



The Basilica of Saint John the Evangelist

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

May 13, 2018

The Seventh Sunday of Easter



Pastor

Rev. Msgr. Stephen M. DiGiovanni

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Andrew A. Vill

Resident Priest

Rev. Albert D. Audette, Jr.

Director of Religious Education

Anne Marie Carpanzano
religiously@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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Parochial Vicar's Column:

Fr. Al is a THIEF!

For those of you who have never read my articles, but were intrigued by this week's title; welcome to the parochial vicar's (mostly) weekly column!

Many people wonder how our Mass schedule is determined at the Basilica and as funny as it sounds, it takes place kind of like an auction house sale! The three priests will grab our paper calendars (yes, we are very retro) and sit down to schedule the next three months of weekend Masses and confession slots. Since I arrived at St. John's almost three years ago, we have had the same daily Mass schedule. As Monsignor recovers from his stroke, Fr. Al and I have kept our respective Masses and simply have taken on Monsignor's Masses as well. For weekend Masses some things are standard which makes it easy to plan our schedules. The priest who celebrates the 4pm vigil Mass on Saturday always has the 3pm-3:30pm confession slot. The priest who has the 8am Saturday Mass or the 7am-7:30am confession slot on Sunday has to open the church at 6am that day. Keeping in mind all of these "givens" the scheduling "auction" begins!

Monsignor DiGiovanni acts as the auctioneer and begins to call out Mass times. "Saturday 8am?" "I'll take it!" Fr. Al says. "I'll do the 4pm!" I interject. "Okay, I have the 12:10pm," Monsignor, "Who wants the 3:30pm-4pm confessions?" Mine!" Fr. Al will exclaim. Three months of weekend Masses and confessions are scheduled this way at a time. In general we try to work it out so that no one priest is saying the same Mass (for example the 4pm Mass) three weeks in a row. Sometimes, because of other commitments, this cannot be avoided and needs to happen. For example this weekend, as the Diocesan Scout Chaplain, I am celebrating the Vigil Mass at the ConnJam Scout Jamboree in Orange, CT making this the third weekend in a row where Fr. Al is celebrating the Vigil Mass here at the Basilica.

Any given weekend, each priest will either celebrate the Saturday Vigil Mass and one on Sunday, two Masses on Sunday, or just one Mass on Sunday. Each of us will take one of the three morning confession times before a Mass which another priest is celebrating. Every once in a while, after calling out which Masses we would like to celebrate, Monsignor would look over the list again and exclaim, "Wait, I don't have any Masses to celebrate on my schedule!" Looking at my calendar I would see that I have the 4pm Vigil and one of the Sunday Masses. We both would look to Fr. Al, who had claimed three of the Sunday Masses! "I love to celebrate Mass!" He insisted earnestly. During the week, when I have so much as sniffle, Fr. Al will suggest that I take a break and he will celebrate the Mass for me. He loves "stealing" Masses! With any "job" there are things that we "have to do" and technically, as a priest, we are "obliged" to offer the Sacrifice of the Mass for the glory of God and the sanctification of the people. However, to speak of the "obligation" to celebrate Mass is like speaking of the "obligation" that a husband has to love his wife. It is said that if you find a job you love, you will never have to work another day in your life. For any of us, the celebration of Mass is not work. In our vocation as priests, God has blessed us with a life that is more than just a career. He has invited us into His life, His ministry, and the sacrificial act of love on the Cross.

This week I will celebrate my fourth anniversary of priesthood and I can say that I always enjoy celebrating Mass. I have never offered a Mass that I have not been happy to celebrate. Fr. Al has been a priest for twenty-five years and he still has a deep love for celebrating the Eucharist! For Monsignor during his recovery, you can imagine the suffering he must endure not being able to celebrate Mass as he had done so faithfully over the last forty-one years as a priest. When we celebrate Mass, Christ is acting in us and through us by means of His Holy Spirit to invite His Bride the Church into His life and love. He makes us a new creation every time we celebrate and receive Him in the Eucharist. A few weeks ago, while I was celebrating a daily Mass, I contemplated the love that I have for the Lord and how he has continued to bless me with the joy I experience every time I celebrate the Eucharist.

As Catholics we believe that with the Paschal Mystery, the Passion, death and resurrection of Jesus, that we finally have a worthy sacrifice in Jesus Christ to offer up to the Father. All of us, whether ordained or not, participate in the priesthood of the baptized. The role of a priest is to offer sacrifice. When the ordained priest offers up the bread and wine at Mass, we ought to unite all of who we are up with him to the Father. As Christ became one of us to share in our humanity, we can unite ourselves to Him at Mass so as to share in His joy! The joy that I experience celebrating Mass after four years of ordination, the joy that Fr. Al has after twenty-five, and the joy that Monsignor has after forty-one years ordained is only a taste of the joy that the Lord has in store for us when we are able to participate in the Supper of the Lamb in heaven!

-Fr. Andy Vill

Please pray for the sick: Monsignor DiGiovanni, Agnes Ostrowski, Marva Mitchell, Michael Cole, Wyanna Burke, Rose Marie Clarke, Janet Caione, Joseph Kung, Loretta Wallace, Michael Scully, Roger Borrelli, Nyal Colies, Dorothy Keyes, Joevil Basulgan DelaCruz, Mary Duffy, Pat Farenga, Kenyon Jimmy Valcour, Jennifer Marciano, 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: John Mellace, Lucy Hawthorn, 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

**Banns of Marriage: I Banns: David Jarrett Kennedy and Elizabeth Carolyn Jane Skidd
III Banns: Ryan John Durkin Jr. and Trisha Cristine Ulloa**

One Collection. . . There will only be one collection today. Thank you for your generosity.

Our Lady's Altar Votive Light: +Ed and Ann Cody, Bill and Felicitas Cody, members of the Burns and Cody families req. Erin Cody

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.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Wednesday, May 16 at 7pm - 9pm : Save the date! Wednesday, May 16 at 7pm - 9pm Talk & Book Signing by Jennifer Fulwiler in our parish hall. Bring your book "One Beautiful Dream" or buy your book at the talk. For tickets, <https://onebeautifuldream.ticketleap.com>. Questions, contact Lisa Kotasek at lisakotasek@gmail.com.

Thursday, May 17 at 7:30pm– The Upper Room: For adults between 30 and 95 years of age resumes on May 17th at 7:30PM in The Upper Room at Columbus Park Trattoria on Main Street in Stamford. Our speaker: Fr. Dennis O'Brien His topic: Mary our Role Model. All are welcome.

Friday, May 18 at 7pm– Annual World Day of Prayers for China: A Solemn Latin High Mass will be celebrated by Rev. Cyprian P. La Pastina for the Annual World Day of Prayers for China.

May 13, June 13, July 13, August 13, September 13, & October 13: 7:00pm: Rosary in honor of Our Lady of Fatima.

Sunday, June 3rd, Corpus Christi: Following the 12 noon Mass, A Procession of the Most Blessed Sacrament through the streets of Stamford and a cookout to follow. [Weather permitting-if raining, the procession will be inside the Basilica and no cookout]. Everyone is welcome.

Saturday, June 23 : The Basilica of St. John's is hosting an all day conference in honor of the 50th anniversary of **Humanae vitae** on June 23rd. Speakers include Mary Eberstadt, Mary FioRito, and George Weigel and a panel of medical experts. The 4PM Vigil Mass will be offered by Bishop Caggiano. Register at <http://stjohnsstamford.com/making-room-for-gods->

Weekly Sunday collection:

Sunday	May 6, 2018	\$ 15,166.08
Sunday	May 7, 2017	<u>\$ 14,467.99</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

May 20th Sunday Readings: ACTS 2:1-11; 1 COR 12:3B-7, 12-13 ; JN 20:19-23

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.

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.

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- Are you or someone you know hurting from a past abortion experience? There is help and hope. Project Rachel is offering an Entering Canaan Day of Prayer and Healing on Saturday, July 14, 2018 for women who are suffering from a past abortion. Please contact 203-895-3554 or projectrachel@diobpt.org for more information and confidential registration.

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: fmoran@futurefive.org.

Faith on Tap: Young adults age 21-39 are invited to join us **Tuesday, May 15th 7:00-9:00PM** at Murphy's Townhouse Cafe , 97 Franklin St. “Stump the Priests”, with your questions on the Catholic Faith & Church. Bring a friend or two!

First Friday Adoration- Join St. Catherine of Sienna in Riverside for First Friday Holy Hour after the 5:15 mass. Holy Hour and Benediction will take place every first Friday of the month. All are welcome!

EWTN Radio is coming to our diocese! Visit www.veritascatholic.com to learn more and to support this apostolate dedicated to bringing faithful, entertaining Catholic programming to our community.

Upcoming Ordination Dates: Peter Adamski will be ordained into the Transitional Diaconate on Saturday, May 19, 2018 at 11AM at the Cathedral of St. Augustine, 399 Washington Ave. , Bridgeport.

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.

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.

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

Catholic Adventures: Join Catholic young adults in their 20s and 30s for adventurous activities throughout the year. Connect with us on Facebook (Catholic Adventures) or email us at CatholicAdventuresStamford@gamil.com for more information.

Job Seekers: Next meeting: Wednesday, May 23rd. 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.

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.

P2P On Wheels – Person-to-Person recently launched a Mobile Food Pantry that is serving Stamford’s food insecure where they live and we need volunteers to help with registration and client shopping on the truck and sorting food donations in the warehouse. Shifts are 2 hours. If you are interested in signing up for a regular shift please visit <http://p2phelps.org/p2p-on-wheels/> to find the job that’s right for you and sign up with Rick Nixon. Thank you!

Car Wash and Exotic Car Showcase at GCS on Saturday May 19th from 9:30-12:00 (rain date May 20th 12:30-3:00) at Greenwich Catholic School, 471 North Street in Greenwich.

The Eighth Grade class will be hosting a Carwash and Exotic Car showcase to raise funds for the graduation retreat. Come get your car washed, feast your eyes on some dream-worthy cars and even have your picture taken in a Ferrari !

Mass Intentions

+ Denotes Deceased

Saturday, May 12, 2018

4:00 + Sylvia Iannazzi req. Fran and Tom Diffley

Sunday, May 13, 2018

7:30 +George Nadin req. Glenn and Lynda Nadin

10:00 +Francimene Morisseau req. Mary Dumas

12:00 +Noemi Isidro req. daughters

5:00 +Adelaide White

Monday, May 14, 2018

8:00 + Sr. Marie Buckley, CND req. Carpanzano Family

12:10 +Anne Conte req. Tabone Family

Tuesday, May 15, 2018

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

12:10 +Giuseppe and Maria Megale req. Pugliese Family

Wednesday, May 16, 2018

8:00 +Carmen Colon req. Marion Morris and Family

12:10 +Antonio Pugliese req. Pugliese Family

Thursday, May 17, 2018

8:00 +Joyce Patten req. Angela and Maria Palermo

12:10 Deceased members of the Churley and Kronk Families

Friday, May 18, 2018

8:00 Healing of Msgr. DiGiovanni

12:10 +Efstratios Athanasoulis req. Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Ingram

Saturday, May 19, 2018

8:00 +Delfina de Leon req. Blanca Reyes

12:10 +Joseph Pucci req. Marie Pinto

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:

155 YEARS AGO, OR SO:

May 20, 1864: **CATHOLIC SCHOOL.** “We paid a visit to this school, which is connected with St. John’s Roman Catholic Church, a day or two since, and were greatly pleased with the neatness and good order that prevailed. The school house is commodious and well ventilated—two requisites for the promotion of health and comfort. In the primary department are about 100 children, from 4 to 6 years of age, and in the higher classes are 175 scholars, all bright, healthy looking children. The school is under charge of Mr. Patrick O’Reilly.”

125 YEARS AGO, OR SO:

May 16, 1890: **Ancient Order of Hibernians.** “Fathers Keena and Carroll, of St. John’s R. C. Church, went to Hartford in the early part of the week to attend the national convention of the Ancient Order of Hibernians. A large delegation of the order went also from Stamford, and St. John’s Band escorted them. The proceedings occupied Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.”

105 YEARS AGO, OR SO:

May 18, 1914: **At Their First Communion.** “One hundred and thirty girls and 120 boys received their first communion in St. John’s Catholic Church, yesterday, at 7:30 a.m. The girls were dressed in white and they wore white veils. Each of the boys had a white carnation in his button-hole, and a band of white silk ribbon around his coat sleeve. Rev. Father Sullivan celebrated the Mass, and the sermon was appropriate to the occasion.”

90 YEARS AGO, OR SO:

May 14, 1927: **CONFIRMATION.** “In the presence of a congregation that filled St. John’s Catholic Church at 10, Sunday morning, the Right Rev. Maurice F. McAuliffe, D. D. Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese, Hartford, administered the sacrament of Confirmation to the largest class of adults and children that has been presented for the reception of that sacrament. The class numbered 135 consisting of 69 males and 69 females. Bishop McAuliffe was assisted by the Rev. D. L. Gleason, D. D. of St. Mary’s Church, Stamford and the Rev. John F. Moore of New Canaan. Bishop McAuliffe very appropriately addressed the children and gave some wholesome advice to their parents present. He then administered the total abstinence pledge to the class which had been confirmed.”

60 YEARS AGO, OR SO:

May 18, 1956: **Sodality To Take Part In Church Ceremony.** “The Children of Mary Sodality of St. John’s Catholic Church will participate in the ceremony of the crowning of the statues of the Blessed Mother in the church on Sunday. Ann Lucas, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Lucas of 16 Remington Street, Sodality president, will place the crowns. Sister Mary Cosmas is the group’s director.”

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, 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)