discover how different next school year could be for your son or daughter. To schedule a tour or to learn more, please contact Kim Quatela at [k.quatela@reginapacisacademy.org](mailto:k.quatela@reginapacisacademy.org)

**PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN:**

The Diocese requires that all volunteers in any capacity in the parish must attend a Protecting God's Children workshop. If you have not already attended one, and volunteer or anticipate volunteering in the future, please register at [virtusonline.org](http://virtusonline.org). Call the parish office at 203-324-1553 for additional information or questions.