



MASS SCHEDULE

Weekends

Saturday – 4:00 & 5:30 p.m.

Brazilian Mass – 7:30 p.m.

Sunday – 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 a.m. and 12:00 N

Spanish Mass – 5:30 p.m.

Brazilian Mass – 7:30 p.m.

Weekdays

Monday through Saturday - 7:30 a.m.

Monday through Friday - 12:10 Noon

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturday - 11:00-11:30 a.m. & 3:00-3:45 p.m.

And by appointment

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Couples planning to be married must begin to make arrangements at least 8 months prior to their wedding date by contacting the Rectory.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Attendance at pre-Baptism class is required before the Sacrament is celebrated. Classes are held on the second Sunday of the month at 1:00 p.m. in the Rectory. Please pre-register by calling 743-2707. Baptisms will take place every Sunday at 1:00 p.m. except the second Sunday of the month.

Saint Peter Church, Danbury, CT

PASTORAL STAFF – 203-743-2707

Rev. Gregg D. Mecca, Pastor

Rev. John Perez, Parochial Vicar

Rev. Paul Merry, Resident

Deacon John Buchholz

BRAZILIAN COMMUNITY

Rev. Msgr. Pedro D. Diniz – 203-730-9071

FAX NUMBERS

Rectory: 794-1928

Rel. Ed. Office: 797-9471

School: 748-5684

EMAIL ADDRESS - office@stpeterdanb.org

WEBSITE - www.stpeterdanb.org

PARISH STAFF

Mr. Stephen T. Roberts, Music Minister - 203-792-1751

Dr. Nancy Engel, Children's Choir - 914-591-7541

SAINT PETER-SACRED HEART SCHOOL OFFICE

Mrs. Mary T. McCormack - 203-748-2895

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND FORMATION

Ms. Joanne Durkin, Director of Religious Education

Grades K-9 - 203-743-1048

Chairman of Parish Council – Carmen Vendinha
203-743-1151

Chairman of Finance – Arthur Mannion - 203-778-4618

Prayer Line Coordinator – Peggy Heron – 203-748-5476

Bethel Healthcare E.M. – Betty Cyr – 203-743-7245

ST. PETER CHURCH, DANBURY, CT



FEBRUARY

9 SAT	4:00 PM	✠ Maria, Joseph and Rosa Miguel
	5:30 PM	✠ Michael Scapeccia
	7:30 PM	Brazilian Mass
10 SUN	7:30 AM	✠ Mr. and Mrs. Americo Mardketti and Florence Drago
	9:00 AM	✠ Robert Boschert
	10:30 AM	✠ Michelle Davis
	12:00 N	Our Parishioners
	5:30 PM	Spanish Mass
	7:30 PM	Brazilian Mass
11 MON	<i>Our Lady of Lourdes</i>	
	7:30 AM	✠ Carol Archer
12 TUE	12:10 N	✠ Mary Blodgett Jackson
	7:30 AM	✠ Rev. William Smith
13 WED	12:10 N	✠ Margaret Doherty
	7:30 AM	✠ Mary N. Prusak
14 THU	12:10 N	✠ William Fitzmaurice
	<i>Ss. Cyril, monk and Methodius, bishop</i>	
	7:30 AM	The Scarpetti Family
15 FRI	12:10 N	✠ Josephine Steinberg
	7:30 AM	✠ Americo Crescio
	12:10 N	✠ Souls in Purgatory
	7:00 PM	Stations of the Cross
	8:00 PM	Hispanic Stations of the Cross
16 SAT	7:30 AM	✠ Etta and Helen Gossarth
	4:00 PM	Our Parishioners
	5:30 PM	✠ Gloria Mannion
	7:30 PM	Brazilian Mass
17 SUN	7:30 AM	✠ Clarence Ruppert and Frederick Drake
	9:00 AM	✠ Lucy DaSilva
	10:30 AM	✠ Michelle Davis
	12:00 N	✠ Joseph Paiva
	5:30 PM	Spanish Mass
	7:30 PM	Brazilian Mass

On the weekend, if the intention of the Mass is yours,
please see an usher about bringing up the gifts.

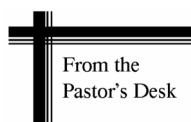
SACRIFICIAL GIVING – February 3, 2008 \$10,623
Our weekly goal:..... \$10,500
 Thank you. Father Mecca

Please remember St. Peter Parish when preparing your will. A legacy to the church eases your tax burden and helps continue the good works of our parish.

WE WELCOME THE NEWLY BAPTIZED
Edgar Gavidia Joseph Lyder Lucy Philipakos

KINDLY REMEMBER THE SICK OF THE PARISH
*Santa Ayala Don Lavalee Diane LopesMary Ann Lopez
 Art Mannion Joan McGarigle Ellen and Ed Minck
 Leroy Morgan Jay Murphy Lorenzo Paniagua John Scalzo
 Anthony Tartaglia*

WE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS
Ella Hennessey



I thought I had covered all the Lenten topics last week until a box arrived at the house on Tuesday containing the Loaves & Fishes envelopes from Catholic Charities. I hadn't thought of the program at all until we opened the box and saw what it contained. The Loaves & Fishes campaign was established years ago by Catholic Charities to raise funds to feed the poor in our area. The campaign is linked to Lent, a season that calls us to prayer, fasting, and almsgiving in order that we might grow in resemblance to Jesus Christ. Charity covers a multitude of sins, a truth I particularly rely on. If you wish to participate in the campaign, envelopes will be present in the vestibule all season long for your use. You may participate in any manner you like. You can make one gift, or you can take an envelope for each week of Lent and make a weekly contribution. When Loaves & Fishes was first rolled out, I remember the suggestion was to eat a simple meal once a week and give to the program the amount we would have spent had we prepared a regular meal. We can do that if we like. Loaves & Fishes is the major source of support for the diocesan soup kitchens and feeding programs, six in total, including our own Dorothy Day House of Hospitality here in town. Last Lent the campaign raised \$175,000 which went a long way in enabling the Diocese to serve over 800,000 meals to the poor and homeless. I encourage all of us to practice some works of mercy during Lent. Perhaps the Loaves & Fishes campaign is a vehicle for you.

On the topic of feeding the poor, the Community Concerns Committee met on Tuesday evening. I would have liked to join the committee, now stronger in number with the new volunteers who signed up at the ministry fair, but I have French class on Tuesday nights in Greenwich. (I don't like to miss it because I enjoy it and it uses my brain in a different way, and, besides, it's not cheap.) The committee discussed food collection for the poor. The parish had a regular practice of bringing non-perishable food to Mass on the fourth Sunday of the month. A few people continue to bring a bag of food, but the practice has really fallen by the wayside. The community concerns committee is interested in reviving the collection. Certainly, there is no lack of need for food in our community. We could assist the pantry at St. James as well as other pantries, as we did at Thanksgiving. As a matter of fact, in this week's edition of "The Bridge," our diocese's on-line newsletter, I read an appeal to parishes to help the Thomas Merton Center with certain food items that their pantry cannot stock enough of. One thing we could do is to make the monthly food collection item specific and respond to immediate needs. I'll tell you more about this as the committee pulls together its plans.

We have begun to put together our plans for the evening of Marian devotion on Monday, the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. We will expose the Blessed Sacrament and pray the Rosary, the Litany of Mary, the Lourdes' anniversary prayer and conclude with prayers for the Holy Father and Benediction. By doing so, we will have in place most of the requirements for the Plenary Indulgence. What remains for the indulgence is that we attend Mass and make a sacramental confession within the week. The first requirement is easy. If you are reading this bulletin I presume you are/have been at Sunday Mass and, therefore, have already fulfilled it. In order to help you fulfill the latter, we will hear confessions before our evening devotions beginning at 6:30. By

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

the way, I made a big slip of the pen last week when I said our statue was Our Lady of Grace. I know it is not. That image shows Mary with her arms outstretched. When I read my own words in the bulletin, I said, "I wrote that?" I'm surprised no one corrected me. I actually thought the representation we had of Mary might have been Our Lady of the Rosary. It didn't resemble enough the images I know of Our Lady of Lourdes, although that representation also shows Mary with the rosary. I've asked around and the consensus seems to be that, indeed, our statue must be Our Lady of Lourdes. In any case, we are going to borrow a parishioner's two-foot statue and place it in the front of the sanctuary for the entire feast day, and even though it is Lent and flowers are forbidden, we'll have some roses for Our Lady. It is the 150th anniversary after all.

Last Saturday our Youth Group held their bake-off to raise money as part of their up-coming 30 hour fast. They had some leftover desserts which they sold after the 9 and 10:30 Masses. When making the announcement that the desserts were available for sale, I told those in attendance about the bake-off the previous evening. Let me repeat my remarks for everyone. You should know what a great job the young people did. They made some 25 desserts from scratch, working quite hard all day in the process. They attractively set the tables in the parish hall and, dressed in black pants and white shirts or blouses, served us with real professionalism. Every one of the desserts looked so appetizing that it was difficult to select just two. Not that you could eat more than two, so generous were the servings. All together, the Youth Group earned \$938 last weekend for hungry, malnourished children. This weekend members of the Youth Group will be taking to the pulpit to speak about the famine and to ask for our support.

Attendance all day long on Ash Wednesday was very strong. What draws so many people to church in the middle of the week to be sent out with a black smudge on the forehead? Perhaps people do understand their need for God and those ashes are their declaration of it. Lent is about deeper conversion to Christ. It's about strengthening our relationship with him. In psalm 51 (the *Miserere*) which we prayed on Wednesday we asked God to sustain in us "a willing spirit." There are a number of things we can do to maintain that spirit of conversion, to increase in Grace during Lent. We still have copies of the Word Among Us if you would like to pray with the scriptures. Friday evenings we pray the Stations of the Cross. Whether we choose to walk the way of the cross, meditate with the Word, do acts of charity, attend Mass more regularly, etc., it is vital for us to regard this season as "the acceptable time," "the day of salvation," (from our second reading on Ash Wednesday) and do something more to grow in the spirit. God bless us this Lent. May He help us all use this season to grow in his life and love.

Fr. Mecca

SAINT PETER-SACRED HEART SCHOOL NEWS

"Be merciful, O Lord..." Thus begins our holy season of Lent. We at Saint Peter-Sacred Heart School will assist at Mass at Saint Peter Campus Church and be blessed with ashes reminding us of the 40 day journey we are beginning. On Friday, February 8th, our Sacred Heart Campus will pray the Stations of the Cross at 8:35 AM at Sacred Heart Church. Following our prayer, we will bless and honor our cross placed outside our school building. Stations of the Cross at St. Peter Campus will be prayed also each Friday at 1:30 PM. Our cross at Saint Peter Campus will then also

be blessed, visible to all passers by on Main Street. Please feel free to join us at either campus. You are most welcome!

As of Monday, our substitute gym teacher will be with us to service both campuses. I'm sure you will be pleased.

Looking at the calendar, realizing we are already in our third quarter causes me to congratulate you, our students and parents, for the wonderful progress we are experiencing. Our students, in particular, are to be congratulated, especially our older students at Saint Peter Campus. Each one truly has a sense of ownership for their specific school. It is our children who experienced and continue to experience this new change in their lives. Come to one of our masses, Stations of the Cross and/or basketball games and sense the camaraderie so obvious to all.

Some parents may have questions as to our success, some may have concerns and so we are planning a special Home School Association evening where Mr. John Cook or Dr. Dames and I can meet and greet you sharing the continued progress and academic gains we have accomplished on both campuses.

Be proud of yourself for all you have done. Be proud of our students. Be especially proud of our teachers and their continued efforts with each child.

Mrs. Mary T. McCormack, Principal

Saint Peter-Sacred Heart School is seeking to employ long-term substitutes for the following positions:

- Language Arts Teacher – Grades 6-8 – February through June.

*Candidate must have at least a Bachelor's Degree in Education.

- Art Teacher – 2 days per week – February through June. Interested parties, please call Sacred Heart Campus 792-6194.

Mary T. McCormack, Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Classes this Sunday Grades K – 8.

Confirmation Parents Meeting this Sunday!---Parents of all students who are in 8th grade and preparing for Confirmation in the fall, parents must attend an important meeting today, **Feb. 10th in the school lunchroom, at 10:15am.** Please remember to come and pick up your information packets. Also the dates for the Confirmation workshops are: Thurs. evening March 6th, Saturday April 5th, and Saturday, May 17th. These are required for Confirmation, so please put these dates on your calendar.

First Reconciliation Workshop---The first workshop for ALL First Communion students will be on Reconciliation and will be on **Saturday, Feb. 23**, in the parish hall at 3:30 – 5:30 pm. We need parents to assist, and also to bring a snack. If you can help out please call the Rel. Ed office at 743-1048

Confirmation Videos are in!---If you ordered a video of Confirmation in October 2007, please call the Religious Education office 743-1048 to arrange to pick up your video. If you did not order, but would like to purchase one, there are a few available.

No classes next Sunday, February 17TH due to President's day weekend.

PARISH EVENTS

Marian Holy Hour
this Monday, February 11, at
7:00 p.m.
to commemorate the 150th
Anniversary of



Confession available from 6:30 to
7:00 p.m.

Community Concerns Committee---is looking for **volunteers** for the **Emergency Overflow Shelter** for the **week of February 11 through 17**. Please help us to provide the homeless a night inside during the winter. Please call Larry Morgan at 744-1082 for more information.

Youth Group---The Youth Group is preparing for their 30 hour famine that will take place March 7 and 8. You have already begun hearing about it and you will hear more over the next several weeks. The teens will go without food for 30 hours and spend the night in the parish hall, doing spiritual activities and community service. Why? Because they are taking an active stance against world hunger and the 29,000 children that die every day from starvation. Last Saturday, the youth group hosted a Bake Off for the parish as a fund-raiser for the famine. If you came to the event and supported the youth, we are very grateful. Between the Bake-Off and the impromptu Bake Sale after the Sunday Masses, the Youth Group realized a profit of \$938.



This weekend, February 9 and 10, our Youth Group will be collecting for the famine. If they raise \$1,500, Deacon John has agreed to shave his beard! Let us help our Youth!

Lenten Reminder---

Stations of the Cross every Friday at 7:00 p.m.

St. Peter-Sacred Heart School will conduct their stations at 1:30 p.m. All are welcome.

OTHER EVENTS

Healthcare Professionals---This year marks the anniversary of the **Fifteenth Annual White Mass in the Diocese of Bridgeport**. The White Mass will be celebrated on **Sunday, February 24, 2008, at 9:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Church in Danbury** with

Bishop William E. Lori as the main celebrant and homilist. Breakfast will follow at the Ethan Allen Inn in Danbury. The guest speaker will be Father Daniel Mindling, a noted Moral Theologian and Dean of Studies at Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland. His topic will be Plan B. If you wish to participate, please call the Rectory by Wednesday, February 13.

The ABC's of Parenting---presented by Families Network of Western CT, Inc. Parents and children are invited! Please join the 10-week program for parents and school-age children **beginning February 26, 2008, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 Noon** at 5 Library Place, Danbury. Call Rebecca at 791-8773 to register.

Adult Confirmation---Are you a practicing Catholic over the age of 18 who has not received the **Sacrament of Confirmation**? On Pentecost Sunday, **May 11, at 3:00 p.m.**, the Diocesan celebration of Confirmation for Adults will be celebrated at **Saint Augustine Cathedral, Bridgeport**. Diocesan refresher classes are offered on seven consecutive Tuesdays from **March 25 to May 6**, from 7-9 p.m. at Saint Luke Parish in Westport. Adult Confirmation information forms may be obtained from your parish office. If you require further information, please call the Diocesan Office for Pastoral Services: (203) 416-1440, or e-mail gdonnarummo@diobpt.org.

High School Teen Retreat---Danbury Emmaus is having a Catholic retreat for anyone currently in high school from **February 29 through March 2, 2008 at the Seton Newman Center** at Immaculate High School in Danbury. This will be a weekend one will never forget. Deepen or renew your relationship with God while you make friendships that will last a lifetime! We promise you won't be disappointed! For more information, please call Patrick Corbett at 203-746-9764 or Hilda DeLucia, 203-790-9040.

VISOS - COMUNIDADE BRASILEIRA

MISSAS

Todos os sábados às 7:30pm e aos domingos às 7:30pm.

CONVIVIO

A Comunidade Brasileira se reúne todos os sábados após a missa no Centro Pastoral Brasileiro, 61 Liberty Street, para jantarmos e socializarmos. Venha participar conosco.

CASAMENTOS

Os Noivos devem procurar o Sacerdote na Secretaria Paroquial, à 61 Liberty Street, 6 meses antes do casamento com certidões de Batismo e de Crisma. A data depende da disponibilidade da Igreja..

PASTORAL DO DIZIMO

Recordamos aos irmãos que o DIZIMO é também um Mandamento e tem duas dimensões importantes, entre outras: **A PRIMEIRA:** é ato de amor, fé, confiança e gratidão para com Deus; **A SEGUNDA:** é ato de generosidade para com Deus e para com a comunidade.

GRUPO DE ORAÇÃO CARISMÁTICO

Todas as terças feiras na Igreja às 7:30 p.m. iniciando-se com a oração do Terço.

GRUPO DE JOVENS ÁGAPE

Recordamos a tantos jovens da nossa Comunidade que, todo domingo às 5:30 p.m. acontecem, no Centro Pastoral, as reuniões.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

St. Peter Calendar

Sun Feb 10	Rel. Ed. Classes. Grades K – 8.
Mon Feb 11	Finance Committee Meeting. 7:00 pm Rectory.
Tue Feb 12	Children’s Choir. 6:30 p.m. Music Room.
Thu Feb 14	Parish Choir. 7:30 p.m. Music Room.
Fri Feb 15	Stations of the Cross. 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross in Spanish. 8:00 p.m.
Sun Feb 17	NO Rel. Ed. Classes.
Mon Feb 18	Parish Council. 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall.
Tue Feb 19	Children’s Choir. 6:30 p.m. Music Room. Men’s Society. 7:30 p.m. Parish Hall.
Thu Feb 21	Parish Choir. 7:30 p.m. Music Room.
Fri Feb 22	Stations of the Cross. 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross in Spanish. 8:00 p.m.
Sun Feb 24	Rel. Ed. Calses. Grades K – 8.
Tue Feb 26	Children’s Choir. 6:30 p.m. Music Room.
Thu Feb 28	Parish Choir. 7:30 p.m. Music Room.
Fri Feb 29	Stations of the Cross. 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross in Spanish. 8:00 p.m.
Sat Mar 1	First Penance. 11:00 a.m.
Sun Mar 2	Re. Ed. Classes. Grades K – 8.
Tue Mar 4	Children’s Choir. 6:30 p.m. Music Room.
Thu Mar 6	Parish Choir. 7:30 p.m. Music Room. Rel. Ed. Mary Ronan 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Hall.
Fri Mar 7	Youth Group begins 30-Hour Famine. Hall. Stations of the Cross. 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross in Spanish. 8:00 p.m.
Sat Mar 8	Youth Group ends 30-Hour Famine with Mass at 4:00 p.m.
Sun Mar 9	Rel. Ed. Classes. Grades K – 8.
Mon Mar 10	Lenten Penance Service. 7:00 p.m. Finance Committee Mtg. 7:00 p.m.
Tue Mar 11	Children’s Choir. 6:30 p.m. Music Room. Women’s Guild. 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall.
Thu Mar 13	Parish Choir. 7:30 p.m. Music Room.
Fri Mar 14	Stations of the Cross. 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross in Spanish. 8:00 p.m.
Sat Mar 15	First Communion Workshop. Parish Hall 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.
Sun Mar 16	Rel. Ed. Classes. Grades K – 8.
Mon Mar 17	Parish Council. 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall.

LENTEN REGULATIONS

The Church gives us the following regulations for the Lenten Season:

* Fasting and Abstinence are required on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

* Abstinence is required on all Fridays during Lent.

Fasting is defined as eating during the day only one full and two light meatless meals. Eating between meals is not allowed, although liquids are permitted. All those between 18 and 59 years of age inclusive are obligated to fast.

Abstinence is not eating meat at all during the entire day. Everyone 14 years of age and over is obligated by abstinence.

Rita’s Cuisine

15 Center Street

Tuesday through Sunday - 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Información Hispana!

Las Misas en Español son: Domingos a las 5:30 pm

Intenciones de las Misas:

Domingo 10 de Febrero: + **Leida Benitez X Sra Padilla**

Grupo de oración en San Pedro todos los Lunes a las 7:00 pm en la Iglesia. Todos estan cordialmente invitados. El Señor Jesus los espera!

Clases pre-bautismales:

Los interesados en Bautizar a sus hijos deben estar registrados en la parroquia por lo menos por tres meses y deben ver al Padre John Pérez antes de recibir las clases y los padrinos deben ser casados por la Iglesia Catolica y deben presentar el Certificado del Matrimonio al Sacerdote. Dios los bendiga a todos. Los bautismos seran programados solo los Sábados a la 12:00 M

La registración para el programa de CCD o instrucción religiosa para la preparación de los niños a los Sacramentos: se estan llevando a cabo en la Escuela de St. Peter a las 10 de la mañana.

El programa de RCIA o educacion Religiosa para los adultos: esto es la preparación de los adultos para recibir los Sacramentos de Iniciación (Bautismo-Primera communion y confirmación en la Iglesia Católica. Las clases comenzarán en Septiembre en la parroquia. Las edades desde 13 años en adelante incluyendo adultos.

Las personas interesadas en anotar las intenciones de las Misas Pueden acercarse y solicitarlas en la oficina de la Parroquia de Lunes a Viernes de 9:00 a 5:00 de la tarde.

Cuaresma:

La cuaresma refleja los cuarenta Dias que el pueblo de Israel paso en el desierto en busca de la tierra que mana mile y leche, tierra prometida por el Señor Yahve a su pueblo de Israel. La Cuaresma tambien refleja el tiempo de ayuno y tentación que el Señor Jesus pasó en el desierto. Por ello la Cuaresma es tiempo de ayuno y penitencia. Vamos a ofrecer al Señor en esta cuaresma la abstinencia o el sacrificio de dejar a un lado lo que mas nos gusta, o lo que queremos dejar a un lado en nuestras vidas: vicios de licor, drogas, cigarillo, enojos, maltratos a los demas y aun dejar de consumir lo que mas nos gusta. Ofrescamos lo major al Señor. Vamos a hacer obras de caridad y asi estaremos glorificando a Dios en nuestras mortificaciones.

Todos estan invitados a celebrar el acto de devoción del Santo Via-Crucis todos los Viernes de la Cuaresma a las 8:00 de la noche en el Templo.

Dios los bendiga.

