



The Basilica of Saint John the Evangelist

The Mother Church of Stamford
279 Atlantic Street · Stamford, Connecticut 06901

August 20, 2017 Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Pastor

Rev. Msgr. Stephen M. DiGiovanni

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Andrew A. Vill

Resident Priest

Rev. Albert D. Audette, Jr.

Director of Religious Education

Rev. Andrew A. Vill
religiously@stjohnsstamford.com

Basilica Choir Master & Organist

David Indyk

Chairman, Parish Financial Council

John Regan (203) 324-1553 x 117

Lay Members of the Parish Corporation

John DeSoye
Annie Schreck

Photo by John Glover

Rectory, Parish Office and Religious Education

Tel: (203) 324-1553 x 21

Fax: (203) 359-2660

Website: www.stjohnsstamford.com

E-mail Address: stjc@optonline.net



Pastor's Corner: Let's turn our attention to the southern aisle windows [on the left side of the church as you enter the front doors], which repeat the decorative style of the windows we looked at last week on the opposite, northern aisle. These southern windows underscore the reality of Him who was born in Bethlehem—just in case you missed that detail in the windows of the northern aisle. Jesus is much more than a prophet. He is the Creator and Redeemer of all creation, who joined His Divine nature to our humanity in the womb of the Virgin. Let's take a look:

The first window on the left [southeast] as you enter the main door:

Center Panel: *The Lamb of God*: Jesus, is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, is also the Creator: all existence centers on Him;

Left: *Alpha and Omega*: Jesus tells us in the Gospels that He is the “Beginning and the End” of all things—and uses the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet as signs of that: He is creation's beginning/end.

Right: *IHS*: Re-emphasizes the reality that the Lamb of God who is the Creator of all, and who keeps everything in existence because He exists: —*IHS* are the first three Greek letters of JESus.

The second window [central]:

Center Panel: *A Red Cross with the Crown of Thorns*: God became man in the womb of the Virgin Mary in order to offer Himself on the Cross as the final bloody sacrifice for the sins of humankind;

Left: *A Monstrance*: used for adoration of His Most Precious Body and Blood: As both God and man, Jesus is worthy of worship. He is really present—Humanity, Divinity, Body and Soul, remaining with us until the end of time in the Eucharist, as He told His Apostles at the Last Supper;

Right: *A Thurible*: used at Mass to offer incense to God: Incense is a symbol of our prayers before God. Jesus, the Eternal Son who enters history by uniting Himself to our Humanity in Jesus, brings our prayers to the Father.

The third window on the left [southwest]:

Center Panel: *Star of David and Cross*: Jesus is Lord and Messiah, born of God's Chosen people, who fulfills all Old Testament prophets;

Left: *Cross, Crown & Palm Branches*, refers to the sacrifice of Christ, which wins salvation for all humanity;

Right: *Cross & Anchor, Sacred Heart & Scroll*, reading, “Faith, Hope, Charity”, Salvation comes through Christ's sacrifice, which is the basis of our Faith, our Hope in eternal life through Jesus, which we express in our daily self-sacrifice of charity.

Above these can be seen smaller “clerestory” windows of the same period, with similar geometric and floral decorative designs. They bear no symbol and have no other function than to provide colored light that changes with the seasons and times of each day. All these windows were produced by the P.F. McMahan Company, delivered and installed in time for the 1886 dedication of the church, at a total cost of \$4,460.00, the equivalent of which in today's dollars totals \$111,025.00. The restoration of these windows in 2000 cost \$1,000,000!

While standing in either of the side aisles facing the altars, look upward to the arch above each side altar. Then, move your gaze higher to the ceiling vaults above each side altar arch, and to the ceiling vaults to the left and right. They are very strangely shaped!! In fact, they are rather uneven. That is because the architect, John Ennis—a theater set designer—had never designed a Gothic arch, and his local Stamford workmen had never constructed a Gothic arch. They did the best they could in plaster and wooden lathing. While oddly shaped, they do produce a superb acoustic.

--Monsignor DiGiovanni

Please pray for the sick: John Mellace, Ann Borkowski, Timothy Lyons, Gene Gavin, Richard Ridge, Debbie Schemmel, June Roberts, Marie Cassis, Patricia Morgan, Vittorio Faugno, Robert Strada, Dionysia Oliveira, Salvatore Piria, Mary Ellen Callahan, Louise Wiles, Frank Wruk, Erin Wiggin, Isaac Lopez, Richard Ridge, Ron Frasca, Lisa Giugno, Michele Giugno, Helga Pecaric, Maria Trivino, Maria Gabriela Mossa, Diane DiNapoli, Gayle Moore, Paula Bennett, Mildred Beirne, Karen Hsu, Silvana Smith, Harriet Lockhart, Joseph Kung, Jacqueline Domingue, Eilish Collins Main, Antonietta Cerone, Sylvia Iannazzi, William Byrnes, Jonathan Victor, Sophia Petrafesa, Lyn Geikie-Rice, Ruth Coyle, Elaine Shoztic.

Please pray for those who have recently died: Msgr. Joseph Kohut, Steven Bates, Catherine Dolan, Cesidro Piselli, John & Joan Kronk, Joseph Verrilli, Peter C. Schmitt, Sr., Joseph Prendergast, Msgr. Peter Dora, Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, A.J. Barr, Joseph Esperance, Terence Leydon, Maureen Flanders, Ann Touhey.

Monthly Collection . . . The second collection today will be the monthly collection for the parish. Your generosity is appreciated.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

September 13, & October 13: 7:30 pm: Rosary in honor of Our Lady of Fatima during this centenary year of the apparitions at Fatima, Portugal.

September 21, 22, 23: Triduum of Prayer in honor of St. Padre Pio:

September 21: 7:30 pm: Triduum of Prayer & Eucharistic Benediction

September 22: 5:30 pm: Solemn Arrival of the Relics of St. Padre Pio.

7:30 pm: Triduum of Prayer, Benediction, veneration of the Relics.

September 23: 6:30 am-1:30pm; 5:00pm-10 pm: Veneration of the relics.

7:30 pm: Solemn Mass, Triduum of Prayer, procession and Veneration of relics. Reception to follow.

October 20-28: Novena in honor of St. Jude after each daily 12:10 Mass.

Religious Education: Registration is now open for the 2017-2018 Religious Education program. Forms were mailed home to families that had children enrolled in our program in 2016-2017. If you are enrolling your child in our program for the first time, please pick up a form in the back of the church or stop by the parish office.

Please return registration form and payment to the parish office no later than Monday, August 21, 2017.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES BEGIN ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH.

Weekly Sunday collection:

Sunday	August 13, 2017	\$ 12,617.01
Sunday	August 14, 2016	\$ 14,590.06

Please increase your Sunday offering by \$5.00 each weekend. "I ask you one thing: do not tire of giving to God, but do not give your leftovers."---Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta

August 27th, Sunday Readings: Is 22:19-23; Rom 11:33-36; Mt 16:13-20.

Police: As policemen and women are under attack throughout the country, we ask that you *Please* remember the members of our Stamford Police Department in your prayers. Likewise, remember in your prayers members of Stamford's EMS and Fire Department, and our military women and men who protect our nation.

Project Rachel Ministry: Offers free and confidential help to those seeking healing after abortion. Come back to God's love and mercy. Call 203-416-1619 or projectrachel@diobpt.org.

Birthright: seeks volunteers: Support women to bring their babies to term, providing pregnancy tests, connecting women with medical, financial, legal and other resources. Flexible schedules; training provided. Call 203-348-4355 or www.birthright.org.

End Legalized Abortion: Abortions take place daily at Stamford's Planned Parenthood, 35 Sixth Street. Help us stop this by joining parishioners in front of the facility on Wednesday or Friday mornings, 8am-10:30am, or even just for 30 minutes. We pray and silently bear witness to the sanctity of human life. Our presence has even helped convince expectant mothers to spare their children. To join us, or for specialized training as a Sidewalk Counselor, call Noelle at 857-345-0808.

Latin Low Mass: In the Extraordinary Form each Friday at 2pm. Everyone is welcome.

Regina Pacis Academy: Is an independent Catholic classical school in Norwalk. The new principal, Kim Quatela, was previously the Coordinator of Family Faith Formation for the Diocese of Bridgeport. Founded in 2005, the mission of Regina Pacis Academy is to provide the highest quality classical education at a reasonable cost, taught by teachers loyal to the Church and her Magisterium. The Academy's goal is to form scholars and saints. To schedule a tour and for more information contact Kim Quatela: 347-840-1553, or k.quatela.rpa@optimum.net

Employment: Good Counsel Malta House in Norwalk began helping pregnant mothers and babies in 1998. It is a transitional residence to promote the dignity of God-given life by providing a nurturing home environment, support services and independent living skills for pregnant and parenting mothers of all faiths and their children. Looking for a **House Manager**, anyone may apply for this position by forwarding a cover letter/resume to: John Hinshaw: John_Hinshaw@goodcounselhomes.org. We are located at: 5 Prowitt Street, Norwalk, CT. 06855.

Job Seekers: Led by Melanie Szlucha whose company, Red Inc., is a leader in helping find jobs. Jobseeker's Group in the Monsignor Nagle Hall the 4th Wednesday of every month from 7:30 to 9PM. Topics include Job Interviewing, Resumes, Networking and Job Search Strategies. Next meeting: This Wednesday, August 23rd. THERE IS NO CHARGE, this is free job coaching. Call Melanie Szlucha at 203-866-1606, or melanie@redinllc.com.

St. Leo 37th Annual Parish Fair: at St. Leo Parish in Stamford. Tuesday, August 29 through Friday, Sept. 1, from 6PM to 11PM and Saturday, Sept. 2, from 2PM to 11PM. Enjoy rides, games, live entertainment, international foods, bingo and our \$10 raffle with a 1st prize 2017 BMW 320i xDrive Sedan - Glacier Silver. For more information: call Denise Esposito at 203-322-1669 x227 or visit website stleostamford.org for more details.

Volunteers: *FUTURE 5* is a non-profit organization to help motivated low income high school students in Stamford to improve themselves and their future. We need volunteers to do one-on-one student work, such as college coaches, job prep coaches, and teachers. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Fanny Moran: fmoran@futurefive.org

New Covenant House of Hospitality: Saint John's parishioners staff the kitchens once each month to feed the homeless and less fortunate. For information, please call: 203-324-1553, ext 21.

St. Monica Latin Reading Group: Tuesdays at 12:45 in the Rectory. We are continuing our review of ecclesiastical Latin using *Second Latin* by Cora and Charles Scanlon and reading excerpts from *Ambrosi Epistulae Variae*. An intermediate reading ability in Latin is necessary.

Natural Family Planning & Fertility Care: Natural Family Planning / Fertility Care – Are you seeking a family planning method that is natural, effective, and morally sound? The Creighton Model System is based upon a couple's knowledge and understanding of their naturally-occurring phases of fertility and infertility. Engaged couples preparing for marriage, as well as married couples, and couples who are experiencing infertility issues, can all benefit from using this system. The teachers of the Creighton Model System are trained allied health professionals, and specifically-trained physicians have been educated to incorporate the Creighton Model System into their medical practice. For a FREE introductory session, please contact Angela Marchetti at angelamarchettifcp@gmail.com.

Homeplace Wisdom: Is a Catholic women's organization promoting friendship and vocational development with monthly speakers and gatherings, play dates, and a daily email list for sharing ideas, prayer requests, parenting or home-place questions, and reading material. To join: lisakotasek@gmail.com

Catholic Young Adults of Stamford: We are Catholic young adults in our 20s and 30s, We regularly meet for social events and community service projects. Join us for our monthly Sunday dinner following 5pm Mass. Connect with us on Facebook or Meetup, or email us at catholicyastamford@gmail.com.

St Gabriel Church: Men's Night of Reflection: Wednesday, Aug 23rd @ 7pm. Men, please join us to hear Fr. Jason Smith, LC present "Walking with the Saints in Today's World" to find inspiration and strength thru the saints so we can reflect God's will in our culture. This Men's Night is brought to you by the Knights of Columbus Fr. Miller Council #5833. Contact Bill Nagle with any questions. M: 203-570-2593, email: billnagle@hotmail.com

Sacred Heart Church: Saturday, September 16th, 6:30 pm. Krista Adams-Santilli, with Frank Mastrone and Friends in Concert, performing a mix of Broadway, Classical, Pop and Crossover music, sure to please the audience. Please tell your family and friends, and join us for an evening of wonderful music. TICKETS ON SALE NOW ! \$50.00 per person, with a reception to follow in the Church Hall, 37 Schuyler Avenue, Stamford. For Information and Ticket Sales, please call Jeff Curtis @ (203) 968-1234.

Are you interested in becoming Catholic? Join us for the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA). Classes start Monday September 18th and will meet weekly 7pm-8:30pm in the Rectory. Cost is \$25.00 for materials. Open to anyone interested in becoming a Catholic, or adult Catholics wanting to receive 1st Communion or Confirmation. To register, call the office at 203-324-1553 x21 or stop in the parish office between 9am-4:30pm Monday through Friday.

Not married in the Catholic Church? Please call Fr. Vill at (203) 324-1553 ext. 130 to make an appointment. Meet with Fr. Vill to discuss the Church's teaching on marriage and the possibility of getting married in the Church. This also applies to those who want to learn more about the process of seeking an annulment.

Mass Intentions

+ Denotes Deceased

Saturday, August 19, 2017

4:00 +Michael Windsor req. Family

Sunday, August 20, 2017

7:30 +Dorothy Wargo 31st Anniversary req. Family

10:00 +Augusta DaSilva req. Tom and Olga Kolenberg

12:00 +Ronald Salvatore req. Lilian and Alvina Ramos

5:00 +Joseph McAleer, Sr.

Monday, August 21, 2017

8:00 Souls in Purgatory

12:10 +Catherine T. Ciccomascolo req. Melissa Fahey

Tuesday, August 22, 2017

8:00 Special Intentions Pietro Bertuca req. Niece and Nephews

12:10 +Patrick Kane and Family req. Estate of Catherine Kane and Family

Wednesday, August 23, 2017

8:00 +Angelo Velez req. Anne Marie Samedi

12:10 +Maria Teresa Abrantes req. Irsa Garcia

Thursday, August 24, 2017

8:00 +Jean Herard req. Sandra Johnson

12:10 Isabelle, Michel and Isaac Baptiste req. Nadege Baptiste

Friday, August 25, 2017

8:00 Lisa Duddie req. Anne Marie Carpanzano

12:10 +Salvatore Conte req. Anthony and Carolyn Conte

Saturday, August 26, 2017

8:00 +Moises Reyes and Juana Mazariegos req. Blanca Reyes

12:10 +Al Zach req. Zach Family

Baptisms: Are celebrated every day of the week, according to the schedule of the parish priests and the families. Baptisms at St. John's are one-family only ceremonies: never groups. For more information, please call Cindy, ([203-324-1553](tel:203-324-1553), ext 21). Baptisms are offered for parishioners only. Baptisms are offered in English, French, Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese.

Weddings: Couples must contact and begin meeting with one of the parish priests for at least 6 months before a hoped for wedding date at Saint John's. Please call the parish secretary, Cindy, or one of the priests for an initial discussion. Weddings are offered for parishioners only.

Holy Name Society: For men of the parish, **meets Fridays in the Rectory, 7-7:50 a.m.** for coffee, Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction. All men are welcome. We finish in time for the 8a.m. Mass.

The Legion of Mary: **Wednesday Evenings**: 7:30 pm 'till 9:00 pm in the Msgr. Nagle Hall.

St. Monica Latin Patristic Reading Group: Tuesdays at 12:45 in the Rectory.

Coffee Hour: Starts again in September, after the 10:00a.m. Family Mass in the Msgr. Nagle Hall.

ST. JOHN'S IN THE ADVOCATE:

145 YEARS AGO, OR SO:

August 22, 1873: "The Roman Catholic church was densely filled on Monday evening, by a congregation which met to hear a lecture from Rt. Rev. Bishop McFarland, of the Diocese of Hartford. The Bishop's remarks were heard with close attention, and at the conclusion of his address, a collection was taken up in aid of the new church, resulting in the addition of a handsome sum to the building fund. Mr. C. W. Smith presided at the organ with the musical skill for which he is noted."

140 YEARS AGO, OR SO:

August 25, 1876: **Borough Government.** "A regular meeting of the Warden and Burgesses was held on Aug. 7th, 1876, R. Swartwont, Warden, presiding. All the members present except Mr. Hawley. Minutes of last meeting read and approved. Bills read and referred to finance committee: Resolution by Walton Ferguson. That the side and cross walk committee be authorized to employ Mr. A. J. Bell to construct a concrete cross walk on Atlantic street, near the Roman Catholic (St. John's) church, at a cost not exceeding \$30. Adopted."

115 YEARS AGO, OR SO:

August 26, 1910: "The altar boys of St. John's Catholic Church went to Rye Beach, yesterday, for a picnic. The boys were in charge of Rev. Antonio Rizzo and Rev. Andrew F Carrigan. They played baseball and had dinner at the beach. The boys enjoyed the outing much."

100 YEARS AGO, OR SO:

August 25, 1914: "The new system of high-pressure heating to be installed for St. John's Catholic Church will require considerable alterations. Two boilers to be placed in the church will take the place of five which formerly heated the four buildings."

85 YEARS AGO, OR SO:

August 27, 1932: **EAGLE SCOUT RANK IS CONFERRED ON TWO.** "At the September Court of Honor of the Stamford Council, Boy Scouts of America, last evening at Scout Headquarters, Robert Herrgen and Donald Reyen, Troop 22, St. John's R. C. Church, qualified for advancement to Eagle Scout rank. Scouts Robert Thayer, Troop 22, has qualified for advancement to Star Scout rank. Merit Badges were awarded Scouts as follows: Cooking: Robert Mulhare, Troop 22, Examiner S. C. Brown; Life Saving: Donald Reyen, James Strachan, and Robert Thayer, Troop 22, Examiner Roy Waters; Swimming: Joel Carrier, Robert Mulhare and Robert Thayer, Troop 22."

Daily & Weekend Mass Schedule:

Monday through Saturday: 8:00a.m. & 12:10p.m.

Saturday (Sunday Vigil): 4:00p.m. (Hymns)

Sunday: 7:30 a.m. (No Music)
10:00 a.m. Family Mass
12noon Solemn Mass (Gregorian Chant)
5:00 p.m. (No Music)

Holy Days of Obligation:

- Vigil Mass (evening before): 5:15p.m.
- Holy Day: 8:00a.m., 12:10p.m. & 5:15p.m.

Confessions: (*English, Francais, Espanol, Italiano, Portugese*).

Mon-Fri: 11:30-11:50 a.m.

Saturday: 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 7:00-7:25, 9:30-9:55, 11:30-11:55 a.m.

Anytime by appointment in the Rectory.

Baptism

Parents must be parishioners of St. John's. Please call the parish office: 324-1553, ext. 21.

First Communion and Confirmation

For information on Religious Education, please e-mail religioused@stjohnsstamford.com, attention Fr. Vill. Confirmation is a two-year program.

Sacramental Records call the parish secretary,

Mon-Fri: 9am - 4pm.in the rectory, 324-1553, ext. 21.

Marriage

Engaged couples [**bride or groom must be a St. John's parishioner and attending Sunday Mass regularly**] should contact one of the St. John's parish priests at least 6 months in advance of the wedding. Marriages are not performed on Sundays at St. John's.

Sick Calls, First Friday Communion Calls, and the Anointing of the Sick:

Our priests would be happy to bring Communion, hear Confession and administer the Sacrament of the Sick to anyone seriously ill, homebound or in the hospital. Please call the rectory: 324-1553, ext. 21.

Devotions

- Miraculous Medal Novena: Monday, following the 8:00 a.m. Mass.
- Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Friday, following the 8:00 a.m. Mass until 12:00 p.m.
- Daily Rosary following the 12:10 Mass: Mon-Sat.

The Basilica of St. John Bookstore Hours

Sunday: 10:45a.m. - 12 Noon.

Thursday: 11:30a.m. - 1:00p.m. (Closed during Mass)

Friday: 11:30a.m. - 1:00p.m. (Closed during Mass)