



# The Basilica of Saint John the Evangelist

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

September 24, 2017 Twenty-Fifth 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

religioused@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***

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**Pastor's Corner**: The final window in the sanctuary on the right is that of the Resurrection of Our Lord from the dead. The Resurrection of Our Lord is God's historical triumph over sin and the power of Satan over us, which is death. As Saint Paul wrote, "If Christ is not raised from the dead, then we are the most pitiable of people, since our faith is in vain." [1 Cor. 15:17] From the beginning of creation, God promised salvation from the effects of Adam's disobedience [Gen 3:15]. That salvation came by His Eternal Son becoming a man, offering Himself on the Cross in payment for mankind's sins, and truly rising in the flesh, thereby defeating death.

The window, like the other two, is divided into three sections with a rose window above. Jesus is the central figure. In the other windows, Jesus wears traditional colors—red and white, signifying His work before the Crucifixion. To signify He is raised from the dead, He is clothed in gold. In this window, He is crowned with a gold and red halo, and clothed in rich golden robes, he steps up out of his tomb, his right foot resting on its ledge; his right hand raised in blessing, and his left hand bearing the cross with the banner of the Resurrection. Jesus' face is damaged in our window, probably decades ago by the same over-diligent janitor who damaged Saint John's face in the central window, trying to clean it with steel wool. The Resurrected Lord is surrounded by a *mandorla* an almond-shaped full-body emanation of golden light rays; you can see them above his head, and extending beyond the wooden frames on the sides of the central section of the window. Below Jesus are four guards, hastily awakened from their sleep, as the Gospels recount. Two stand on the sides; two kneel; all are thunderstruck at the unexpected appearance of this "dead" man, whose tomb they were guarding, emerging in Godlike splendor! This is not the television miniseries, "The Walking Dead", but reality: God who became man who destroyed the power of death by becoming a man, dying on the Cross, and now emerging from his grave in His human body, now revealing His glory as God. The soldiers are heavily armored and provided with swords and spears. Above the terrified guards are two serene angels: the one on the left, with a smug smile, looks down at the guards and points upward; the one on the right, very self-assured, holds back the grave stone from Our Lord's tomb as He steps out. The sky behind the scene is dark blue with a few clouds that are brightening as the sun rises on the first Easter morning. Each panel is framed by whimsical Flamboyant Gothic arches, crockets and floral garlands in the form of acanthus leaves and stylized Narcissus blossoms: in Greek mythology, Narcissus fell in love with his own reflection in pond water. So in love with himself, he drowned while trying to embrace his own reflection. Here, the flower is a symbol of God's self-less Divine Love for humanity that urged God to suffer in human flesh on the Cross, leading to God's triumph for us over death.

At the top of the window is a small six-sided rose window, matching those of the other two sanctuary windows. This is of an angel dressed in red, the color of the Passion of Our Lord, standing against a sky blue background. The angel holds a crown, a sign of Christ's triumph over death in His bodily resurrection. Again, a reference to Saint Paul [2 Tim, 4:8], that the Resurrection of our bodies will be the crown won by those who follow Christ perfectly in this life. That is why, for instance, the Blessed Mother and the Infant Jesus on the side altar of the Blessed Mother, are both crowned: Jesus is triumphant over death, and Mary, His first and closest disciple, has won that same crown of salvation, body and soul, after her perfectly virtuous life. The Assumption of Mary, celebrated on August 15th, recalls her rising, body & soul to heaven, as Her share in Christ's Resurrection and Ascension.

Since 1886, each of these windows has been teaching the Catholics of Stamford the essentials of our Catholic Faith. And each tenet of that Faith has to do with God's personal work among us through His Catholic Church. That Church includes both saints and sinners, and which encourages, leads and strengthens us through the seven sacraments, not simply to know or believe in God, but to love and imitate Him through His Son, Jesus. "Be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect" [Matt 5:48] was Jesus' instruction. The Catholic Church works at that every hour of every day in every country for the salvation of everyone.

—**Monsignor DiGiovanni**

**Please pray for the sick:** Kenyon Jimmy Valcour, Maria Izurieta, 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, 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, Antonietta Cerone, William Byrnes, Jonathan Victor, Sophia Petrafesa, Lyn Geikie-Rice, Elaine Shoztic.

**Please pray for those who have recently died:** Anne Hieronymus, 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.

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### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

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

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

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**The Upper Room:** For adults between 30 and 95 years of age resumes on **September 25th at 7:30pm** in The Upper Room at Columbus Park Trattoria on Main Street in Stamford. Our speaker: Fr. Leszek Szymazek, Pastor of Saint Paul's Church in Greenwich. His topic: The Church and Immigration. All are welcome.

**Are you or someone you know 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.

**St. John's Family Picnic on Sunday, October 1st at Cove Island Park!** Food will be served from 12pm-3pm. The event is free; burgers, hot dogs, and soft drinks will be provided, but we are looking for people to bring side salads and desserts. If you would like to help, please contact Judy Defelice at (203) 322-6765. Please note that **parking at the Cove is free, you do not need a parking permit.**

**Children's Choir:** Ages 8-18 who are interested. Please speak with our choir master, David Indyk or leave your contact information in the parish office, 203-324-1553, ext 21.

**Men's Choir:** Men who can even just hum a tune are welcome: contact David Indyk in person, or leave your contact information at the parish office, 203-324-1553, ext 21.

**DANTE'S DIVINE COMEDY:** Interested in reading Dante? We could begin during Lent with the *Inferno*, which is not a torture tour many view the work to be. Rather, it is a meditation on God's plan for human happiness by loving Him, and humankind's search for happiness that too often leads away from God to sin, which is real life folly that ends invariably to unhappiness, pain and suffering. We could begin reading the *Divine Comedy* in Lent, then continue if people would like. NO Charge: you'd simply have to purchase the books. Interested? Call Msgr. DiGiovanni, 203-324-1553, ext 11.

**Weekly Sunday collection:**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>September 17, 2017</b>	<b>\$ 12,867.20</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>September 18, 2016</b>	<b>\$ 12,500.31</b>

**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**

**October 1st, Sunday Readings:** Ez 18:25-28; Phil 2:1-11; Mt 21:28-32.

**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.

**Walking with Purpose:** 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 will meet Tuesday mornings in Msgr. Nagel Hall from 9:30am-11:30am beginning on September 26<sup>th</sup>. Childcare is available. **Registration is now open!**  
**Register at: [tinyurl.com/WWPTBSJ2017](http://tinyurl.com/WWPTBSJ2017). For more information, contact Rosa Federici at: [wwptbsj@gmail.com](mailto:wwptbsj@gmail.com) or 203-536-5480.**

**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](mailto: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](http://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.

**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, September 27th. THERE IS NO CHARGE, this is free job coaching. Call Melanie Szlucha at 203-866-1606, or [melanie@redinllc.com](mailto:melanie@redinllc.com).

**SilverSource:** Formerly Senior Services of Stamford, SilverSource is available to St. John's parishioners both as a place to volunteer or an important resource to help parishioners as we age. SilverSource is looking for volunteers to help an older adult live as independently as possible by reaching out to say "hello", reading and visiting a senior, or running to the market. St. John's parishioners who are seniors and require some help can receive financial assistance for housing stability, for eye glasses and hearing aids, or for transportation to and from doctor's appointments. If you are interested in volunteering or receiving our help please call Michael Feighan at SilverSource: 203-324-6584, or check out their website: [silversource.org](http://silversource.org).

**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](mailto: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.

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:catholicystamford@gmail.com).

**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 seeking an annulment.

**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 30<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.maltahouse.org) or call 203-857-0088.

**Employment:** Malta House in Norwalk 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](mailto:John_Hinshaw@goodcounselhomes.org). We are located at: 5 Prowitt Street, Norwalk, CT. 06855.

## Mass Intentions

+ Denotes Deceased

### Saturday, September 23, 2017

4:00 +Laura Pascale req. John Pascale

7:30 In Honor of Saint Padre Pio 49th Anniversary req. Marion Morris and Family

### Sunday, September 24, 2017

7:30 +Sister Antonia Ann Kudlick M.S.M.G. req. Barbara Bayne

10:00 +Sebastiao Seixas req. Tom and Olga Kolenberg

12:00 +Bill Morris 8th Anniversary req. Marion Morris and Family

5:00 +Tony and Nel Moore

### Monday, September 25, 2017

8:00 +Joseph and Margaret Curtis req. Mary Maloney

12:10 Barbara Schuerger req. Lilian and Alvina Ramos

### Tuesday, September 26, 2017

8:00 +Julia Wynne Breunich req. Rosemary Reid

12:10 +Louise Munro req. Walker Mannes

### Wednesday, September 27, 2017

8:00 +Al Zach req. Zach Family

12:10 Special Intentions Cindy Hulbert req. Ferry G.

### Thursday, September 28, 2017

8:00 All Souls in Purgatory req. Anne Marie Samedi

12:10 +Gail Smith req. Ward Family

### Friday, September 29, 2017

8:00 +Mary Churley req. Mary Petrizzi

12:10 +Maria Preziosi Birthday Remembrance req. Marion Morris and Family

### Saturday, September 30, 2017

8:00 +Keith O'Donnell req. Jan Pasqua

12:10 +Santa Catarina Antonello req. Eleanor Zach

**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, 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 ADVOCATE:  
115 YEARS AGO, OR SO:***

***Sept. 26, 1901: Stamford Team Leads in Contest.*** "The Stamford baseball nine enters on the last evening of St. John's R. C. Church fair with a slight lead over the Black Roads, in the contest for baseball apparatus offered as a prize to the club voted the most popular in the city. The standing at the close of last evening's session of the fair was: Stamford, 585; Black Roads, 555; Company C, 409; Westcotts, 44. The contest closes at 10 this evening. All the articles will be disposed of tonight, active canvassing having come an end last evening."

***100 YEARS AGO, OR SO:***

***Sept. 28, 1918: SANK A SUBMARINE. Gun Pointed by Stamford Boy Did the Trick. Jimmy Marron's Thrilling Experiences.*** "With a record of seven trips across the seas, all of which were filled with lively experiences, Jimmie Marron of Brown Street, is home on a ten-day furlough, having just returned from his last trip on the former German freighter Pennsylvania, now the Nansemond, which pushed its nose into an Atlantic port a few days ago, after sinking a German U-boat. The boat now plies from an Atlantic port to France carrying foodstuffs and general cargo for the army. On the return trip the American encountered two submarines and fired 36 shots at one of them. Two of these took effect. The forward gun, the one Jimmie Marron was stationed on as gun-pointer, made a direct hit, carrying the U-boat's forward gun clean off into the water, and the six men of her crew into the air. The after-gun sunk the submarine with the 34th shot. She was seen to roll over, rise into the air and sink. Jimmy was also on the torpedoed steamship Alamance, which was sunk about nine months ago, off the coast of Scotland. That was his first trip across the ocean, and the many hours he was forced to flounder in the water hardened him to experiences of which he modestly tells. He enlisted in May 1917, and was one of the most popular boys in town. He gained quite a reputation as an athlete in the Navy. He attended St. John's parochial school."

***85 YEARS AGO, OR SO:***

***Sept. 30, 1930: Interesting Meeting at Troop 22.*** "Troop 22 held its weekly meeting last Friday night at St. John's School Hall. The meeting opened at 7:15 with prayers followed by the recitation of the Scout Oath and Law and the Flag ceremonies. Scoutmaster Roy Waters instructed the boys in First Aid. He demonstrated the use of triangular and roller bandages. Following this he gave a short talk on the Shaeffer Method of Artificial Resuscitation. All members of the troop are requested to be present at the next and all succeeding meetings as Troop 22 is planning its greatest season of all."

**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](mailto: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)