



# The Basilica of Saint John the Evangelist

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

**October 15, 2017 Twenty-Eighth 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:



Some of the Church's greatest martyrs are recalled this week: On October 17th: Saint Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch in what is today Syria died a martyr in Rome in the early 2nd century; and on October 19th, the North American Martyrs, who died martyrs in what is today Canada and New York State in the mid-17th century. What could these men, living in times and places so different from one another, have in common with each other and us?

The first thing Ignatius, Isaac and his Jesuit companions shared in common was their unflinching love for and faith in Our Lord Jesus Christ, which led them to become His Catholic priests. The second was their love for His Catholic Church, the only religion personally begun by Jesus and His 12 Apostles. Saint Ignatius was ordained a bishop by Saint Peter, and appointed bishop of Antioch.

Saint Peter then went to Rome., where he headed the early Church, and died a martyr in 64 AD. By the end of the 1st century, Ignatius was over 80 years old and was arrested because of his faith during the persecution by the Roman Emperor Trajan. Ignatius was dragged across Asia Minor, chained in the belly of a boat, dragged across Italy to Rome. In 104 AD, he was thrown to the lions in the then-recently completed Coliseum, as entertainment for *the bloodthirsty Roman crowds*. *Ignatius gave Christ's Church the name Catholic, which means universal*—the Church is found everywhere in the world, not limited to one nation, race or tribe. Since he was a disciple of Saint Peter, Ignatius knew what he was talking about! As he was being dragged and beaten on his way to martyrdom, Ignatius wrote seven letters addressed to the Church in each of the cities he passed by. They are some of the oldest and most venerable gems of early Christian literature. In them, he reminded and urged Catholics to remain faithful to Christ and His Catholic Church. Ignatius wrote that the Church founded by Christ is that which exists throughout the whole world—the only Church that is *catholikos*, or universal: found in every nation. In these letter gave us an exact picture of the Church as established by the Apostles. They describe the true Faith, and the early Church's structure, as having been organized by the 12 Apostles: each local church or diocese was headed by a bishop, who had received his authority directly from one of the 12 Apostles when one of the 12 Apostles ordained a man a bishop: just as Saint Peter had ordained Saint Ignatius to be the bishop of Antioch. Those bishops handed on the same authority to the men they ordained bishops. The bishops, as direct successors of an Apostle, were assisted by priests and deacons. The heart of Ignatius' faith was Our Lord, and the mainstay of early Catholic life was the Eucharist, the true Body and Blood of Christ, along with His Revelation in Sacred Scripture, the Bible.

The Jesuit priests, Saints Isaac Jogues, John de Breubeuf, Anthony Daniel, Gabriel Lalemant,



Charles Garnier, and Noel Chabanel, and two Religious Brothers, Rene Goupil and John de Lalande preached and established the Church in what is today upstate New York and Canada. In 1642, while Saint Isaac Jogues was bringing desperately needed supplies to the Huron Indian mission from Quebec, his group was attacked by Native Americans. He and his companion Rene Goupil were savagely beaten and tortured—hair, beard, and finger nails torn off, and their forefingers bitten through. Goupil was killed, but Jogues escaped and returned to Europe. In spite of his horrific experience and torture, he insisted that his Jesuit superiors permit him to return: twice he returned to the missions to the same Native Americans who had tortured him and

killed his friend. The second time, Jogues was recaptured, tortured again and tomahawked on October 18, 1648. The others suffered the same fate between 1648 and 1649.

Saint Ignatius of Antioch and the North American Martyrs died in different times and places, each bearing witness to the same reality—Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all time and all places, who redeemed everyone and everything by His Cross. They saw the preaching of Christ's truth and the offering of His Grace in the Sacraments for the salvation of souls worth dying for. As they were tormented and dying, they prayed for their persecutors and executioners, just as Our Lord did from the Cross.

—**Monsignor DiGiovanni**

**Please pray for the sick:** Louise Wakin, Pat Farenga, 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, Mary Ellen Callahan, Louise Wiles, Frank Wruk, Isaac Lopez, 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, William Byrnes, Jonathan Victor, Lyn Geikie-Rice, Elaine Shoztic.

**Please pray for those who have recently died:** Antonietta Cerone, Mary A. Gaine, Grace Steele, Benita Rebula, Sylvia Iannazzi, Anne Hieronymus, Julia Fabrizio, Msgr. Joseph Kohut, Steven Bates, Catherine Dolan, Cesidro Piselli, John & Joan Kronk.

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

**Banns of Marriage:** *I Banns: Elvin Efrain Caban and Odalys Aquino*  
*II Banns: Justin Ross Abate and Sandra Cordoano*  
*II Banns: Kevin Michael Baker and Nancy Alison Clayton*

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**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

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

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**Pro-Life Event** . . . The Gospel of Life Society invites you and your family to participate in Stamford's Life Chain, on Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm in front of Saint John's. Last year, over 1,200 Life Chains were linked across America and Canada, including scores of St. John's parishioners. This is a non-confrontational witness for life: we simply stand along Atlantic Street in front of the church with signs encouraging greater respect for human life, and we pray. For more info, please call Frank Carpanzano: 203-975-0074.

**The Upper Room:** For adults between 30 and 95 years of age resumes on **November 8th at 7:30pm** in The Upper Room at Columbus Park Trattoria on Main Street in Stamford. Our speaker: Fr. George Rutler, Pastor of Saint Michael's Church in NYC will be our speaker. His topic: The Church as the Communion of Saints. 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 started 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.

**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:**

Sunday	October 8, 2017	\$ <u>13,180.58</u>
Sunday	October 9, 2016	\$ <u>13,141.11</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**

**October 22nd Sunday Readings:** Is 45:1, 4-6; 1 Thes 1:1-5b; Mt 22:15-21.

**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.

**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.

**Let us pray:** for the mothers and children of Good Counsel Malta House, who have been wounded from the affects of abortion or any physical, mental or sexual abuse, that they may they seek hope, forgiveness and God's Divine healing.

**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, October 25th. THERE IS NO CHARGE, this is free job coaching. Call Melanie Szlucha at 203-866-1606, or [melanie@redincllc.com](mailto:melanie@redincllc.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 older adults 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. Call Michael Feighan: 203-324-6584, or check out their website: [silver-source.org](http://silver-source.org).

**The Catholic Academy of Stamford :** will be hosting a *Pre-Kindergarten* and Kindergarten Open House on Sunday, October 22, 2017, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. It will be held at the lower school campus, 1186 Newfield Avenue, Stamford, CT. You will have an opportunity to meet the Head of School, Ms. Patricia Brady, the Principal of the lower school, Mrs. Natalia Cruz, and the Teachers and their Assistants. This is a wonderful opportunity to see for yourself the great things that are happening in this wonderful community. Please mark your calendar!

**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. We also need tutors. For more information or to volunteer and/or tutor, please contact Fanny Moran: [fmoran@futurefive.org](mailto:fmoran@futurefive.org)

**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)

**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).

**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.

**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.

**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. 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.**

**Baptism/Confirmation Sponsorship Certificate:** When asked to be a sponsor, a certificate is needed from your home parish. If the priest does not know you personally, or by sight, the only other way of knowing you as a practicing Catholic is by tracking your contributions by check or envelope.

## Mass Intentions

+ Denotes Deceased

### Saturday, October 14, 2017

4:00 +Patricia A. Johnson req. Sandra and Roy Klemm

### Sunday, October 15, 2017

7:30 Thanksgiving to God req. Ferry G.

10:00 +William Pinto 20th Anniversary req. wife and children

12:00 +Bishop Walter Curtis, the late Bishop of Bridgeport

5:00 +Robert and Karen Velline

### Monday, October 16, 2017

8:00 Souls in Purgatory

12:10 +Kola and Gjok Camaj req. Age

### Tuesday, October 17, 2017

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

12:10 +Thomas Maker req. Marion Morris and Family

### Wednesday, October 18, 2017

8:00 +Doris McMahon req. Tom Timon

12:10 +Ed Cody req. Cody Family

### Thursday, October 19, 2017

8:00 Peace, hope, and stability for those countries in political unrest

12:10 +Monsignor John V. Horgan-Kung req. Family

### Friday, October 20, 2017

8:00 Souls In Purgatory req. John and Jennifer Marciano

12:10 +Andrew Blackson req. Lula Blackson

### Saturday, October 21, 2017

8:00 +Claire Laginestra req. Lilian and Alvina Ramos

12:10 Nelson Vargas Birthday req. Vargas 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.

**ST. JOHN'S IN THE ADVOCATE:  
120 YEARS AGO, OR SO:**

Oct. 22, 1898: **FATHER FLANNERY'S PLACE.** "Bishop Tierney made a social call on Rev. Father Rogers yesterday afternoon and announced Father Flanner's successor in this parish, who is to be Rev. Eugene Sullivan of Wallingford. Father Sullivan is a young priest, and is said to be a young man of much ability. He was very popular in Wallingford. He is well acquainted with this part of the diocese, having been in Norwalk for about a year. He was born in Colchester, and studied for the ministry in Allegheny College, N.Y. His first assignment was to Lakeville, after which he was transferred to Norwalk and later to Wallingford."

**100 YEARS AGO, OR SO:**

Oct. 16, 1917: **CHURCH SOCIETIES.** "The Holy Name Society of St. John's Catholic Church received Holy Communion on Sunday, at the 7:15 Mass there. St. Ann's Ladies' Aid Society is to hold a social euchre in the near future, in the office of St. John's parochial school."

**90 YEARS AGO, OR SO:**

Oct. 20, 1927: **ST. JOHN'S REC. CLUB BASKETBALL TEAMS OPEN UP TONIGHT.** "Jack Hogan, old Seventh Company basketball wizard, will pilot the St. John's Rec. club Senior team through the coming Winter season. The team will practice tonight in the club hall at the St. John's School. Ed Conroy, Duffy, Hanrahan, Johnny Brennan, Hogan, Handel and Morin and a few others are expected to be present when Jack Hogan puts the team through its first work-out. Practice will start at 3 o'clock and the boys are requested to bring full uniforms. The junior boys' club expects to have a strong team on the floor this year also The first practice for this team will be held tonight and last year's combination which made such an excellent showing will probably be intact. Bill Troy, Mullens, McMahan, Lynch, Cappelleri, Dillen, Hart, W. Cleary, Hennessey and any other boys wishing to try out for the team will report with uniforms tonight at 5 p.m. The Catholic boys' club team and Troop 22 team will hold their practice sessions tonight at 7 p.m. The Troop 22 basketball team is a new combination to start this year and the presence of good players makes it possible to organize a good quintet."

**90 YEARS AGO, OR SO:**

Oct. 17, 1929: **INCREASED ENROLLMENT AT CAMP TOQUAM.** "The 1929 season sets another record in advancement in campcraft by the campers at Camp Toquam. Interest was keen in the contest for the Troop Trophy Plaque presented for the fourth year by Camp Committeeman Charles P. White to the troop securing the best record in attendance and achievement at Camp Toquam 1929. The winner of the trophy this year is Stamford Troop 22, connected with St. John's R. C. Church, Scoutmaster Roy Waters, Assistant David O'Keefe with 1097 points."

**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)