



# The Basilica of Saint John the Evangelist

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

November 26, 2017 The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe



**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**: Pope Pius XI began his pontificate in 1922. He faced the aftermath of the First World War, when the Church was the sole institution surviving on the European continent. Trust in big government, in the economy, in the military, in academia, in science, and in the *brotherhood* of men, all had failed, leaving Europe in ruins, and the lives of millions shattered. In his first encyclical letter (*Ubi Arcano Dei Consilio*, Dec. 23, 1922) the pope said that the sufferings of the world

"... were due to the fact that the majority of men had thrust Jesus Christ and his holy law out of their lives; that these had no place either in private affairs or in politics. That as long as individuals and states refused to submit to the rule of our Savior, there would be no really hopeful prospect of a lasting peace among nations. Men must look for the peace of Christ in the Kingdom of Christ."

He then dedicated his entire pontificate to Christ the King, and, three years later, established the Solemnity of Christ the King, which we celebrate this weekend. This was not simply a pious gesture. Pius XI was warning that unless individuals and governments of Europe changed and took Christ to heart, horrors worse than those endured during World War I would soon to overtake Europe and the world. He was correct: Fascism, Nazism, and Communism came to power, all ideologies dedicated to perfecting human society by excluding God from the public forum and from individual lives, and thus denying the human person and humanity as created in the image and likeness of God.

If people are not the image of God, they are disposable according to the whim or policies of the state, and the pope saw this happening in his own time. Only if we permit Christ, who is the King of Universe, to rule over our very lives, forming our daily relationships, and guiding our every action by the virtue of Christian obedience to God and charity to our neighbors who are the image and likeness of God, only then can the world hope for any semblance of justice or peace or prosperity. Without Christ, godless men and the totalitarian governments step in to take the place of God, and men and women became tools for the up-building of the state and of corporations. The state is not God, and we are not merely cogs in a machine. Pope Pius XI hoped that this annual celebration of Christ the King would annually remind the world of the necessity of Christ. "Christ's kingly dignity", the pope wrote, "demands that the State should take account of the commandments of God and of Christian principles, both in making laws and in administering justice, and also in providing the young a sound moral education." That way,

"... the faithful will gain much strength and courage, enabling them to form their lives after the true Christian ideal. If to Christ our Lord is given all power in heaven and on earth; if all men, purchased by his precious blood, are by a new right subjected to his dominion; if this power embraces all men, it must be clear that not one of our faculties is exempt from his empire. He must reign in our minds, which should assent with perfect submission and firm belief to revealed truths and to the doctrines of Christ. He must reign in our wills, which should obey the laws and precepts of God. He must reign in our hearts, which should spurn [merely] natural desires and love God above all things, and cleave to Him. He must reign in our bodies and in our members, which should serve as instruments for the interior sanctification of our souls . . ." (*Quas primas*, Dec. 11, 1925)

The test whether Christ reigns in our daily lives is whether we keep the Ten Commandments—all of them: "He who says he knows Christ, but does not keep His Commandments, is a liar and the truth is not in him" (*I John 2:3-5*). As we grow in grace, we move from them to exercising authentic charity: not merely obeying the laws of God because God gave them, although that is sufficient reason for doing so. But seeking to naturally follow those Commandments by a life of active charity: we obey those Commandments without thought, as second nature, by always putting the interest of God and of His image—those around us, our wife or husband, our father or mother, our friend or stranger—before our own interests. The practice of Christian Charity leads us to worship God, obey the Commandments, and reverence the Image of God in each other, since Charity permits of no injustice, subjugation, cheating or the using of another. Let Our Lord be King in our hearts and lives daily, and find true joy being and doing that which He created us to be and do: His loving brothers and sisters, bound by faith and strengthened in charity.

—**Monsignor DiGiovanni**

**Please pray for the sick:** Dorothy Keys, Joevil Basulgan Delacruz, Mary Duffy, Louise Morello, Joanne Santarsiero, Louise Wakin, Pat Farenga, Kenyon Jimmy Valcour, Maria Izurieta, Jennifer Marciano, John Mellace, Ann Borkowski, Timothy Lyons, Gene Gavin, Richard Ridge, 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.

**Please pray for those who have recently died:** Jonathan Shearman, Debbie Schemmel, Ralph Dante Puzzuoli, Sr., James Tarzia, Sr., 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.

**Are you or someone you know interested in becoming Catholic, OR, are you an adult Catholic who has not yet received First Communion, Confession, or Confirmation? 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. Reminder for participants: HW: Part I: Chapter 7– The Holy Catholic Church (pages 97-116).

**FORMED:** Donated by a parishioner, this is a revolutionary online platform, provides access to the best Catholic audio talks, movies, ebooks, and video-based studies from trusted providers like the Augustine Institute, Ignatius Press, Catholic Answers, Sophia Institute Press, and St. Paul Center– **right at your fingertips, without cost.** Learn more at [app.formed.org/](http://app.formed.org/) Access Code WWT2NF.

**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.

**Not Married in the Catholic Church? Please call the parish 203) 324-1553, and speak with either Msgr. DiGiovanni (ext. 11) or Fr. Vill at (ext. 130 to make an appointment,** 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.

**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 in this life and in the next. We could begin reading the first part of the *Divine Comedy*, *The Inferno* 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.

**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.

**Latin Mass in the Extraordinary Form:** Is offered every Friday at 2pm on the Saint Joseph Altar.

**Trinity Catholic High School** is now accepting applications for the 2018-2019 school year. They will hold an entrance exam on Saturday, December 16th, 2017, at 9am. Check out the website for details [www.trinitycatholic.org/admissions](http://www.trinitycatholic.org/admissions).

**A Christmas Carol at Trinity Catholic High School :** Join us in celebrating the holidays this year, as the Trinity Catholic High School Crusader Players present A Christmas Carol, Friday, December 8th, and Saturday, December 9th, at 7:30 pm, and Sunday, December 10th, at 2:00 pm. To order your tickets online, go to [www.trinitycatholic.org/student-life/crusader-players](http://www.trinitycatholic.org/student-life/crusader-players).

**Weekly Sunday collection:**

**Not Available because of Early Bulletin Transmission Deadlines**

**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**

**December 3rd Sunday Readings: EZ 34:11-12, 15-17; 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28; MT 25:31-46**

**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.

**Saints' Relics:** The high altar displays the parish Relics of the Saints: these will remain on the altar throughout most of November to remind us of our calling to become saints—people who love God and strive to be perfect as Our Heavenly Father is perfect by our heroic acts of daily charity and virtue. Spend a few moments in prayer before or after Mass, asking the Saints to pray for you and your family.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**

**Advent & Christmas Concert: Saturday**

**Saturday, December 2nd at 7:30pm in our Basilica.**

The seminarians of Saint Joseph Seminary in Yonkers, NY, will present a beautiful program of Advent and Christmas music. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased on line:

**www.DunwoodieMusic.org** or through the parish office: call Keri our secretary at 203-324-1553, ext 21. If you would like to take an advertisement for the program, please contact the seminary at the above website. Everyone is welcome!

**Handel's Messiah: Part I & Hallelujah Chorus**

**Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 8PM in our Basilica.**

Directed by New York's Famed Ted Sperling and the Stamford Symphony with the Master Voices in this Special Holiday Performance: **For tickets: call today 203-325-4466 or go to [www.stamfordsymphony.org](http://www.stamfordsymphony.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**

**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**

**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.

**The Christmas Giving Tree:** To benefit pregnant women and their families served by the Sisters of Life. For the next three weeks, a basket will be in the back of the church. The name of an item is written on each tag in the Christmas basket that would benefit the woman in need. Please take a tag (or tags) and purchase the item on the tag. We will collect the unwrapped gifts after each Mass on the weekend of December 10<sup>th</sup> starting with the 4PM Mass on Saturday. Call Frank Carpanzano @ 203-975-8833 ext 3004. Thank you!

**DO NOT DROP OFF THE GIFTS AT THE RECTORY OR LEAVE THEM IN CHURCH.**

**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)

**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)

**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 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.**

**SilverSource:** 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 website: [www.silversource.org](http://www.silversource.org).

**Job Seekers:** Led by Melanie Szlucha whose company, Red Inc., is a leader in helping find jobs. Jobseeker's Group will not be meeting during November and December, but please call or email Melanie Szlucha for a free 30 minute consultation. Meetings will resume in January 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, January 24th. THERE IS NO CHARGE, this is free job coaching. Call Melanie Szlucha at 203-866-1606, or [melanie@redinllc.com](mailto:melanie@redinllc.com)

**Immaculate Conception Novena:** St. Mary Church in Greenwich will celebrate a Novena in preparation for the Immaculate Conception from November 30th to December 8th. Each evening a guest homilist will offer a special reflection on the role of the Virgin Mary in our lives. This year the younger clergy will speak on the Marian devotion of some particular saint. We will close our Novena with a Solemn Mass on December 8th, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. The Choir will sing Mozart's "The Sparrow Mass" with Orchestra. A light reception will follow. Visit [stmarygreenwich.org](http://stmarygreenwich.org) for more details.

## Mass Intentions

+ Denotes Deceased

### Saturday, November 25, 2017

4:00 +Bill Cody - 7th Anniversary req. Cody Family

### Sunday, November 26, 2017

7:30 +Carmine V. Longo Sr. req. Lucille Longo and Family

10:00 +Enrico and Mary Imbrogno req. Gloria Mulieri

12:00 +Irene Scheck req. Christine Hylenski-Uzar and Family

5:00 +Ralph Branca

### Monday, November 27, 2017

8:00 +Ronald Heinze req. Hawthorn Family

12:10 +Gaetano and Maria Conte req. Anthony and Carolyn Conte

### Tuesday, November 28, 2017

8:00 +Aldo Iantorno req. Pasquale and Ida Carpanzano

12:10 Deceased members of the Churley and Kronk Families

### Wednesday, November 29, 2017

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

12:10 +Mary Churley req. Marion Morris

### Thursday, November 30, 2017

8:00 For an end to violence and terrorism and peace for their victims

12:10 +John and Elizabeth Coughlin req. Family

### Friday, December 1, 2017

8:00 Special Intentions Gail Piria req. Family

12:10 Patti Shuman req. Anne Marie Carpanzano

### Saturday, December 2, 2017

8:00 +Maria Imbrogno req. Rocco Carmele Longo

12:10+Carol Rubin req. Lindsay Kennedy

**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 Keri, (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, Keri, 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**: The St Monica Latin Reading Group meets on Tuesdays. Please call St John's Rectory, 203 324 1553, ext. 21, for more information.

*ST. JOHN'S IN THE ADVOCATE:*

***DEDICATION OF THE BASEMENT CHAPEL OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CHURCH—NOVEMBER 25, 1875.***

**DEDICATION OF THE R. C. CHAPEL:**

*The Advocate:* December 3, 1875. “A memorable event—especially to the Roman Catholic people of the town—occurred on Thanksgiving day. The congregation assembled in the vicinity of the old church edifice, and marched in procession to the new church, where an audience numbering not less than sixteen hundred persons gathered to witness the dedicatory services of the new chapel, a spacious and substantially finished apartment, in the basement of the new edifice. A number of the Catholic clergy from elsewhere in this diocese and from the Archdiocese of New York took part in the ceremonies. The priests and attendant acolytes, to the number of thirty-six, walked in procession down the aisle of the chapel, and passing out, walked around the edifice, sprinkling holy water and reciting in Latin the prayers appointed to be used on such occasions. Subsequently High Mass was celebrated, followed by a sermon from one of the visiting clergymen, in which he took occasion to congratulate the pastor and people upon the superb edifice they have raised for the worship of God. “If this be the chapel,” said he, “what must the church be when it is all completed? I have no doubt it will be one of the most beautiful in the New England states.” The chapel is supplied with a new pipe organ, which, though much inferior in size to the grand organ to be used in the church, is a fine instrument, and was played in a masterly manner. The vocal part of the music was strikingly fine, and constituted no inconsiderable part of the service.”

**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)