



The Basilica of Saint John the Evangelist

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

September 3, 2017 Twenty-Second 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

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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

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Pastor's Corner: The southern transept, to the left of the altars, is a duplicate of the northern, in design, size and decoration. The only difference is the theme of the large stained glass window that dominates this side of the church.

The large window was created and installed at the same time as that in the northern transept and choir loft: 1926. It was restored with a new window frame during the 2000 restoration of all the church's windows.

The story of the window is based on the Gospel account of Our Lord blessing children, as indicated by the Latin legend at the bottom of the window, which translates: "Let the little children come to Me" (Mt. 19:14). This is a very charming window because of the subject and because the gentle and tender manner the artists portrayed the event. Our Lord is at the center, clothed as in the window across the aisle: in bright red tunic over his white toga-like robe. His luminous halo identifies Him as the Son of God and Son of Mary, the Savior. He is seated with a small child on His lap. According to tradition, this child was Saint Ignatius of Antioch: a disciple of Saint Peter, whom Peter later named as the first bishop in Antioch, after Peter had himself established the Church in that third largest city of the Roman Empire and moved on to Rome. It was Ignatius who called the Church Jesus personally established on the Apostles the *Catholic Church*—the Universal Church—the only one found in every large city, as opposed to the numerous local Christian cults started by other people. The Catholic Church offers salvation to everyone, not just to certain groups. In the window, two of Jesus' Apostles are not happy with Jesus' decision to disregard their counsel to move on, and you can see them gathered in the shadows at the top left, chatting with one another, visibly displeased. In contrast are the children. They are all over the place, skipping, walking and crawling to Jesus, being carried by their mothers, the smiling embodiment of innocence and trust, which should be the hallmark of all Jesus' followers.

Above the main window are three angels, replicating the northern window: the lower two have censers, offering incense to Jesus who is God and Man. Between them is the image of the Pelican, which, according to legend, would pierce her breast and feed her young with her lifeblood; a perfect symbol of the sacrifice Christ made on the Cross that we might live forever by the shedding of His blood in payment for human sin. Above the high altar Crucifixion window is another pelican, brining the symbolism of loving self-sacrifice home above the altar where it is renewed every day during the Sacrifice of the Mass. Back to the transept window, way above the central scene is a larger angel bearing the logo: *Ora et Labora*: pray and work. Prayer is good, but must be accompanied by a life of action: one must show one's faith in the way one lives—preferably in virtue—as well as by performing religious actions, in order to be a true believer or disciple of Jesus. On either side of the upper angels are more Greek letters we've seen before: the *Alpha* on the left and the *Omega* on the right: Jesus is the beginning [*Alpha*, the first letter of the Greek alphabet] and the end [*Omega*, the last letter of the Greek alphabet] of all things. Nothing exists except for Jesus.

There is one mistake in the right hand angel—can you see it? The artist gave the angel on the right three hands!! Oops! No one's perfect, not even artists. If you have the opportunity, and it is a sunny day during your visit to the Basilica, just sit down and watch the changing light as the minutes tick by. Every minute is different. Then offer a prayer of thanksgiving to Our Lord, the creator of light. More next week.

—**Monsignor DiGiovanni**

Please pray for the sick: Jennifer Marciano, 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, William Byrnes, Jonathan Victor, Sophia Petrafesa, Lyn Geikie-Rice, Elaine Shoztic.

Please pray for those who have recently died: Julia Fabrizio, 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.

Banns of Marriage: *I Banns: Franco Joseph Vonella and Alesandra Rose Fedele*

Catholic University of America Collection . . . Please drop your special envelope into the **ONE** basket that will be passed at the Offertory.

HURRICANE RELIEF COLLECTION: We have the opportunity to assist the millions of Texans who are suffering devastating losses resulting from Hurricane Harvey. On the weekend of September 16-17 we will hold a second special collection to assist victims of the hurricane. All monies collected will be sent with donations from around our diocese to Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston and of the Diocese of Corpus Christi. Please be generous.

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: The deadline for Registration has now passed. If you have not registered, please contact Fr. Vill directly at 203-324-1553x130.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES BEGIN ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH.

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.

Weekly Sunday collection:

Sunday	August 27, 2017	\$ 13,635.00
Sunday	August 28, 2016	\$ <u>11,486.22</u>

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

September 10th, Sunday Readings: Ez 33:7-9; Rom 13:8-10; Mt 18:15-20.

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 located on the campus of St. Mary's in Norwalk, is looking for full-time classroom aide(s) for our Kindergarten and Grades 1/2 classrooms. Aide(s) needed Monday through Friday from 9:00am to 3:00pm (hours can be negotiated). Ideally looking for a retired educator. A love of the Catholic faith and young children is a must. To start a conversation, please contact Kim Quatela, Principal, at 347-840-1553 or e-mail at 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: Wednesday, September 27th. THERE IS NO CHARGE, this is free job coaching. Call Melanie Szlucha at 203-866-1606, or melanie@redinllc.com.

Walking with Purpose WWP reaches out to women who desire to grow in their faith using a Scripture based program that is fresh, relevant, and focused on conversion of heart more than intellectual development. We begin with the basics, knowing that we can never master the core truths; there is always greater depth to explore. We will meet Tuesday mornings in Msgr. Nagel Hall from 9:30am-11:30am beginning on September 26th. Childcare is available. **Registration is now open! Register at: tinyurl.com/WWPTBSJ2017. For more information contact Rosa Federici at: wwptbsj@gmail.com or 203-536-5480**

The Face of Prayer Pilgrimage: Join Bishop Caggiano on September 23, 2017 for a pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. for the dedication of an outdoor shrine. The shrine is dedicated to young people and continues our celebration of the 100th anniversary of Our Lady's appearance to the children of Fatima. Details about the pilgrimage can be found at www.thefaceofprayer.com or by emailing institute@diobpt.org or calling 203-416-1670.

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 catholicystamford@gmail.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.

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.

Faith on Tap is back! Young adults age 21-39 are invited to join us at Tiernan's (187 Main St., Stamford, CT) on Tuesday September 5, 2017 from 7pm-9pm. This month's topic, "Laughing at God", will be presented by Lauren Scharmer. Bring a friend!

Malta House: a Fairfield County home for homeless mothers and their children – will be hosting a concert at the Palace Theater in Stamford on September 30th featuring the Midtown Men. This sensational production reunites four stars from the Original Broadway Cast of Jersey Boys in a one-of-a-kind concert experience celebrating the music that defined the '60s. . General admission is \$30 to \$80 and VIP tickets (includes pre-concert reception) are \$150. If you are interested please purchase tickets at www.maltahouse.org or call 203-857-0088.

Mass Intentions

+ Denotes Deceased

Saturday, September 2, 2017

4:00 +Olga and Albert Annunziato req. Diane

Sunday, September 3, 2017

7:30 +Adrian Patten req. Joyce Patten and Lorraine VanLangen

10:00 +Mr. and Mrs. Auralian Andrades req. Abdul and Sarah Aslam

12:00 +Elisa and John Prizio req. Elisa Pavia

5:00 +Tony and Nel Moore

Monday, September 4, 2017

8:00 +Gene Tushaj req. Age

12:10 +Louise Wilk req. Sue Kremheller

Tuesday, September 5, 2017

8:00 Souls in Purgatory req. Maria

12:10 +John A. Coughlin Jr. req. Family

Wednesday, September 6, 2017

8:00 +Margaret Timon req. Tom Timon

12:10 +AJ Hoenig req. Family

Thursday, September 7, 2017

8:00 +Patrick Kane and Family req. Estate of Catherine Kane and Family

12:10 +John Marciano Sr. req. John and Jennifer Marciano

Friday, September 8, 2017

8:00 +Helen Carr - Birthday Remembrance req. Marie Carr

12:10 +John J. Gannon req. Sharon Gannon

Saturday, September 9, 2017

8:00 +Antoinette Brancati req. Michael Ruggiero

12:10 Angela and Alessio Giannitti 35th Anniversary

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.

ST. JOHN'S IN THE NEWS:
THE STAMFORD ADVOCATE:
140 YEARS AGO, OR SO:

Sept. 10, 1875: "We hear that Rev. Father Tierney has purchased Mr. Candee's residence on Atlantic street, just south of the new church for a parsonage."
[Editor's note: this is today's parish Rectory]

THE CONNECTICUT CATHOLIC:
130 YEARS AGO, OR SO:

Sept. 4, 1886: STAMFORD. "The mission in this parish was begun by a Solemn High Mass last Sunday by three of the Dominican fathers, Father McKenna and two other priests, and is an opportunity to be deeply appreciated by our people. There have been two Masses every morning, one at 5 and a High Mass at 8 o'clock, followed by a sermon at the early Mass."

THE STAMFORD ADVOCATE:
115 YEARS AGO, OR SO:

Sept. 5, 1901: Choristers at Pleasure Beach. "The members of the choir of St. John's R. C. Church, accompanied by Rev. Eugene Sullivan and Prof. Elmer Joyce, the church organist, went to Pleasure Beach, today, on a trolley ride. The choristers are to take part in the entertainment at the fair of St. John's R. C. Church, Noroton, tonight."

100 YEARS AGO, OR SO:

Sept. 9, 1914: Registration Over 600. "Rev. Dr. Farrell has assumed charge of St. John's Parochial School and he has perfected the organization of that institution to such a degree that the pupils are all hard at work today. Dr. Farrell said this afternoon that the registration is 630 and probably will be considerably larger before the end of the week. This is just about the same as the registration of last year. There is no overcrowding in the building. All of the rooms were cleaned and renovated during the summer and presented a fine appearance for the opening."

THE NEW YORK TIMES:

60 YEARS AGO, OR SO:

Sept. 3, 1953: Pope Elevates Hartford Diocese; 2 Named Auxiliary Bishops Here. "The elevation by Pope Pius XII of the Diocese of Hartford to an Archdiocese and designation of Bishop Henry J. O'Brien as Archbishop were announced today. The creation of the dioceses of Bridgeport and Norwich, Conn., also was announced together with the promotion of Auxiliary Bishop Lawrence J. Shehan of Baltimore to be Bishop of the new Bridgeport Diocese and the appointment of Msgr. Bernard J. Flanagan, now Chancellor of Burlington, VT., to be Bishop of the Diocese of Norwich. The Diocese of Bridgeport, which takes in Fairfield County, includes sixty-one parishes, 140 priests and more than 200,000 parishioners. The cathedral of the new diocese has been designated as St. Augustine in Bridgeport."

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)