



The Basilica of Saint John the Evangelist

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

June 10, 2018 Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Pastor

Rev. Msgr. Stephen M. DiGiovanni

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Andrew A. Vill
frVill@diobpt.org

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

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:

In a State of Grace

The first time I went to Mass at a parish in Italy I was taken aback by what I perceived to be irreverent behavior when it came time to receive Holy Communion. As soon as the priest recited the Communion antiphon and picked up the ciborium filled with consecrated hosts there was what seemed like a mad rush to the front of the church as people assembled to receive our Lord. I would say as they “lined up” for the Eucharist, but the concept of forming a line in Italy, as I would soon come to find out, is simply not a part of their culture. People came to the priest from all directions and the scene at this Mass characterized the chaos of the Italian people that I would come to appreciate during my five years there. Where were the ushers who dismissed the rows pew by pew whom I had grown accustomed to in American parishes? Some people would wait until just before the priest was about to return to the sanctuary before they left their pew and sprinted with reverent haste to receive the Eucharist.

When I returned to the United States for one of my summer assignments, I saw the familiar faces of the name badge wearing ushers. These men and women assisted the faithful in finding a seat before Mass began and then served as what looked like body guards when it was time for Communion, slowly walking backwards to let the rows of parishioners out from their pews to receive the Eucharist. The biggest difference I noticed at these American Masses from the Italian ones was that there wasn't a single person who did not go up to receive. How could they have done otherwise? It would have been embarrassing for someone to be singled out as the only one who was not getting out of the pew to line up. Was every single person in the church in a state of grace that morning? In Italy I couldn't tell who had gone up or not since people had chosen on their own when to get out of their pews and head to the front. And that was exactly the point. It is none of my business who goes up for Communion; and it's none of your business either! With this realization the Italian chaos made sense to me.

In order to present ourselves for Communion we need to be in what is called a “state of grace”. The Code of Canon Law insists that those who are “conscious of grave sin are not to... receive the body of the Lord” (CIC 916). This insistence of the Church comes from the admonition of St. Paul in his first letter to the Corinthians: *Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a man examine himself, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment upon himself (1 Corinthians 11:27-29)*. The Code of Canon Law also prescribes a one hour fast before receiving Communion from food and drink except water and medicine (cfr. CIC 919). Therefore, if we have unconfessed mortal sins or we have not kept the fast, we should not present ourselves for Communion during Mass. Not receiving Communion does not mean that we haven't made our Sunday obligation. We are obliged to *attend Mass every Sunday* not to receive the Eucharist every Sunday.

Obviously, at the Basilica we do not have ushers who dismiss pews one at a time, but many of us have been to parishes where they do. Sometimes even at St. John's we can feel pressured to receive Communion when we really ought not to, or at least not yet. We can feel embarrassed as to what our spouses or children might think if they see us remaining in the pew during Communion. What to me seemed like chaos in those Italian parishes was actually a blessing to people who wouldn't be going up for Communion. I didn't know who went up for Communion and who did not. Again, that was the point. I encourage everyone to refrain from ever receiving the Eucharist unworthily. It is also important that we not judge those who don't come up for Communion. Besides sin, there are other legitimate reasons people might not receive the Eucharist including those with the unfortunate allergy to the gluten contained in the host, or our friends and family who attend Mass with us who are not yet Catholic. Once more, it's none of our business!

Pope Francis beautifully wrote in his Encyclical Letter *Evangelii gaudium* that, “the Eucharist, although it is the fullness of sacramental life, is not a prize for the perfect but a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak” (EG 47). When we are weakened through venial sins, the Eucharist is a powerful aid to us. When we have committed mortal sins however, we cannot benefit from the Eucharist because of the obstacle now present in our own hearts. Saint Thomas Aquinas wrote about this quite clearly: “Now whoever is conscious of mortal sin, has within him an obstacle to receiving the effect of this sacrament; since he is not a proper recipient of this sacrament, both because he is not alive spiritually, and so he ought not to eat the spiritual nourishment, since nourishment is confined to the living; and because he cannot be united with Christ, which is the effect of this sacrament, as long as he retains an attachment towards mortal sin” (STA, *Summa Theologica*, III, q. 79, a. 4).

Reading this should not lead anyone into despair for God is good! Knowing our inclination to sin (*concupiscence*) the Lord left us a remedy for the spiritually dead: Confession! Jesus desires that we reconcile ourselves to Him and His Church and He allows us to do so as often as we need to! This weekend then, let us make sure that we are prepared to receive Jesus in the Eucharist worthily by making a good confession so as to walk with God in a state of grace!

-Fr. Andy Vill

Please pray for the sick: Monsignor DiGiovanni, Yolanda Bove, 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: III Banns: Mark Richard Kremheller and Kimberly Brooke Czarnecki

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

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

Due to the *Humanae vitae* conference on June 23rd, there will be NO 12:10 mass.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

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

Tuesday, June 19: Faith on Tap will be held Tuesday, June 19th from 7:00-9:00PM at Murphy's Townhouse Café. Come hear Fr. Vill discuss the topic of "*Humanae vitae*: When you're looking for more than 'Netflix and Chill'".

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 Hallan FioRito, and George Weigel and a panel of medical experts. The 4PM Vigil Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Caggiano. Register at <http://stjohnsstamford.com/making-room-for-gods-love-humanae-vitae-at-50>

Attention 8-12 graders! Saturday, August 11th: Fan the Fire: Fr. Vill will be leading a group of teenagers from the Basilica Parish to Fan the Fire Youth Rally at St. Rose of Lima in Newtown, CT on Saturday August 11th. This is an all day event. The cost is \$45, please register at <https://www.formationreimagined.org/fan-the-fire/>. Be sure to select "The Basilica of Saint John the Evangelist" as your parish when registering. Please see the flyers in the basilica for more details.

Weekly Sunday collection:

Sunday	June 3, 2018	\$ 16,465.06
Sunday	June 4, 2017	<u>\$ 13,540.87</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

June 17th Sunday Readings: EZ 17:22-24, 2 COR 5:6-10, MK 4:26-34

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 confirming your mass attendance by your use of weekly envelopes.

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 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.

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.

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.

Redemptoris Mater Diocesan Missionary Seminary Open House— Come and meet the seminarians on Saturday, **June 30, 2018** and Sunday, **July 1, 2018** from 10:00AM– 6:00PM at 21 Schuyler Avenue, Stamford, CT 06902. Enjoy a moment of communion with songs and food! Tours through the seminary will begin every 20 Minutes and all are invited to enjoy a delicious barbecue afterwards! Please call to reserve your spot at 203-588-1785 or seminary@rmbridgeport.org.

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.

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.

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

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

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, June 27th** 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.

Regina Caeli Academy 2018/2019- Come join our exciting mission to form the next generation of Catholics! Regina Caeli Academy (www.rcahybrid.com) is a classical, hybrid education in the Catholic tradition. Pre K3- 12th grade students attend Socratic and hands-on classes taught by trained tutors two days a week and are home schooled the remaining days with lesson plans already outlined for in-home education. Location: 254 Danbury Road, Wilton, CT. For more information, a tour of our facility on July 12 (by appointment only), or information about a fall tour, please contact our admissions representative, Mrs. Katrina Hartsock at khartsock.aus@rcahybrid.org or (470)239-0259.

Catholic School Teaching Positions Available- Regina Pacis Academy, an independent K-8 Catholic classical school in Norwalk, Connecticut, is seeking qualified full-time and part-time teachers for the upcoming 2018/2019 school year! Regina Pacis is one of a growing number of Catholic classical schools in the country, that stands on the two pillars of a classical curriculum taught in an authentically Catholic educational setting. Our teachers and staff are all practicing Catholics, faithful to the Church’s teachings, who are committed to pursuing our goal of academic excellence for all our students in an unabashedly Catholic environment. Current part and full time vacancies available. If you are interested, please contact Kim Quatela, Principal, at k.quatela.rpa@optimum.net or 347-840-1553. For more information about our school, please visit www.reginapacisacademy.org

Mass Intentions

+ Denotes Deceased

Saturday, June 9, 2018

4:00 +Corinne and Ralph Boccuzzi req. Leon Taricani

Sunday, June 10, 2018

7:30 +Jack VanLangen req. Joyce Patten and Lorraine VanLangen

10:00 +Michael Ambrose req. Tom and Olga Kolenberg

12:00 +Mary Louise Deluca req. Francis Deluca

5:00 Needs of Parishioners, especially the sick

Monday, June 11, 2018

8:00 +Huong Diep Do req. Thang Nguyen

12:10 +Peter C. Schmitt Sr. req. Rich and Mary Amatulli

Tuesday, June 12, 2018

8:00 Special Intentions Rev. Albert D. Audette, Jr. req. Ferry G.

12:10 Father Albert D. Audette, Jr. req. Millie

Wednesday, June 13, 2018

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

12:10 Salvatore Piria req. Domenico Piria

Thursday, June 14, 2018

8:00 +Benita "Rosina" Rebula req. Rosemary Rebula

12:10 Priests of the Parish req. Josephine Languedoc

Friday, June 15, 2018

8:00 Healing for Msgr. DiGiovanni

12:10 +Frantz Neptune req. Ginette

Saturday, June 16, 2018

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

12:10 In Honor of St. John Regis req. Josephine Languedoc

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:***

June 14, 1889: "The annual census of St. John's R.C. parish is now being taken by Fathers Rogers, Keena and Carrol. There are evidently some wealthy people in this parish, for last Sunday they contributed about \$200 in aid of the Johnstown sufferers (approximately \$5,300 in today's dollars)."

115 YEARS AGO, OR SO:

June 12, 1905: **Received First Communion.** "About 100 children received first communion in St. John's R. C. Church, yesterday morning, at the 8 o'clock Mass. Rev. Father O'Brien, pastor, celebrated the Mass and addressed the children briefly."

100 YEARS AGO, OR SO:

June 12, 1918: **Family Troubles Tonight.** "Those who are always seeking to pry into the secret of parties having domestic squabbles will have a treat tonight, on the lawn of St. John's Parochial School. Family troubles will be given an airing by young lady parishioners, as they will present a one act playlet, "Family Troubles." A unique feature of this entertainment is that no men will take part, all the amateur actors being on duty for Uncle Sam. The object of the entertainment is to help these young men win the war, as the proceeds from the entertainment will go toward paying for the several hundreds of dollars worth of Liberty bonds recently purchased by the parish. A full-dress rehearsal was held last night, in charge of Harry Smith, who is directing the play. The young ladies who will take part are Miss Elizabeth O'Brien, Miss Alice Martin, and Miss Stella Comsky. Following the presentation of the playlet, euchre will be played, and several prizes, now on exhibition in an Atlantic Street store, will be given the winners."

June 17, 1921: **ITALIANS OBSERVE FEAST OF ST. VITO.** "The second celebration in Stamford of the feast day of St. Vito, martyr, patron saint of the district of Avigliano, Italy, will take place tomorrow and Sunday. There are several hundred Italian residents of Stamford from this district, and they will all unite in the celebration of the saint's day, as was their custom in the old country. The fiesta, which has the sanction and support of the clergy of St. John's Catholic Church, will include a Solemn High Mass, a religious procession, band concerts, a parade, games and fireworks. Rev. John J. Kelley will supervise the religious part of the celebration. The activities, with the exception of the Solemn High Mass to be celebrated Sunday, at 8 A.M., in St. John's Catholic Church, will be centered about the section of Stillwater Avenue near Finney Lane. The start will be made tomorrow, at 2 P.M. with the firing of a cannon. At 2:15, the Sons of Italy Band, led by Maestro Tomoli, will parade through the principal streets of West Stamford. An elaborate display of fireworks will be given at 10:30 P.M."

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 Ms. Anne Marie Carpanzano. 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)