

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



MARCH/APRIL

29	SAT	4:00 PM	✠ Maria, Joseph and Rosa Miguel
		5:30 PM	Our Parishioners
		7:30 PM	Brazilian Mass
30	SUN	7:30 AM	✠ Leo Delohery
		9:00 AM	✠ Louise Fauser
		10:30 AM	✠ Michelle Davis
		12:00 N	✠ Howard Schmiedel
		5:30 PM	✠ Candido Paniagua, Spanish Mass
		7:30 PM	Brazilian Mass
31	MON	<i>Annunciation of the Lord</i>	
		7:30 AM	✠ Elizabeth and Neil McCaffery
		12:10 N	✠ Katie Halpin-Saunders
1	TUE	7:30 AM	✠ Michael Pruzinsky
		12:10 N	✠ Souls in Purgatory
2	WED	<i>St. Francis of Paola, hermit</i>	
		7:30 AM	✠ Michele DiBuono
		12:10 N	✠ Michael Pacific
3	THU	7:30 AM	✠ George Showah
		12:10 N	✠ Gloria Osowski
4	FRI	<i>St. Isidore, bishop and doctor</i>	
		7:30 AM	✠ Lucy DaSilva
		12:10 N	✠ Mary and J. Lawrence Ryan
5	SAT	<i>St. Vincent Ferrer, priest</i>	
		7:30 AM	✠ Souls in Purgatory
		4:00 PM	✠ Tony Teutonic
		5:30 PM	Our Parishioners
		7:30 PM	Brazilian Mass
6	SUN	7:30 AM	✠ Mr. and Mrs. Americo Marcketti and Florence Drago
		9:00 AM	✠ William Schlichtig
		10:30 AM	✠ Vincent Rao
		12:00 N	✠ Eugene Kapica
		5:30 PM	✠ Difuntos de la familia Saenz, 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 – March 23, 2008 \$20,699

Our weekly goal:..... \$10,500

Thank you. Father Mecca

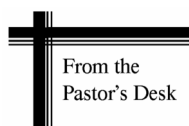
Please remember St. Peter Parish when preparing your will. A legacy to the church eases your tax burden and helps continue the good works of our parish.

BANS OF MARRIAGE

Casey Ward and Linda Salamone

KINDLY REMEMBER THE SICK OF THE PARISH

*Santa Ayala Jane Bedini Robert D'Andrea Diane Lopes
Mary Ann Lopez Art Mannion Joan McGarigle
Ellen and Ed Minck Leroy Morgan Lorenzo Paniagua
John Scalzo Anthony Tartaglia Isabella Valdiviezo
Anthony Zarcone*



I hope all of you had a lovely Easter day. The weather cooperated. We were a bit chilled greeting folks after the 7:30 a.m. Mass, but the temperature warmed up by mid morning to give us a hint of spring. Saturday evening was also on the cold side, but probably half of those in attendance came outdoors on the lawn for the lighting of the Easter fire. Except for the fact that the wick I was using to light the Paschal Candle wouldn't light, the ceremony of the lighting of the Easter fire went fine. The fire burned just the right length of time and the wind was relatively calm. But the darn wick just wouldn't light. It kept melting instead. I had to resort in the end to lighting the candle with a match. Oh well! So much for liturgical perfection! The Masses were well attended. We had a full church for the Vigil. We weren't sure how many to expect for it. Some folks are discouraged by the length of that Mass and others by the inclusion of three languages—four when you count Latin. But we had a full house with a healthy representation of all language groups. That was very heartening on several counts. First, the Easter Vigil is the mother of all liturgies, and so it is good to have a crowd for this impressive and most important of all liturgies. Second, the presence of people from each community, as on Holy Thursday, underscored the reality of our unity in Jesus Christ. Ours is a diverse parish, but we are united in love into one body as our Lord desires. Sunday's crowds were also healthy. Let's hope and pray that many of those who joined us last week were touched by the Holy Spirit to come and celebrate the love of Jesus and be nourished by him each and every week.

As you entered church this weekend I hope you noticed that the carpets, seat cushions and vestibule floor are brighter and cleaner. I told you in an earlier column this year that this job was on the list of "to dos." I contacted three companies and was most pleased with the proposal given by Ziegler Custom Carpet Tile & Upholstery Company. They couldn't schedule us before Easter as we would have liked, but I figured we could live with that. The men spent a long afternoon working on these areas. As you know, all three have needed attention. The men were not able to remove every stain from the seat cushions, but certainly they look fresher, as does the carpet in the aisles. The men made a point to tell me that they made several passes over the carpet in the aisles and removed a great deal of dirt, perhaps to explain the duration of their time here. None of us are surprised. We could see the brown in the aisles. The vestibule marble, too, is much brighter now. The next step is a polishing which will be done shortly. Because we want to turn around the past neglect of the church, we are entering into a maintenance agreement with Ziegler that will provide for periodic cleaning. We did not make arrangements at this time for the cleaning of the sanctuary floor although it needs it badly. Some years ago after the installation of the new pulpit, the floor buckled in the area between the pulpit and the side of the altar. Several marble slabs are loose and wobble. I worry all the time that either someone will trip or the marble will chip and crack. Neither has happened over the years, and perhaps never will, but I think the time has come to rectify this condition. Once it is, we will give the floor a thorough cleaning and polishing. In any case, with Easter flowers arranged on the floor, now wouldn't be the ideal time to undertake a cleaning.

Perhaps only the keenest of eyes have noticed that the unsightly chips in the pillars in the vestibule are no longer. They

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

have been filled and the pillars painted by handy man John Belanger. John is undertaking many projects for us like this that are making a big difference at both the church and rectory. John is very talented, and, I might add, meticulous and clean. He can see something and immediately know how to remedy it. A good example would be the bookshelves for Fr. Joe's room. I ordered three which we intended to place against a wall to give the room that library look. Fr. Joe has a large collection of books and needed a lot of linear feet of storage. Naively, I thought when the shelves were delivered, we would set them in place against the wall as we envisioned, and presto! Not so in an old house. The floor is so uneven in that room that the shelves leaned every which way. John had them level and secure in no time. He has helped us by installing weather stripping around drafty doors and in one case constructing a better sill, hanging a medicine cabinet and bathroom fixtures. I recall back in the old days we had a parishioner, Joe Milaneo, who volunteered as the parish's resident handy man. There was nothing he couldn't do. We loved him around the rectory and looked forward to his coming. What a Godsend he was back then, and weren't we saddened when he and his wife decided to move to Florida! God has smiled on St. Peter's by bringing us John. His can-do spirit and pleasant manner is uplifting. He is helping us move forward with all kinds of things. Thank you John! If you should see something that needs repair or attention that we haven't, please tell me or phone it in. We'll put it on John's list. By the way, John is for hire, so if you have projects, I'd certainly be willing to pass on your needs and phone number.

As I write, Fr. Perez has taken to the skies in route to Colombia to vacation and celebrate with his family his parents' 60th wedding anniversary. Father Perez is going to say Mass for his parents, family and guests and then a party will follow. Sixty years is quite a milestone. Before he left, I told him to extend to his parents our congratulations and best wishes. Fr. Perez will be away three weeks. We are always grateful for Fr. Merry's presence with us, but even more so now! Fr. Merry is fluent in Spanish and is taking the Spanish Mass in Fr. Perez's absence. Thank you Fr. Merry!

This afternoon, Jeffrey Machi, the diocesan Director of Development dropped by on his rounds to parishes to give me an update on the Bishop's Appeal. In all honesty, the Appeal has not been much on my mind during Lent. It seemed to suffice to include notices about the Appeal in each week's bulletin and print accounts of how the Appeal benefits many people in the county. Now with Lent over I should say a bit more concerning the Appeal. As it now stands, we are at 42% of our goal of \$110,000. One hundred thirty-nine gifts have been made totaling \$46,490. Jeff is very pleased with our progress. We are doing quite well and much better than many other parishes, but it will be necessary for many more of us to participate if we are to meet our goal. I have not gotten around to making my gift. I'm going to this month, and I am confident many of you will do likewise. If you did not receive a pledge card, you can call our office for one or wait until we conduct the "in pew" appeal. That is when we place pledge envelopes in the pews and ask all of the parishioners who are not on the mailing list to make a gift. Let's pull together so that we retire our obligation by the end of the Appeal on June 30 and don't have to think about it during the rest of the year. I sincerely thank all of you who have responded so far and encourage my fellow procrastinators to dig out their pledge cards from your pile of mail.

Remember no gift is too small. There are many of us. If we each contribute a little we'd easily reach the goal.

Finally, today is the octave day of Easter. For the Church, this week has been as one day-Easter Day. The liturgy today places us at the evening of that first Easter Day. A continued Happy Easter! "Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, his love is everlasting."

Fr. Mecca

SAINT PETER-SACRED HEART SCHOOL NEWS

Mission Statement: Saint Peter-Sacred Heart School is a Catholic elementary school educating children Birth through Grade 8 with an emphasis on Catholic values and spiritual growth. Through a faith-based character education, using Christ as a model, Saint Peter-Sacred Heart fosters academic excellence through a strong curriculum, creating lifelong learners. Faculty and staff partner with parents and strive to inspire, nurture and challenge our students to be responsible citizens and disciples of Jesus Christ.

"Rejoice and be glad, Christ our Savior has risen from the dead..." Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. The joy as well as the mystery of Easter is upon us. Everywhere we look, new life is blossoming beautifully. Hopefully, you have noticed the lovely garden we have at each campus. Yes indeed, our rocks, symbolic of hardness of heart have been beautified with many spring plants, symbolic of new life, new hope and joy.

As part of our Easter Joy, we share with you the beauty of our children.

Jesus has risen from the dead,
He rises to heaven above my head.
I visit my family this gracious day,
We think about God, give Him thanks and pray.
By: Lorena

I look forward to Easter Sunday
And continue to celebrate on Easter Monday.
Jesus rose from the dead,
We think of Him when we rest our heads.
By: Blaise

Registration Ongoing: PreK-3 through Grade 8

SAINT PETER RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Classes this Sunday Grades K – 8.

First Communion Parents---Please note!** There is an important meeting **this Sunday, March 30th at 10:15 in the lunchroom of the school**, lower level. If you can help us with the banner and photographs, please call the RE office at 743-1048. The third and final **First Communion Workshop will be Saturday, April 19th 3:30 – 5:30 pm in the parish hall**. We will be making family banners for First Communion day, so please plan on attending with your child to participate in this important activity to prepare for their First Communion mass in May.

Confirmation Students---The second of the 3 required workshops is **Saturday, April 5th at 3:30 pm in the parish hall**. Please mark your calendars. We need the information on sponsors, so please bring or mail it to the Religious Ed office as soon as possible, if you have not already done so.

PARISH EVENTS

*Coffee Hour this Sunday, March 30,
following the 7:30, 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. Masses.
Hosts: Community Concerns and Men's Society
Join us in the Parish Hall after one of these Masses!*

Community Concerns Committee---will meet **Tuesday, April 1, at 7:15 p.m. in the Parish Hall.** All parishioners are invited to attend.

Women of the Parish...

**Sunday, April 20
Following the 10:30 a.m. Mass**



**The Women's Guild will hold its annual
Communion Breakfast at the Inn at Ethan Allen.
The guest speaker this year is Phil Gallagher.
Tickets will be on sale after Masses on the weekends of
April 5 & 6 and April 12 & 13.
Please plan on joining us...**

Women's Guild---will meet **Tuesday, April 8, at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.** All women of the parish are welcome.

On Sunday, April 27, at 2:00 p.m. in our Parish Hall the Diocesan required session of VIRTUS Protecting God's Children is being offered to all our new volunteer Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Ushers, etc. Please call Carol at the Rectory for more details.

Spring cleaning?

**Saturday, June 14
St. Peter Church will hold its first**



Clean Sweep Tag Sale

at the corner of Main St. and Center St. in Danbury adjacent to St. Peter Church. Bring your own table (or rent one) and set up shop. Rent a space in our highly-visible parking lot. Sale hours 8:00 to 2:00; set up begins at 6:30 a.m. For reservations, call 748-0413 and leave a message. Spaces available on first-come, first-served basis. Rain date: June 28, 2008. Spaces: \$50 each or 2/\$75.

OTHER EVENTS

Boy Scout Troop 33, chartered by St. Joseph Church in Danbury, is hosting an Open House for new members. All boys finishing Grades 5 and up and their parents are welcome to attend. No prior Scouting experience is required. The Open House is on Thursday, April 3, at 7:30 p.m. in St. Joseph School gym. Please call Anne Leclercq at 203-790-6074 with questions.

Immaculate High School will present the musical, **Les Miserables School Edition on Friday, April 4, at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, April 5, at 1:30 and 7:30 p.m.** For tickets, please call

Sharon at 798-2273 after March 18. Ticket prices are \$15 adults, \$10 students/seniors and matinee \$10.

How our ABA contributions make a difference---*Deacon Reggie Norman converted to Catholicism and became a Deacon in 2006. He served as the Administrator for Blessed Sacrament Parish in Bridgeport and has since entered the seminary to study for the priesthood.*

Deacon Reggie believes that the 2008 Living Our Faith Annual Appeal touches all aspects of his diaconate and priestly formation. The Appeal has funded all of his classes and provides a monthly living stipend. This removes a huge stumbling block that seminarians in other dioceses face. Instead of finding ways to pay for his classes, the Appeal allows Deacon Reggie to focus on his studies. Bishop Lori overhauled the program in our Diocese to make the process of becoming a deacon or priest more affordable during the formative years.

Your support to the 2008 Living Our Faith Annual Appeal supports our Clergy and Religious. It ensures the ministries of our chaplains in hospitals, prisons, and nursing homes.

It is funding our Priests and Sisters working in our many ethnic communities. And, it assists our retired priests at the Catherine Dennis Keefe Queen of Clergy Residence in Stamford.

To date: cash and pledges \$46,490; parish goal \$110,000.

If there is an abortion in your past that you need to make peace with, The Respect Life Office of the Diocese of Bridgeport offers **Rachel's Vineyard Retreats.** The next **retreat weekend is April 11 – 13.** For information call the retreat director at 203-218-0291 or email her at Jeremiah31v17@aol.com. Visit the website at www.rachelsvineyardbpt.com All inquiries are kept in the strictest of confidence.

Retrouvaille of Connecticut---If your marriage has become troubled and stressed, unloving or uncaring, or cold and distant, even if you are divorced or separated but you want to try again, then the Retrouvaille program can help you. The next Retrouvaille Weekend will take place April 18 through 20. For more information please call our confidential number 800-470-2230 or e-mail 3001@retrouvaille.org.

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 ORACÃO 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.

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

St. Peter Calendar

Sun Mar 30	Rel. Ed. Classes. Grades K – 8. Coffee Hour. Hosts are Community Concerns and the Men's Society. Following 7:30, 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. Masses.
Tue Apr. 1	Children's Choir. 6:30 p.m. Music Room. Community Concerns Committee. 7:15 p.m. in the Parish Hall.
Thu Apr. 3	Parish Choir. 7:30 p.m. Music Room.
Fri Apr. 4	First Friday Adoration. 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon
Sat Apr. 5	Confirmation Workshop. 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall
Sun Apr. 6	Rel. Ed. Classes. Grades K – 8.
Tue Apr. 8	Children's Choir. 6:30 p.m. Music Room. Women's Guild. 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall.
Thu Apr. 10	Parish Choir. 7:30 p.m. Music Room.
Sun Apr. 13	Rel. Ed. Classes. Grades K – 8.
Tue Apr. 15	Children's Choir. 6:30 p.m. Music Room. Men's Society. 7:30 p.m. Parish Hall.
Thu Apr. 17	Parish Choir. 7:30 p.m. Music Room.
Sat Apr 19	First Communion Workshop. 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall.
Sun Apr. 20	Rel. Ed. Classes. Grades K – 8. Women's Guild Communion Breakfast. 11:30 a.m. The Ethan Allen Hotel.
Tue Apr. 22	Children's Choir. 6:30 p.m. Music Room.
Thu Apr. 24	Parish Choir. 7:30 p.m. Music Room.
Sun Apr. 27	Rel. Ed. Classes. Grades K – 8. Coffee Hour. Following 7:30, 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. Masses. Virtus Training Session. 2:00 p.m. Parish Hall.
Tue Apr. 29	Children's Choir. 6:30 p.m. Music Room.
Wed Apr. 30	Vigil of the Ascension. Mass at 5:30 p.m.
Thu May 1	Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord. Masses at 7:30 a.m. and 12:10 and 7:00 p.m. Parish Choir. 7:30 p.m. Music Room.
Fri May 2	First Friday Adoration. 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon.
Sun May 4	May Crowning prior to 9:00 a.m. Mass Rel. Ed. Classes. Grades K – 8.
Tue May 6	Children's Choir. 6:30 p.m. Music Room.
Thu May 8	Parish Choir. 7:30 p.m. Music Room.
Sat May 10	First Communion. 11:00 a.m.
Sun May 11	Rel. Ed. Classes. Grades K – 8.
Tue May 13	Children's Choir. 6:30 p.m. Music Room. Women's Guild. 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall.
Thu May 15	Parish Choir. 7:30 p.m. Music Room.
Sat May 17	First Communion (Spanish). 10:00 a.m. Confirmation Workshop. 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

*The First Friday of the Month is this
Friday, April 4.
Adoration will take place following
the 7:30 a.m. Mass until Noon.
Come join us...*

Información Hispana!

Intenciones de las Misas:

Domingo 30 de Marzo: + Candido Paniagua por Victoria

Domingo 6 de Abril + Difuntos de la familia Saenz por Blanca

Domingo 13 de Abril Cumpleaños de Eduardo Espinal por la Mamá

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 Católica 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.

Grupo de Jovenes: La comunidad Hispana de Sanrta Maria esta invitando a todos los Jovenes a que formen parte de grupo Juvenil que se esta llevando a cabo en el Centro Parroquial (Basement de la Iglesia) todos los Domingos inmediatamente despues de la Misa. Padres apoyen a sus hijos para que estos aprendan a caminar con el Señor.

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.

La Pascua

La Pascua es el tiempo del paso de la muerte a la vida en Cristo Nuestro Señor. Jesus habiendo entregado su vida totalmente por nosotros para darnos la vida nueva en la Resurrección, nos deja como instrucción el que esperemos la venida del Paráclito (El Espíritu Santo), el cual nos dará plenitude en nuestras Vidas.

Hermanos esperemos que Jesus Resucitado more en nuestras vida y que nosotros habramos nuestros corazones para que ese Espíritu de Dios se quede con nosotros hasta el regreso de Nuestro Señor Jesucristo para darnos la vida eternal en su propia Resurrección

Dios los bendiga.

