



The Basilica of Saint John the Evangelist

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

November 12, 2017 Thirty-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: During November, the Church universal celebrates the dedication of three of the four major basilicas in Rome: November 9th was the feast of the dedication of the Basilica of Saint John Lateran, the pope's cathedral, as the bishop of Rome; November 18th, the feast of the dedication of the Basilica of Saint Peter and the Basilica of Saint Paul, built in the 4th century over the original tombs of the two greatest Apostles.

The November 9th celebration of the Basilica of Saint John Lateran reminds us of the unity we have as members of the Church founded by Christ with the Successor of Saint Peter, Pope Francis, who is the Successor of Saint Peter as the Bishop of Rome. The original basilica was built and consecrated in 324 AD to Our Savior. By the early 10th century fires and earthquakes forced its rebuilding, and rededication to St. John the Baptist, and later rededicated also to St. John the Evangelist in the 12th century. On the façade is a Latin inscription expressing the wish of the Emperor Constantine and Pope Sylvester I that the Basilica be "The Head and Mother Church of all Churches throughout the City of Rome and the World."

The November 18th celebration reminds us of the central place of the Apostles Peter and Paul in the development of the Church, the same Church we belong to. "Oh, Happy Rome, whose stones are consecrated by the Blood of the Martyrs, Peter and Paul", is an ancient hymn recalling the ministry and martyrdom in Rome of these two Apostolic giants. St. Peter, the fisherman, was crucified in 67



AD, and buried in the cemetery at the base of the Vatican Hill. In 323 AD, the Emperor Constantine began one of the largest construction projects of the ancient world: the leveling of the Vatican Hill, moving over 1 million cubic feet of rock and dirt, to build the first Basilica above the tomb of Saint Peter. Both the ancient and present day Basilicas were dedicated on November 18th. St. Paul, the tentmaker, was martyred outside Rome's walls, and buried near the present-day Fiumicino Airport near Ostia. Constantine began a Basilica above Paul's tomb, but it was not completed until the fifth century by the Emperor Theodosius and Pope Saint Leo the Great. Archaeological explorations beneath St. Peter's in the 1940s, and beneath St. Paul's in 000, unearthed and confirmed the tombs of each Apostle beneath the basilicas' high altars.

It may be difficult for us who live in the 3rd millennium to understand the importance of the celebrations concerning church buildings of another time, so far away from Stamford. The celebrations are important because we belong to the Church they founded, share the Apostles' faith and are united with them in the sacraments. A priest named Gaius wrote in 200 AD, "If you come to Rome I will show you the tombs [*tropaia*, Greek for trophies] of the Apostles Peter in the Vatican and Paul on the via Ostiense." St. John Chrysostom, two centuries later, offered some idea of the importance of the lives and tombs of Peter and Paul: "The sepulchers of those who served Christ crucified surpass the palaces of kings, not so much in the greatness and beauty of the buildings, as in other things of more importance, such as the multitude of those who with devotion and joy visit them. For the emperor himself, clothed in purple, goes to the tombs and kisses them. . . He who wear a royal crown looks on it as a great privilege from God that a tentmaker [St. Paul] and a fisherman [St. Peter], should be his protectors and defenders. . ." [*Hom. I Cor, 20*].

These celebrations are really about the larger universal Catholic Church, whose very essence is the same today as when Christ established it on the Apostles. Here at Stamford's Basilica, we are reminded of the Apostle Peter by his bronze statue with the Keys of Heaven; and of our union with His Successor, Pope Francis, by the four bricks from the Holy Year doors of the four major basilicas of Rome, sent to the parish by Pope Saint John Paul II, and now set in the walls on either side of St. Peter's statue. Though far from the City of Rome, we are one in communion with the pope, all the saints, and all Christians who have lived, each time we gather at the altar for Mass through Christ in the Eucharist, sharing Christ's life with the Apostles and saints.

—**Monsignor DiGiovanni**

Please pray for the sick: 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, Lyn Geikie-Rice, Elaine Shoztic.

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.

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

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.

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.

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.

Weekly Sunday collection:

Sunday	November 5, 2017	\$ 14,783.00
Sunday	November 6, 2016	<u>\$ 14,048.61</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

November 19th Sunday Readings: Wis 6:12-16; 1 Thes 4:13-18; Mt 25:1-13

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.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Advent & Christmas Concert: 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 9th, 2017 at 8PM at the Basilica of St John the Evangelist, 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.**

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.

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.

Men's Night of Reflection @ 7pm, St Gabriel on Thursday, Nov 16. Men, please join us to hear Fr. John Connaughton present "Advent – Preparing for the Coming of the Lord" where Fr Connaughton will share his thoughts about the season of Advent and ways to consider this holy, yet often overlooked, time of preparation for the birth of Christ. This Men's Night is brought to you by the Knights of Columbus Fr. Miller Council #5833. Contact Bill Nagle with any questions. M: 203-570-2593, email:billnagle@hotmail.com

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

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.

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. 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. For more information, contact Rosa Federici at: wwptbsj@gmail.com or 203-536-5480.**

Lost & Found . . . Please check the Lost & Found in the Rectory for any items you may have left in the church. Feel free to call Keri at the rectory, M-F, 9AM—4:30PM, 203-324-1553 x21.

Catholic Classical School Fundraiser: You’re invited to “An Enchanted Autumn Evening,” a Fall Gala to benefit Regina Pacis Academy on Saturday, November 18, 2017 at The Water’s Edge at Giovanni’s in Darien, CT. Please join us for cocktails, dinner, dancing, entertainment, and a silent auction. For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit www.reginapacisacademy.com/fall-gala. Regina Pacis Academy is a small, private, classical Catholic school in Norwalk.

SilverSource: 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 website: silversource.org.

Mass Intentions

- Denotes Deceased

Saturday, November 11, 2017

4:00 Thomas Cycon req. Jef and Mary Spetland

Sunday, November 12, 2017

7:30 Thomas Cycon req. Andrew, Ferry, and Anne Marie

10:00 All Souls in Purgatory req. Lilian and Alvina Ramos

12:00 Deceased Members of the Morris Family req. Marion Morris and Family

5:00 +Ralph Branca

Monday, November 13, 2017

8:00 +Deceased Members of the Curioni Family req. Leon Taricani

12:10 People of the Parish

Tuesday, November 14, 2017

8:00 +Ann DiGiovanni

12:10 +Catherine Davis req. Catherine Perry

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

8:00 +Doris McMahan req. Tom Timon

12:10 +Amy Lancaster req. Sue Kremheller

Thursday, November 16, 2017

8:00 +Gaston Millien req. Anne Marie Samedi

12:10 Deceased members of the Churley and Krank Families

Friday, November 17, 2017

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

12:10 +Audrey Coppola req. Jan and Fred Pasqua

Saturday, November 18, 2017

8:00 +Hope and Joseph McAleer req. McAleer Family

12:10 +Denis Oliveira req. Lilian and Alvina Ramos

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](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, 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:

145 YEARS AGO, OR SO:

Nov. 15 1872: Local Affairs. Meeting of the Borough Board. Resolutions. "By A. W. Williams. That the Borough Agent be directed to request Rev. Mr. Fagan, Pastor of the R. C. Church, to place the walk in front of the new church on Atlantic street, in proper order. Adopted."

115 YEARS AGO, OR SO:

Nov. 13, 1902: Football Notes. "The Altar Boys of St. John's R. C. Church will open the rugby season next Wednesday with the Tarrytowns, on King's field. This game should be interesting, for the teams are evenly matched. Friday of next week they will play the Glenbrook's on King's field. The Altar Boys would like to play third King's. For games, see Laurence Kerrigan, manager. The lineup will be: W. Greeney, r.e.; A. Ward, r.t.; D. Troy, r.g.; J. Daly, c; L. Conroy, l.g.; J. Condon, l.t. and r. b.; E. Mullen, l.e.; J. Griffen, r.h. and l.t; H. Nevins, l.h. They would like to play any team under thirteen years of age."

100 YEARS AGO, OR SO:

Nov. 15, 1918: Boys and Girls Make Appeals for United War Work Fund. "The Junior Three-Minute-Speakers had the right of way in all the theatres of Stamford last night, speaking in the interests of the Victory Boys and Girls, and urging the people to help them in finding ways to earn the money they have pledged toward the United War Work Campaign. In the Alhambra theatre, a boy from Rogers School and a girl of Waterside School, were the speakers. This evening the speakers in the theatre will be furnished by the High School and St. John's parochial school."

85 YEARS AGO, OR SO:

Nov. 15, 1934: REV. CHARLES A. CORCORAN POLICE DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN. "Rev. Charles A. Corcoran of St. John's Roman Catholic Church was named chaplain of the police department last night, by the Board of Public Safety, succeeding Rev. Edward Farrell of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, who resigned, on his assignment recently to the Sacred Heart Church, Bridgeport. The remainder of the meeting was given over to routine business."

80 YEARS AGO, OR SO:

Nov. 19, 1935: Holy Name Society, St. John's, To Hold Annual Card Party. "The annual Thanksgiving card party and social sponsored by the Holy Name Society of St. John's R. C. Church will be held in the school hall, next Monday night. The affair will be limited to the men of St. John's parish. The social will be open for 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, 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)

Church Information

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Special Instructions: