



The Basilica of Saint John the Evangelist

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

July 15, 2018 The Fifteenth Sunday of 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
religioused@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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Pastor's Corner: July 16th is the 10th anniversary of the pope naming St. John's a Minor Basilica. This honorary title is granted by the Holy Father to certain churches outside the City of Rome as special recognition of the unique historic and spiritual work of the people and priests of the parish. Saint John's is known as "The Mother Church of Stamford", in that all Catholic parishes and institutions in southwestern Fairfield County have their roots in this our parish, the first Catholic church in the area. Having been solely responsible for the preaching of the Gospel, the offering of the Sacrifice of the Mass and the celebration of the sacraments for Catholics in lower Fairfield County during most of the 19th century, the parish has continued to develop its role as a center for Catholic culture and the spiritual life in downtown Stamford up to the present day.

As a Minor Basilica, Saint John's now enjoys a special relationship with the Successor of Saint Peter: in a real way, the Basilica of Saint John becomes the pope's church and a center for the promotion of the teachings of the Holy Father and the Church's Magisterium, as well as a center for a deeper devotion to him as the Successor of Saint Peter. Saint John's was granted this dignity for another reason: because of the "particular importance for the liturgical and pastoral life" St. John's holds within our diocese.

There are only 67 Minor Basilicas out of the nearly 22,000 parish churches and missions that exist in the U.S.A. By this grant of the Holy Father, the Basilica of Saint John the Evangelist holds precedence among all the parishes of our diocese, being now ranked immediately after the Cathedral of Saint Augustine in Bridgeport. This grant to the parish underscores the unique nature of the Catholic Church: personally established by Our Lord on the Apostles, whom He sent to preach the Truth and to establish the one Church wherever they went. The Basilica of Saint John the Evangelist in Stamford is a dramatic sign that, while the church building was created by local Catholics more than 150 years ago, the Faith, the Gospel, the Sacraments, and the life of Grace weren't started by some "guy" or by the government here in Connecticut. Nor can we change the Church at whim. We receive our spiritual lives from Christ through His Apostles, handed down in an unbroken chain of Catholic bishops in communion with the Successor of Saint Peter, to our own Bishop Caggiano. He shares that priesthood with the priests of our parish, so the lives of Catholics can be enriched by the same forgiveness of sins, the same Body and Blood of Christ, the same life of Grace that Our Lord began when He first sent the 12 Apostles out to extend His work beyond the borders of Israel, 2,000 years ago.

The Basilica's coat of arms adorns our front door, on the bulletin, and on the choir loft along with that of the Holy Father. Here is the meaning of the symbols of the Basilica's coat of arms: The central gold cross represents the Redemption by Our Lord Jesus Christ, the foundation of our faith. The golden shell [top left quarter] is taken from Pope Benedict XVI's coat of arms, since he named us a Minor Basilica. The golden crowned lion [top right quarter] comes from Blessed Pope Pius IX's coat of arms, since he was pope when our parish was founded in 1847. The silver crescent moon [bottom left quarter] represents the Blessed Virgin Mary. This dogma of the Immaculate Conception was defined by Blessed Pope Pius IX in 1854, the same year St. John's became an independent parish. The wavy silver line beneath the crescent moon represents Stamford's Mill River and the Port of Stamford. The gold eagle holding a silver scroll [bottom right quarter] is the traditional symbol of Saint John the Evangelist, our parish patron saint. The Basilica's motto: "Behold your Mother" [John 19:27] was spoken to St. John by Our Lord as he was dying on the Cross, entrusting the Blessed Mother to his care. The motto is also reminiscent of the title given to St. John's: "The Mother Church of Stamford", referring to the fact that everything Catholic in southwestern Fairfield County began at St. John's. The coat of arms was designed by Fr. Matthew Mauriello.

—Monsignor DiGiovanni

Please pray for the sick: Monsignor DiGiovanni, Isaac Georges, Martha McRoskey, Elizabeth Caserta, Ruth Coyle, 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, Mary Duffy, Pat Farenga, Kenyon Jimmy Valcour, Jennifer Marciano, Timothy Lyons, Gene Gavin, Richard Ridge, June Roberts, Marie Cassis, Patricia Morgan, Vittorio Faugno, Dionysia Oliveira, 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: Joevil Basulgan Delacruz, Glen Nadin, 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: Kano Paul Edwards and Venite Lochard

Co-Operative Mission Collection . . . Please drop your **Co-operative Mission Collection** envelope into the **ONE** basket that will be passed at the Offertory. There will only be one collection today.

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.

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.

Thank You- This past weekend at a family tag sale the children of the Marchetti families sold concessions for the benefit of the Basilica of St. John's. They raised \$73 dollars and we would like to thank them for their generosity.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

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

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 July 1, 2018 \$ 12,515.45
Sunday July 2, 2017 \$ 11,812.07

Sunday July 8, 2018 \$ 11,246.44
Sunday July 9, 2017 \$ 13,012.23

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

July 22nd Sunday Readings: JER 23:1-6, EPH 2:13-18, MK 6:30-34

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.

PLENARY INDULGENCE: As a minor basilica, Saint John’s has a special bond with the Holy Father and unique spiritual privileges among the churches of the Diocese of Bridgeport, in that we can offer special plenary indulgences each year. **July 16th**, the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, which was the date of concession of the title of minor basilica granted Saint John’s in 2009, is one of those days.

A plenary indulgence is a favor granted by the Church through the merits of Jesus who removes, either partially or completely [plenary], the temporal punishment remaining for sins that have been forgiven in Confession. The Church, as the minister of Christ’s graces, grants these to faithful Catholics willing to perform a public act of devotion: in this case, by visiting the Basilica on the days noted, reciting an Our Father and the Creed for the intention of the pope; receiving Holy Communion on the day of the indulgence, and having gone to Confession at least 20 days prior to or following the day the indulgence is sought. One must be free from all attachment to sin in order to receive an indulgence.

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.

“Introducing Be Lovely,” a Homeplace Wisdom Ladies Event on Thursday, July 26 at 7:30pm at a private home– bonfire, food, fun. Email lisakotasek@gmail.com for location. More information at be-lovely.life.

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.

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

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@gmail.com for more information.

Job Seekers: Next meeting: **Wednesday, July 25th** 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@redincllc.com.

Volunteers: Become a Future 5 College Prep Coach: Future 5’s College Prep Program ensures that low-income, motivated high school students receive the preparation needed to transition successfully from high school to college. They offer students a full array of help, including guidance on navigating college and financial aid applications, college visits, scholarship help, and detailed advice on college selection. A coach is matched one-on-one with a student, becoming a partner and mentor for the academic year. Future 5 will provide training in all aspects of the college application process. Time commitment: 2-3 hours per month (includes training and independent meetings with students) For information, please contact Peg Atchue at patchue@futurefive.org.

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.

Mass Intentions

+ Denotes Deceased

Saturday, July 14, 2018

4:00 +Alfred Henry Lovell, Jr. req. Jagodzinski Family

Sunday, July 15, 2018

7:30 +John Stagon the Bottaro Family

10:00 Special Intentions Andrew Mbabaali req. Mom Scholastica

12:00 In Honor of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel req. Marion Morris

5:00 Souls in Purgatory

Monday, July 16, 2018

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

12:10 Special Intentions Andrew Mbabaali req. Ferry G

Tuesday, July 17, 2018

8:00 Souls in Purgatory

12:10 Special Intentions Andrew Mbabaali

Wednesday, July 18, 2018

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

12:10 Rosemary Reid req. Josephine Languedoc

Thursday, July 19, 2018

8:00 +Katherine Vilena Dungo req. Pearl Moss

12:10 +Noemi Isidro req. daughters

Friday, July 20, 2018

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

12:10 Salvatore Piria req. Domenico Piria

Saturday, July 21, 2018

8:00 +Cecil Anthony and Jean Whittingham req. Blanca Reyes

12:10 +Christopher M. Sabia req. Dom Piria

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: 110 YEARS AGO, OR SO:

July 21, 1908: New Statuary in Catholic

Church. "J. H. Scofield & Son have presented to St. John's R.C. Church a beautiful baptismal statue, which has been placed on the baptismal font. The principal figure is that of St. John the Baptist, who is shown in the act of baptizing Christ, the whole thus being symbolic of the sacrament of baptism. The statue comes from Carrara, Italy, and is made from a splendid specimen of the marble of that place. It adds greatly to the statuary of the church, and gives a finish to the font, which is probably not equaled by that in any church in the diocese."

105 YEARS AGO, OR SO:

July 16, 1914: DEATH OF MRS. J H SHORT.

"Mrs. James H. Short of 22 Miller Street died at her home early this morning. She had been ill for the past three years. She was formerly well known as a teacher and business woman. She was born in Ireland and came to Stamford to take up duties as a teacher in St. John's parochial school, then a very small school." (EDITOR'S NOTE: Mrs. Short was the former Miss Clarey who was one of two teachers when the original St. John's school on Meadow Street opened in 1861.)

85 YEARS AGO, OR SO:

July 20, 1935: 2 Churches Hit By Lightning.

"A terrific thunderstorm did property damage estimated at upwards of \$10,000. A spire on the top of St. John's Catholic Church was shattered and one side being hurled to the street 125 feet below. A 200-pound stone torn from the spire was carried through the air, landing on the skylight of Frankel and Sons store 262 Atlantic Street and crashing down to the ground floor and through a show window in the front of the store. The stonework of the church spire, splinted into small and large pieces, was scattered for more than 200 feet along Atlantic Street and Bell Street."

60 YEARS AGO, OR SO:

July 19, 1960: Scouts Attending Colorado Ju-

bilee. "Stamford Boy Scouts who are attending the Golden Jubilee Jamboree in Colorado Springs, Colorado include John Y. Connolly from St. John's Catholic Church Troop 22." (EDITOR'S NOTE: John Connolly would go on to become an Eagle Scout and a Medical Doctor.)

25 YEARS AGO, OR SO:

July 22, 1992: St. Anne's Days.

"St. John's will have a Triduum in honor of St. Anne and St. Joachim, the parents of Mary and the Grandparents of Jesus. The Triduum will take place at the 12:10 Mass Wednesday, July 22ns, Thursday, July 23rd and Friday July 24th. Veneration of the relic of St. Anne will take place each day of the Triduum."

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 religioused@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)