



The Basilica of Saint John the Evangelist

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

March 4, 2018

The Third Sunday of Lent



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

religious@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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LENTEN NOVENA
For the Healing of Msgr. Stephen M. DiGiovanni
To be prayed every day during the season of Lent

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God,
During the Holy Season of Lent
You call us to a closer union with Yourself.
Help me to prepare to celebrate
The Paschal Mystery
With mind and heart renewed.
Give me a spirit of loving reverence
For You, our Father,
And of willing service to my neighbor.
As I recall the great events
That gave us new life in Christ,
Bring the image of Your Son
To perfection within my soul.

This great season of grace is Your gift
To Your family to renew us in spirit.
Give me strength to purify my heart,
To control my desires,
And so to serve You in freedom,
Teach me how to live
In this passing world with my heart set
On the world that will never end.

I ask for the grace
To master my sinfulness
And conquer my pride.
I want to show to those in need
Your goodness to me by being kind to all.

Through my observance of Lent,
Help me to correct my faults
And raise my mind to You,
And thus grow in holiness
That I may deserve
The reward of everlasting life.

In Your mercy grant me through the intercession of St. Stephen, St. Michael the Archangel, St. Andrew Avellino and Ignatius Cardinal Kung this special favor:

For the prompt and full recovery of Msgr. Stephen M. DiGiovanni.

The days of the life-giving Death
And glorious Resurrection of Jesus Christ,
Your Son, are approaching.
This is the hour
When He triumphed over Satan's pride,
The time when we celebrate
The great event of our Redemption.
The Suffering and Death of Your Son
Brought life to the whole world,
Moving our hearts to praise Your glory.

The power of the Cross reveals
Your judgment on this world
And the kingship of Christ crucified.
Father, through His love for us
And through His Sufferings, Death and Resurrection,
May I gain eternal life with You in heaven. Amen.

Please pray for the sick: Monsignor DiGiovanni, Rose Marie Clarke, Janet Caione, Joseph Kung, Rosemarie Drexel, Loretta Wallace, Michael Scully, Roger Borrelli, Nyal Colies, Dorothy Keyes, Joevil Basulgan Delacruz, Mary Duffy, Pat Farenga, Kenyon Jimmy Valcour, 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, Paula Bennett, Mildred Beirne.

Please pray for those who have recently died: Ann Borkowski, Art Reynolds, Lena Cocchia, Pasquale [Pat] Santagata, Elma Hefferna, Anne Mennona, Emile Maignan, Regina Derrisaint, Joanne Santarsiero, Carmen Colon Diaz, Kathryn Anne Marciano, Marilyn VanAuken, Joyce Patten, Katherine Kimberly, Mary Louise Wakin, David Kochosky, Jonathan Shearman, Debbie Schemmel, Susanne and Suzanne DePreta.

Special Energy Collection . . . The second collection today will be the Special Energy Collection to help pay the Higher Energy and Fuel Costs for the parish. Your generosity is appreciated.

Banns of Marriage: III Banns: Christopher Michael Kearney and Alexis Teresa Giaquinto

Update on Msgr. DiGiovanni: If you would like to send a card, please send it to the rectory and Fr. Vill will give it to him when he brings him daily communion. Please continue to pray the Lenten Novena for Monsignor's healing.

Police: 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 Stamford's EMS and Fire Department and our military women and men who protect our nation.

Virtual Tour of the Basilica: Click on the parish website www.stjohnsstamford.com for a virtual tour of the interior, created and donated by Jonathan Powell of Matterport. Thanks, Jonathon!

The Lenten rules of fasting and abstinence from eating meat apply on Ash Wednesday & Good Friday:

Fasting refers to the cutting back on the amount of food or soft drinks or coffee, tea, alcohol consumed on certain days, and applies to those aged 14-60 years old, unless ill or suffering from a medical condition.

Fasting means that only one full meal [on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday] is to be taken and NO snacking between meals. **Abstinence** from eating meat means that no meat be eaten on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, or on any Fridays of Lent. This is a simple way to begin doing penance for our sins. All Fridays during Lent are days of abstinence from eating meat for those 14 years and older, unless sickness or medical conditions prevent this. If one is ill, 60 years or older, or suffers from any medical condition, these rules and practices do not apply.

Stations of the Cross: Each Friday during Lent at 4:00 pm in English in the Basilica.

FORMED: Donated by a parishioner, this is a revolutionary online platform provides access to the best Catholic audio talks, movies, e-books, 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/ Access Code WWT2NF.

The Upper Room: For Catholics 39 years and older will next meet on March 15th at 7:00-9:00PM at The Upper Room in Columbus Park Trattoria for "Stump the Priest Night." Bring your questions and a friend. All are welcome.

Lenten Evening of Reflection: Sr. M. Gaudia Skass, OLM : March 12th at 7:30PM at Church of the Holy Spirit in Stamford. Sr. Gaudia Skass will give a reflection titled God's Surprising Remedy to our Sins. More information at <https://dobcalendar.bridgeportdiocese.org/event/lenten-evening-of-reflection-sr-m-gaudia-skass-olm/>

Weekly Sunday collection:

Sunday	February 25, 2018	\$ 15,877.28
Sunday	February 26, 2017	<u>\$ 14,029.02</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

March 11th Sunday Readings: EX 20:1-17; 1 COR 1:22-25; JN 2:13-25

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.

Lenten Plenary Indulgence: A plenary indulgence is the remission of punishment due for sin, which the Catholic Church has the authority to offer as part of Our Lord's concession to St. Peter in the power of the keys [Matt. 16:18] to forgive sins. On Fridays during Lent, a plenary indulgence may be obtained if, after having gone to Confession and received Holy Communion, one prays the "Prayer before the Crucifix"—copies can be found at the St. Joseph side altar—and pray one Our Father or one Hail Mary for the pope. Likewise one must be free from attachment to sin.

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. We meet Tuesday mornings in Msgr. Nagle Hall from 9:30am-11:30am. Childcare is available. **Register at: tinyurl.com/WWPTBSJ2017. For more information, contact Rosa Federici at: wwptbsj@gmail.com or 203-536-5480.**

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. They are in need of **WINTER maternity clothes** (all sizes). Call 203-348-4355 or www.birthright.org if you can help.

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 helped convince expectant mothers to spare their children. Call Noelle at 857-345-0808 for specialized training as a Sidewalk Counselor.

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. We currently have a new student who needs a tutor in Japanese. For more information or to volunteer and/or tutor, please contact Fanny Moran: fmo-ran@futurefive.org

White Mass: Mass for Healthcare Professionals and All who serve the sick celebrated on March 18th at 8:30AM by Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano at Saint Aloysius Church, New Canaan followed by Brunch at Woodway Country Club in Darien. Joseph Dutkowsky, MD KM will address "Healing Beyond Healthcare". Tickets needed for Brunch, call 203-416-1636.

Honor Roll: Congrats to the students in our parish who attend Trinity Catholic High School who have made the Honor Roll! Christina Bernard, Martina Cornacchia, Cynthia Lisecek, and Czara Mangahis.

Convivio Retreat: "Are you in High School? Do you want to discover why you were Made for More? Come join us March 2-4 for Convivio, a retreat held especially for YOUth at Sacred Heart University. For more information and to register follow this link <http://convivio-us.org/registration/>

PASTA DINNER: Trinity Catholic High School is having two Lenten Pasta Dinners on March 9 and March 23 from 5:30-7:30pm in the TCHS Cafeteria. The food is catered by Columbus Park Trattoria, so it's guaranteed to be great! Cost is \$10 per person or \$40 per family. Proceeds support our Summer Mission Trip to serve the poor in Hartford. Come on out and join us for a delicious meal for the whole family!

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

JOIN THE CONVERSATION: *The Eaglet*, the parish blog on our Basilica website, www.stjohnsstamford.com.

Not Married in the Catholic Church? Please call the parish 203) 324-1553 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.

FLU: During this seriously dangerous flu season, we will dispense with the sign of peace during all Masses.

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.

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 catholicyastamford@gmail.com

Job Seekers: Next meeting: Wednesday, May 2nd! No meetings March and April. Led by Melanie Szlucha whose company, Red Inc., is a leader in helping find jobs. Meetings are held in Monsignor Nagle Hall on the 4th Wednesday of every month from 7:30 to 9PM. Topics include Job Interviewing, Resumes, Networking and Job Search Strategies. THERE IS NO CHARGE, this is free job coaching. Call Melanie Szlucha at 203-866-1606, or melanie@redinllc.com.

Trinity Catholic School: Trinity Catholic High School is now accepting applications for the 2018-2019 school year. There will be a “Take A Look” open house on March 18th. Details at: www.trinitycatholic.org/admissions.

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.

Our Lady Star of the Sea Lenten Mission: Mother Olga of the Sacred Heart will be leading a Lenten mission at Our Lady Star of the Sea March 5th, 6th, and 7th at 7PM. See flyers in the back of Church.

Regina Caeli Academy Gala Dinner: “You’re invited to Regina Caeli Academy’s 4th Annual Gala Fundraiser on April 6th! Join us for an evening of dinner, dancing and auctions featuring the ever popular Nitro Jive Band (the swingiest little big band ever) as well as surprise performances from talented local priests! St Francis of Assisi Banquet Hall at 35 Norfield Rd in Weston from 6-11pm on April 6, 2018. Come support RCA and learn more about our growing community! We are a homeschool hybrid in the Catholic and classical traditions, providing the best of both homeschooling and traditional classroom-based education to children from Pre-K through high school.”

Mass Intentions

+ Denotes Deceased

Saturday, March 3, 2018

4:00 Susan Miller req. Jagodzinski Family

Sunday, March 4, 2018

7:30 +Dorothy Wargo Birthday Remembrance req. Family

10:00 Fr. Terrence P. Walsh req. Anne Marie Samedi

12:00 +Anna Young req. family

5:00 +Edmond Cherbonnier

Monday, March 5, 2018

8:00 +Bernadette Martelli req. Jackson Family

12:10 +Raffaella Annetta req. Pugliese Family

Tuesday, March 6, 2018

8:00 Alexandra and Gertha Laurent

12:10 Healing of Msgr. DiGiovanni req. Legion of Mary

Wednesday, March 7, 2018

8:00 +Margaret Timon req. Tom Timon

12:10 +Ann Cody 2nd Anniversary req. Cody Family

Thursday, March 8, 2018

8:00 +Maryvonne Dezouches req. Janine O'Connor

12:10 +Raymond Gallagher req. Bill Christiaanse

Friday, March 9, 2018

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

12:10 +Cornelia Szechenyi Szele and Family

Saturday, March 10, 2018

8:00 Etzner Bocicault

12:10 +Madeline Preziosi 3rd Anniversary req. Jimmy and Michelle Sagdati

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:
130 YEARS AGO, OR SO:***

March 9, 1888: "St. John's Cornet Band will accompany the A.O.H., on their trip to Bridgeport on the 17th inst. St. Patrick's day will be celebrated in Stamford by an Irish drama, presented by local talent, under the auspices of St. John's R.C. church. A boiler inspector was in town Saturday inspecting the boilers in the R. C. and Presbyterian churches. On the 17th of April, a large number of delegates from the Connecticut Total Abstinence Union will meet in convention at the rooms of St. Joseph's T.A.B. society, and it is probably that a parade will take place at that time. Previous to the presentation of the drama "Robert Emmet" in the Town Hall, on the evening of March 17th, there will be a short parade of several of the societies whose members are connected with St. John's R. C. church."

100 YEARS AGO, OR SO:

March 7, 1918: **IN PEACE AS WELL AS WAR.** "In the course of a Lenten sermon in St. John's Catholic Church, last night, Rev. John Corbett, S.J., told the congregation that the patriotism which causes men to give up their lives for their country and to make endless sacrifices in war-time ought not to exist in war-times alone. There is just as much necessity to be patriotic in time of peace, he said, and an outward expression of such patriotism may be made in the careful use of the ballot-by voting only for men fit to hold public office: men who put public service above the accumulation of wealth. Father Corbett incidentally reminded the congregation that the provision for chaplains in the army and navy of the United States is far from adequate. There is a bill now pending in Congress which will increase the number of chaplains. He urged the people to interest their Congressman in this bill, a measure supported by the clergy of all sects."

85 YEARS AGO, OR SO:

***March 10, 1931:* MARCH COURT OF HONOR
LARGEST IN HISTORY OF COUNCIL.**

"The March session of the Court of Honor of the Stamford Council Boy Scouts, which was well attended, was held last Tuesday evening, at Scout Headquarters. Scouts qualifying for First Class rank include Jon Schremp and John Comerford, Troop 22. Scouts qualifying for Second Class include Robert Mulhare, Robert Ryan, and Walter Scollard. Troop 22 scouts awarded merit badges are: Donald Reyden, Joseph Reyden, and Francis Sullivan, Bookbinding; Robert Herrgen, Chemistry; Everett Mastrich and Robert Graham, Civics; Joseph Bohannon and John Ennis, Electricity; James O'Brien, Joseph Cummings, James Carey and Patsy Sabatini, Firemanship; Henry Moransky and Joseph O'Donnell, First Aid; Warren Simonsky, Leathercraft; James Strachan and Warren Simonsky, Pathfinding; Wm. Barney, Pioneering; Anthony Tella and Clifford Wilkshire, Swimming."

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Father Andy or your editor would be interested in speaking with any present family members of the scouts listed above.)

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, Portuguese, Deutsch).

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 religious@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)