

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



DECEMBER

19	SAT	4:00 PM	Our Parishioners
		5:30 PM	✠ Antonio Scalzo
		7:30 PM	Brazilian Mass
20	SUN	7:30 AM	✠ Donald Pepin
		9:00 AM	✠ Blanche and Harry Barese
		10:30 AM	✠ May Gilhooly
		12:00 N	✠ Eva Mannion
		5:30 PM	Spanish Mass
		7:30 PM	Brazilian Mass
21	MON	<i>St. Peter Canisius, priest and doctor</i>	
		7:30 AM	✠ Alice and George Sullivan
		12:10 N	✠ Judy Gavin
22	TUE	7:30 AM	✠ Souls in Purgatory
		12:10 N	✠ Ernestine and James Walsh
23	WED	<i>St. John of Kanty, priest</i>	
		7:30 AM	✠ Bernadette Ward
		12:10 N	✠ Richard Moore
24	THU	7:30 AM	✠ Iswaldo Scarpetti
		4:00 PM	✠ Deceased of Kenny and O'Connor Families
		5:30 PM	✠ Lucille and Thomas Cody
		5:30 PM	✠ Spanish Mass
		7:30 PM	✠ Brazilian Mass
		12:00 M	✠ Regina and Jose Liriano
25	FRI	<i>Nativity of the Lord/Christmas Day</i>	
		8:00 AM	✠ Mr. and Mrs. D. Barata and Buddy Marques
		10:00 AM	✠ Deceased of the Seeley and Ryan Families
		12:00 N	✠ Ruth and John Herrick
26	SAT	7:30 AM	✠ Maria Arayo
		4:00 PM	✠ Maria, Joseph and Rosa Miguel
		5:30 PM	✠ Christopher Chianelli
		7:30 PM	Brazilian Mass
27	SUN	7:30 AM	✠ Anthony Santuro
		9:00 AM	✠ William and James Schlichtig
		10:30 AM	✠ Deceased of the Defazio Family
		12:00 N	Our Parishioners
		5:30 PM	Spanish Mass
		7:30 PM	Brazilian Mass

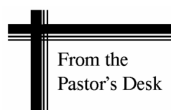
On the weekend, if the intention of the Mass is yours,
please see an usher about bringing up the gifts.

SACRIFICIAL GIVING – December 13, 2009 \$9,551
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.

KINDLY REMEMBER THE SICK OF THE PARISH

*James Buzaid Nicholas Buzaid Eleanor Cassidy
 Lynn DiPasqua Mary Anne Fortin Michael Gintoli
 Michael Halpin Thomas Liddane Tony Murphy
 Dr. James Pegolatti Kathleen Scott Isabella Valdiviezo*



Christmas is coming! It is close at hand now. I want to use this column space this weekend to extend Christmas well-wishes to everyone and to leave you with some words, not my own but those of the Holy Father, to meditate on as we anticipate the Lord's birthday.

When you received your copy of the *Fairfield County Catholic* this past week, did you recognize the photo of the Nativity? Did you know where you have seen it before? It is a photo of the Nativity window in our church. We had received a request from the paper to come and photograph the window. I wasn't here and had not spoken to the caller. Carol may have told me where it was to appear, but it didn't register, so I was surprised and delighted to see it when I took the *FCC* out of my mailbox. Very often in the *FCC* I've seen reproductions of windows from various churches in our diocese and have wondered if the paper would ever get around to using ours. I'm so happy that the *FCC* photographer, John Glover, came up to the north country this year to capture our Nativity. It is very beautiful, as they all are. As I was admiring the photograph, I thought about how realistic the facial features are of all the people. The hands, too, of St. Joseph and the shepherd boy have so much detail. Speaking of St. Joseph, because tradition has had him older than Mary, so many times artists make him look old. Here, however, he looks like a real spouse to Mary. I like that. Our windows, by the way if you did not know it, are from the 19th century German studio of Franz X. Zettler in Munich. You have to look closely, but the name appears on the bottom portion of a few of the windows.

Bishop Lori is here this weekend. He is celebrating the 10:30 Mass. There is not much time between Masses, but with what little time he has before Mass begins he will go downstairs to greet the religious education students who will be in the hall for their class Christmas party. As I said in last week's bulletin, I am pleased that Bishop Lori, who makes it a practice to visit parishes on weekends, has asked to come to St. Peter. It's been since Confirmation in the fall of 2007 that he has been here. We warmly welcome him.

The schedule for Christmas week is once again in the bulletin, and we have positioned it such that it is on the perforated flap so that, if you like, you can tear it out and put it wherever it will be most visible. We have included, as we always do, a description of the music at each Christmas liturgy. Our first Mass of Christmas at 4 p.m. is the Children's Liturgy. Young people will process in dressed as shepherds and kings accompanying Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus to the manger. Midnight Mass will be enhanced by the presence of strings and the adult choir. On Christmas Day we have a trumpet joining the organ. The adult choir will return after a few hours of sleep to sing again at 10 a.m. We have scheduled Confessions for Christmas Eve from 11-1 p.m. Because Christmas falls back to back with the weekend, there will not be confessions on Saturday the 26th. The priests will have heard a lot of confessions and celebrated many Masses already by then so I'm granting us a little break.

I want to extend to every one from the clergy and staff of the parish a joyous Christmas. Christmas is really a magical time of year. It is true, I dread its approach, I protest and complain about it because of all the work and madness it brings around here, but deep down I continue to be touched by it and love it as much as I ever did. The magic of Christmas is that God becomes one of us,

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

one with us, to share our humanity and, in turn, to share with us his divinity. The beauty of the Incarnation moves us, overwhelms us with awe, fills us with the warmth of God's love. I wish all of our parishioners a joy-filled Christmas Day and Season. Merry Christmas! Celebrate well.

Because the Incarnation is so central and beautiful, as I have done before, I am giving you something to read on this marvelous Mystery. This year I have selected portions from the chapter, "*Descendit de caelis--He came down from heaven,*" from Pope Benedict's book, *The God of Jesus Christ: Meditations on the Triune God*, which he wrote in 1976.

... We do not like the idea that someone descends to another: we want, not "condescension," but rather equality. We find the words of the Magnificat, "He has cast down the mighty from their throne," much more to our liking than "He came down from heaven"—although in fact the two are inseparable, since it is precisely that descending God who is the dethronement of the powerful and the raising up of those who were formerly the last, so that they now become the first. We, however, prefer to thrust down the mighty on our own, without the descending God. The image of the world in which there is no longer an "above" and a "below", the image of a world that is equal in all respects and has no fixed points of reference, is not purely external: it also corresponds to a new attitude toward reality, which regards the concept of "above" and "below" as an illusion and wants to depose every "above" for the sake of the equality, freedom, and dignity of man.

We can, however, conclude by saying that if God has descended and is now below, then the "below" has also become and "above," and the old division into "above" and "below" has been shattered. This entails a transformation in the image of the world and of man. But this change has been brought about precisely by the God who has descended.

...he *has* descended. And this in turn means that the height, the glory, the lordship of God and of Jesus Christ *exists*. The "above"—God—exists: the second article of the Creed (which speaks of the Son) does not abolish the first (which speaks of the Father). Even in the utmost descent, even in the utmost humbling and hiddenness, God remains the true "above." Before the Creed speaks of salvation history, the fundamental confession of faith is powerfully affirmed: "God is." We must first be reminded of the inviolable majesty of the One from whom all things come, for where this is lost to sight, the descent of God, too, loses its greatness and is absorbed into the general monotony of those events that recur in aimless cycles. Where this majesty is not seen, the drama of history, the drama of human existence, loses all tension and all meaning. This does not increase man's greatness; rather, it diminishes him, since he, too, is no longer an "above" in the world. . .

...Accordingly, we can say that the first fruit of our reflections is that while there is no geographical descent from a higher tier of the world into a lower tier, there is something much deeper that is symbolized by the cosmic image, namely, the movement of God's being into the being of man and, even more than this, the movement out of glory into the Cross, the movement to those who are the last and who thereby become the first."

Fr. Mecca



We offer our condolences to the families of
Rev. Msgr. Lawrence McMahon
Gerald Nazzaro
Matthew Rich
Rev. Alfred E. Russo
who passed away last week.

SAINT PETER-SACRED HEART SCHOOL NEWS

Birthday Greetings for Baby Jesus from our 3rd Grade Class

If I could give Jesus a birthday present I would....

- ...give Him a blanket and a pillow - Chris
 - ...give Him the gift of shelter so He can have a nice warm place to live and grow up - Ashley.
 - ...give Him the gift of becoming a priest and encourage people to believe - Ben
 - ... give Him a puppy, I love puppies, I think He would love them too - Kasey
 - ... give Him clothes so He can be warm - Jamilly
 - ... give Him a fan to keep Him cool and a coat to keep Him warm - Francis
 - ... give Him a pair of pants, I want Him to be happy - Chris
 - ...give Him a warm striped sweatshirt with polkadots and a nice white hat - Patrick
 - ...give Him a rainbow colored blanket and a big pillow - Kathlyn
 - ...give Him a baby horse, food, and big box of winter clothes - Lauren
- And finally, I would give Him my love every minute and hour and second. Oh, and I will not forget Mary and Joseph so they will love me and I will love them back. - Tyler

Mrs. Mary T. McCormack, Principal

SAINT PETER RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Class Christmas Parties this Sunday - K - 8---this, Sunday, December 20. All children will attend the 9 a.m. Children's Mass and then will go down to the Parish Hall for their class Christmas parties. Don't forget to bring something to share with your class (cookie, juice, etc.) No need to bring books. Please look for your teacher and sit with your class in church. Each class will have a table in the parish hall for the party. Only parents of Kindergarten and First grade can stay for the party because of limits on number of people in the hall.

Christmas Eve Pageant---All children in the procession please go to the **Parish Hall at 3:15 p.m. on Christmas Eve** to get dressed in your costumes for the 4 p.m. mass. Parents, please come, help and stay with your child until they go up into the church for Mass.

Snow Cancellation Information 2009/10---In the event that we have to cancel classes due to bad weather this winter, please check the following radio or TV stations on Saturday evenings or Sunday mornings.

Stations: Radio: **WLAD 800 AM** on the dial
TV: **Channel 3** WSFB-TV
Channel 6 NBC - 30

There will also be a message on the office answering machine.

No classes Sundays December 27 and January 3.

Merry Christmas!!!

PARISH EVENTS

A huge thank you to all the Parishioners of St. Peter Church--- who supported our bake sale this past weekend. We raised over \$450 for the Dorothy Day Hospitality House as a Community Service Project to fulfill a Confirmation requirement. Your generosity was overwhelming. Thank you. The 8th Grade Religious Education Class.

The Parish Office will close
December 24 and will reopen January 4.
No Confessions on Saturday, December 26.



Merry Christmas from
the Clergy and Staff Of St. Peter.

OTHER EVENTS

Immaculate High School---cordially invites you to its **annual Christmas Concert**, to be held on **Monday, December 21 at 7:00 p.m. at the school**. Join us for an evening of beautiful Christmas music from the band, chorus, concert choir and faculty members to make your holiday complete. Admission is free and all are welcome! Please call 203-744-1510 extension 157 for more information.

VISOS - COMUNIDADE BRASILEIRA

MISSAS

Todos os sábados às 7:30pm e aos domingos às 7:30pm.6

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.



Christmas Schedule

Confessions:

Saturday, Dec. 19, 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 24, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Christmas Vigil Masses:

4:00 p.m. Children's Liturgy
5:30 p.m. Organ and Cantor, Traditional Carols
5:45 p.m. Spanish Liturgy – Parish Hall
7:30 p.m. Brazilian Liturgy
11:30 p.m. Tradition Carols and Seasonal Music
12:00 Midnight Mass - Choir, Organ and Strings

Christmas Day Masses:

8:00 a.m. Organ, Cantor and Brass
10:00 a.m. Organ, Choir and Brass
12:00 Noon Organ, Cantor and Brass
5:30 p.m. Spanish Liturgy
7:30 p.m. Brazilian Liturgy

There are NO confessions Saturday, December 26.

***Solemnity of the
Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God***

New Year's Vigil Masses:

5:30 p.m.
7:30 p.m. Brazilian Mass

New Year's Day Masses:

8:00, 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 Noon
5:30 p.m. Spanish Liturgy
7:30 p.m. Brazilian Liturgy



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

St. Peter Calendar

Sun	Dec 20	Rel. Ed. Christmas Party. Parish Hall.
Mon	Dec 21	Latino Prayer Group. 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall.
Tue	Dec 22	Prayer Group of Reparation. After 12:10 Mass Children's Choir. 6:30 p.m. Brazilian Prayer Group. 6:30 p.m. Church.
Wed	Dec 23	No Bingo.
Thu	Dec 24	Christmas Eve. Masses at 4:00, 5:30 p.m. and 12:00 midnight Music begins at 11:30 p.m.
Fri	Dec 25	Christmas Day. Masses at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. & 12:00 noon
Sun	Dec 27	No Religious Education
Mon	Dec 28	Latino Prayer Group. 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall.
Tue	Dec 29	Prayer Group of Reparation. After 12:10 Mass Children's Choir. 6:30 p.m. Brazilian Prayer Group. 6:30 p.m. Church.
Wed	Dec 30	No Bingo.
Thu	Dec 31	New Year's Eve. 5:30 p.m. Mass
Fri	Jan 1	New Year's Day. Masses at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. & 12:00 noon
Sun	Jan 3	No Rel. Ed. Classes.
Mon	Jan 4	Latino Prayer Group. 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall.
Tue	Jan 5	Prayer Group of Reparation. After 12:10 Mass Children's Choir. 6:30 p.m. Brazilian Prayer Group. 6:30 p.m. Church.
Wed	Jan 6	Bingo resumes.
Thu	Jan 7	Parish Choir. 7:30 p.m. Music Room.
Sun	Jan 10	Rel. Ed. Classes Resume. Grades K – 8
Mon	Jan 11	Latino Prayer Group. 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall.
Tue	Jan 12	Prayer Group of Reparation. After 12:10 Mass Children's Choir. 6:30 p.m. Brazilian Prayer Group. 6:30 p.m. Church.
Thu	Jan 14	Confirmation Workshop. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. In the Parish Hall. Parish Choir. 7:30 p.m. Music Room.
Sun	Jan 17	Rel. Ed. Classes. Grades K – 8.
Mon	Jan 18	Latino Prayer Group. 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall. Parish Council Meeting. 7:30 a.m. Rectory.
Tue	Jan 19	Prayer Group of Reparation. After 12:10 Mass Children's Choir. 6:30 p.m. Brazilian Prayer Group. 6:30 p.m. Church.
Thu	Jan 21	Parish Choir. 7:30 p.m. Music Room.
Sun	Jan 24	Rel. Ed. Classes. Grades K – 8. First Communion Parents' Meeting. Parish Hall.
Mon	Jan 25	Latino Prayer Group. 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall.

Información Latino!

Intenciones de las Misas: Los Domingos a la entrada de la Iglesia a las 5:15 pm

Los Videos de las Primeras Comuniones estan en la oficina de la parroquia, por favor pasar a recogerlos.

Atención: se necesitan nuevos Catequistas que sean bilingues para la Catequesis de los niños en ingles los Domingos en la mañana.

Grupo de oración en San Pedro todos los Lunes a las 7:00 pm en el basement de 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 por motivos de conflictos serán programados a otra hora. Gracias

La registración para el programa de CCD o instrucción religiosa para la preparación de los niños para Primera Comunión y Confirmación se estan llevando a cabo en las oficinas de la parroquia de St. Peter y la de ccd en la Escuela de St Peter, para mayor información favor comunicarse con la secretaria de San Peter Church. Ahora inscripciones en la Iglesia despues de la Misa.

El programa de RCIA o educación Religiosa para los adultos: para recibir los Sacramentos de Iniciación (Bautismo, Primera Comunión y confirmación) en la Iglesia Católica. Las clases comenzarán en Septiembre en la parroquia. Las edades desde 13 años en adelante incluyendo adultos. Información con el Padre Perez. Ahora inscripciones despues de la Misa.

Grupo de Jovenes: La comunidad Hispana de Sanra Maria esta invitando a todos los Jovenes a que formen parte del 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 Jesus. El grupo esta en Vacaciones de Verano.

Curso de Estudio Bíblico

Este Domingo Julio 6 comenzamos el grupo de estudio Bíblico para todas las personas interesadas en tomarlo. El curso se lleva a cabo en el Basement de la Iglesia y es de 4 a 5 de la tarde. Todos estan invitados a conocer mas de Nuestra Iglesia Católica a la que pertenecemos y a conocer al Dios que amamos y nos ama. Esperamos nos acompañen en este nuevo evento. Gracias.

El Viñedo de Raquel: El Viñedo de Raquel es un programa que se esta dando en Nuestra Diocesis. Es un curso para las personas que estan sufriendo las culpas de abortos cometidos. Es un programa que es confidencial y todo es en secreto. Por favor busquen la sanación que el Señor quiere darles.

Dios los Bendiga.

NO BINGO

UNTIL JANUARY 6, 2010

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
CONTINUED SUPPORT**

