



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

| | | | | |
|----|-----|---|---|--|
| 14 | SAT | 4:00 PM | ✠ Maria, Joseph and Rosa Miguel | |
| | | 5:30 PM | Our Parishioners | |
| | | 7:30 PM | Brazilian Mass | |
| 15 | SUN | 7:30 AM | The Scarpetti Family | |
| | | 9:00 AM | ✠ Margaret & Anton Decinci and William Oliver | |
| | | 10:30 AM | ✠ Michael Federmack | |
| | | 12:00 N | ✠ James Walsh | |
| 16 | MON | 5:30 PM | Spanish Mass | |
| | | 7:30 PM | Brazilian Mass | |
| | | 7:30 AM | ✠ Anton Fehrenbach | |
| 17 | TUE | 12:10 N | For the President | |
| | | <i>Seven Founders of the Order of Servites, religious</i> | | |
| | | 7:30 AM | ✠ Roy Karvelis | |
| 18 | WED | 12:10 N | ✠ Robert F. Palanzo | |
| | | 7:30 AM | Special Intention | |
| | | 12:10 N | ✠ The Durkin, Meehan, Roswell and McSpirit Families | |
| 19 | THU | 7:30 AM | ✠ Mona Bennett | |
| | | 12:10 N | ✠ Souls in Purgatory | |
| 20 | FRI | 7:30 AM | ✠ Christopher Dane | |
| | | 12:10 N | ✠ Michele DiBuono | |
| 21 | SAT | 7:30 AM | ✠ | |
| | | 4:00 PM | ✠ Vincent J. Blodgett | |
| | | 5:30 PM | ✠ Peter A. Herger | |
| 22 | SUN | 7:30 PM | Brazilian Mass | |
| | | 7:30 AM | ✠ Anne Blodgett Lorenti | |
| | | 9:00 AM | Our Parishioners | |
| | | 10:30 AM | ✠ Rev. Joseph P. Donahue | |
| | | 12:00 N | ✠ Butch Melody and Joe Halas | |
| | | 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 8, 2009 \$9,761

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.

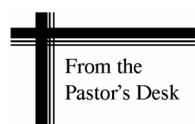
KINDLY REMEMBER THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Marion Aubin Eleanor Cassidy Lynn DiPasqua

Rev. Louis Dytkowski Mary Anne Fortin Michael Halpin

Lorraine Kain Thomas Liddane Tony Murphy Donald Ragaini

Joseph Sherry Isabella Valdiviezo Pat Waters



From the
Pastor's Desk

Let me begin this week by congratulating the Youth Group on its second Bake-Off which they held last

Saturday. Two teams baked all day, one in the parish hall; the other in the rectory. They made an impressive array of desserts. For a donation of \$5.00 we were able to select two desserts, one from each team and vote for what we thought was the better of the two. Sam 'Iron Chef' Winstrom's team garnered the most votes. The members of the Youth Group set the parish hall tables with cloths and flower centerpieces, dressed in black slacks and white shirts or blouses, took dessert and beverage orders and served. They did a great job. I think everyone there would agree that all the desserts were winners. We thank everyone who came downstairs on Saturday and who bought desserts on Sunday for supporting their efforts. All the proceeds from the Bake-Off are going toward the alleviation of hunger. The Youth Group's 30 hour famine takes place in two weeks when they will fast for the sake of those who habitually go hungry. We'll have more on their fast in the weeks to come.

A couple of weeks ago I told you about seeing David Clark at the noon Mass and how he informed me that he had moved into the St. John Fisher Seminary to discern a vocation as a priest for our diocese. I am pleased to tell you of another gentleman of the parish, Preston Tallman, who has discerned a vocation to the diaconate and who has been accepted into formation. On Saturday, February 28, Preston will be received as a candidate by Bishop Lori in a ceremony during the celebration of Mass at the Cathedral at 4 p.m. We are very happy for Preston and pledge to him our prayers and support as he makes his journey toward ordination as a permanent deacon.

The Second Vatican Council in the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, *Lumen gentium*, restored the diaconate as a "proper and permanent rank." Married or celibate, the permanent deacon was to be "dedicated to works of charity and functions of administration." We know that deacons originated with the Apostles who selected seven men to assist them with charitable work so that they would be free to preach the Gospel. During the first couple of centuries, the diaconate was understood to be a permanent, lifetime office. Deacons (the word comes from the Greek, *diakonos*, meaning servant, minister, helper) were entrusted with charitable, liturgical and evangelical responsibilities. In the realm of charity, they collected donations and alms and distributed them to the sick and the needy. Deacons provided hospitality to the hungry and homeless who came to the church for assistance. The liturgical responsibilities of the deacon were exercised in relation to the sacraments of Christian initiation and the Eucharistic celebration. They instructed catechumens and assisted them through the rites of Baptism and Confirmation. At the Mass, deacons were seated next to the bishop and carried to the altar the elements of bread and wine and the offerings of the people. They distributed the Eucharist to the faithful and took it from the Mass to those confined at home. The evangelical ministry of the deacon consisted in the proclamation of the Word through catechetical instruction or through preaching and teaching.

The order of deacons flourished during the first three centuries, but it gradually diminished as the number of priests and their ministry expanded and monasticism developed. As the centuries past, the diaconate became only a temporary ministry for those on the path to priesthood. The renewal of the permanent diaconate has enriched our Church with the gifts of many men called to serve. Preston is one of eight men who have been accepted into the ordination class of 2012. The men have already begun their course of study, spending time in class one weekend a

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

month at the Catholic Center. Again, we congratulate Preston and pray for his perseverance. By the way, anyone who wishes can attend the Mass at St. Augustine's on the 28th.

Four weeks ago we introduced a new musical setting for the Mass. From my experience, ours is one of the better singing communities. You may not notice from where you sit, but from the altar or from the sacristy one can really hear the voices. There is a high degree of participation in the singing of the Lord have mercy; Gloria; Holy, Holy; and Lamb of God. We know four settings for these, the Ordinaries of the Mass: The Mass of Creation, The Community Mass, the plain chant Mass and the New Plain Song Mass. The latter, a modern composition in the style of Gregorian chant, we sang during Advent, and I must say we are rather weak with that one. The Gregorian plainchant we do during Lent because of its simplicity. The rest of the year the practice has been to alternate between the other two. Stephen Roberts had spoken to me about the possibility of introducing another setting. We decided on the Heritage Mass. It is easy to sing and rather pretty, too. While new to us, it has been around a relatively long time. I've sung it in a parish in Stamford, at the seminary and at St. Augustine's. We thank you for your willingness to go through the learning curve. We're picking it up more and more each week. Adding this setting to our repertoire gives us a little more variety.

Lent begins on February 25. I'll have much to say on that topic next week as well as more on the Lenten Confession campaign and, very importantly, our Lenten talk on the life of St. Paul by Father Boadt. For now, make a note to be here on Friday, March 6.

For those who have a long weekend or vacation from school, relax and enjoy it if you are able.

Fr. Mecca



*We offer our condolences to the families of
Dorothy McKee
Alan Rodriguez
Winifred Turgeon
who passed away last week.*

SAINT PETER-SACRED HEART SCHOOL NEWS

The Lord our God created the heavens and the earth and saw that it was good. Yes, our sentence is a simple one but the marvels it contains could cause us to meditate for years on end. Our readings for the past couple of weeks and in particular the weekdays tell the story of creation causing us to reflect on the goodness given us each and every day.

We at Saint Peter-Sacred Heart see and feel this goodness through the wonderful volunteer support of all here present. Our gym lights at Sacred Heart Campus have been cleaned and changed causing everyone to offer statements of "WOW, it is so bright in here." We thank Mr. Tom Pepin of Shock Electric for this generosity.

Our Corbi's Fund Raiser was a success. We thank all who participated and in particular Mary Ellen Bell, Mr. McCann, Carmen Read and Tina Saviano for their hard work for this fund raiser.

Several dates of note; On Monday, February 23rd Iowa Test of Basic Skills will begin. Our "Science Fair" will be held Friday March 4th from 12:45 -2:30 PM at the Sacred Heart Gym. All are welcome. Finally, **save the date!** April 24th Saint Peter-

Sacred Heart will hold its second Multi-cultural social evening. More details to follow. All are welcome.

Mrs. Mary T. McCormack, Principal

SAINT PETER RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

No Classes this Sunday for all grades K – 8 Classes will resume next Sunday, February 22.

Grade 8 Confirmation Students---Don't forget Workshop #2 is Saturday, Feb 21st from 3:30 – 5:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

First Reconciliation---The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated for the first time **Saturday, March 21 at 11 a.m. in the church** by those children preparing for First Holy Communion in May.

Please note – this is a change from the original schedule because of snow cancellation days, we wanted to give the children some extra time to prepare in their Sunday school classes.

First Communion Workshops---Please note the corrected flier that was sent home to parents regarding a time change in the remaining 2 workshops: **March 28 Saturday 2:30 to 4:30 p.m., and April 25 Saturday 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall.** Sorry for the confusion. Thank you.

Reminder for Snow Cancellations---Please look on television stations, Channel 3 WFSB, Channel 8 WTNH, and Channel 4 & 6 WNBC on Sunday mornings if you think classes may be cancelled in bad weather. Or call the Rel. Ed office at 743-1048 and there will be a message on the answering machine.

PARISH EVENTS

Parish Council will meet this Monday, February 16, at 7:30 p.m. in the Rectory.

Morning of Reflection---The theme of the **February 20** reflection will be **St. Paul**. In this year of St. Paul we will look at Paul's life, his conversion and his great contributions to our faith life. Join us from **10 a.m. to noon in the Parish Hall**. The presenter is Yvette Lessard. If schools are canceled due to inclement weather, the session will be held February 27.



Collection for St. James' Church Food Pantry is next weekend February 21 and 22. Suggested donations are canned fruits, cereal, juices, macaroni and cheese, pasta and spaghetti sauce, paper products peanut butter, soups, sugar, and tea, and tuna.

Please leave your contribution in St. Peter Church vestibule on the confessional side. Community Concerns thanks you for your support.

Men's Society---will meet this **Tuesday, February 17, at 7:30 p.m.** All men of the parish are welcome to attend.

Lenten Confession Campaign---The word *reconciliation* is rich in meaning. It is God's gift of forgiveness and the removal of the obstacles we place between ourselves, our community, and God. Through the gift of Reconciliation, the gap between God and us and between ourselves and others can be bridged. Deep peace can come from being brought back into harmony with God, with our sisters and brothers, and with all of creation. **During the Lenten season**, the Diocese of Bridgeport will unite in offering a *Lenten Confession Campaign* where at every parish on **every Tuesday evening Confession will be available**. Our Holy Father says that "Confession must not be a mere formality in a Christian's life, but rather an essential ingredient to nourish and sustain a commitment to follow Christ."

Thank you St. Peter Parish---*Thank you so much for the kind donation of toys to be distributed to our clinic families. Your generosity with gifts from the Angel Tree was, as usual, overwhelming and formed a large part of our gifts. Your kindness and that of other Danbury area neighbors made this Christmas season much happier for the children and their parents. We had a parents' "shopping day" on December 20 and although we had more toys than other years we ran out of some categories of toys before the line of parents ended. We were also able to give most of the families a gift certificate to a grocery store. Please know that your generosity was greatly appreciated. We wish you all the best in 2009. Sincerely, Ann Hines, M.D.*

Another "thank you"---*I wanted to thank you for the wonderful support you gave this past Christmas season. Thank to you and others like you every client and their family members received a large Christmas meal and their holiday wishes. There is such pleasure in giving the families we serve the donated gifts and Christ meal. Everyone is so thankful for what they receive. Thank you for helping make the holiday brighter for so many of the families we serve. The holidays are such a wonderful time to see all the giving and good will. With these uncertain times so many give what they can to help all the families we serve. It was such a pleasure giving the clients the gifts you donated, you did such a nice job. Interfaith appreciates the generous giving to the six families, making Christmas extra special. Thank you for reaching out with a helping hand. 2009 marks the 20 year anniversary of Interfaith AIDS Ministry. If it wasn't for the support of the staff and the parishioners of places of worship, I'm not sure that Interfaith would be celebrating this milestone. We are very grateful for your Christmas donation to our families. Be assured that you have made a difference in the lives of those living with HIV/AIDS. Our care receivers have expressed their gratitude on how these donations have brought joy into their homes. Your caring has helped them to have a wonderful holiday. We would like to thank you on behalf of the Interfaith AIDS Ministry care receivers. God Bless. Sincerely, Michael Greene, Director of Operations and Direct Care Services.*

*****OTHER EVENTS*****

Healing Mass---**Thursday, March 5, at 7:30 p.m. with Rev. Charles Allen, Jesuit at St. Philip Church, 1 Father Conlon Place, Norwalk.**

"White Mass" for Catholic Health Care Professionals---will be celebrated by **Bishop William E. Lori on Sunday, March 22, at 8:30 a.m. at Saint Aloysius Parish in New Canaan.** Breakfast will immediately follow at the Woodway Country Club in Darien. The guest speaker will be Edmund D. Pellegrino, M.D., Chairman of the President's Council on Bioethics and Professor Emeritus of Medicine and Medical Ethics and Adjunct Professor of Philosophy at Georgetown University. His topic will be the new bioethical instruction of the Holy See, *Dignitas Personae*, posted now on: www.usccb.org/comm/Dignitaspersonae. This promises to be a very informative and interesting event. All are welcome. Breakfast tickets: \$25. For more information and tickets, contact Donna Schmidt at 203-416-1457 or email dschmidt@diobpt.org.

I.H.S. \$100,000 Tuition Raffle---The \$100,000 tuition raffle drawing is **March 8, 2009**. Tickets cost \$100 each and only 3,000 tickets will be sold. We appreciate your support of the tuition raffle please be reminded that the winner can choose to use the raffle proceeds to pay tuition at any accredited school in the country! Please continue to spread the word. If you would like to buy a ticket please contact John Brosz at 203-744-1510 Ext. 144 or via e-mail @ jbrosz@immaculatehs.org.

The next I.H.S. Entrance Exam is scheduled for **March 14 at 8:30 a.m.** Please contact Mike Bonelli at 203-744-1510 Ext. 157 or via e-mail @ mbonelli@immaculatehs.org to register.

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.

St. Peter Calendar

Información Hispana!

| | | |
|-----|---------|--|
| Sun | Feb. 15 | NO Rel. Ed. Classes. |
| Mon | Feb. 16 | Parish Council. 7:30 p.m. Rectory. Hispanic Prayer Group. 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall. |
| Tue | Feb. 17 | Children's Choir. 6:30 p.m. Brazilian Prayer Group. 6:30 p.m. Church. Men's Society. 7:30 p.m. Parish Hall. |
| Thu | Feb. 19 | Parish Choir. 7:30 p.m. Music Room. |
| Fri | Feb. 20 | Morning of Reflection. 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 N. |
| Sat | Feb. 21 | Confirmation Workshop. 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Food Pantry Collection. At all Masses. |
| Sun | Feb. 22 | Rel. Ed. Classes Grades K – 8. Coffee Hour. Sponsored by the Homebound and Eucharistic Ministers. Following 7:30, 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. Masses. Food Pantry Collection. At all Masses. |
| Mon | Feb. 23 | Hispanic Prayer Group. 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall. The Book Discussion Group. 7:00 p.m. Rectory. Fr. Boadt's book <i>The Life of St. Paul</i> |
| Tue | Feb. 24 | Children's Choir. 6:30 p.m. Brazilian Prayer Group. 6:30 p.m. Church. |
| Wed | Feb. 25 | Ash Wednesday No Bingo. |
| Thu | Feb. 26 | Parish Choir. 7:30 p.m. Music Room. |
| Sat | Feb. 28 | First Communion Workshop. 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. |
| Sun | Mar. 1 | Rel. Ed. Classes Grades K – 8. |
| Mon | Mar. 2 | Hispanic Prayer Group. 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall. |
| Tue | Mar. 3 | Children's Choir. 6:30 p.m. Brazilian Prayer Group. 6:30 p.m. Church |
| Thu | Mar. 5 | Parish Choir. 7:30 p.m. Music Room. |
| Fri | Mar. 6 | First Friday Adoration. 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 N. Presentation on the Life of St. Paul by Reverend Lawrence Boadt Youth Group Famine begins. |
| Sat | Mar. 7 | Youth Group Famine ends. |
| Sun | Mar. 8 | Rel. Ed. Classes Grades K – 8. |
| Mon | Mar. 9 | Hispanic Prayer Group. 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall. |
| Tue | Mar. 10 | Children's Choir. 6:30 p.m. Brazilian Prayer Group. 6:30 p.m. Church Women's Guild. 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall. |
| Thu | Mar. 12 | Parish Choir. 7:30 p.m. Music Room. |
| Sat | Mar. 14 | Confirmation Workshop. 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. |
| Sun | Mar. 15 | Rel. Ed. Classes Grades K – 8. |
| Mon | Mar. 16 | Parish Council. 7:30 p.m. Rectory. Hispanic Prayer Group. 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall. |
| Tue | Mar. 17 | Hibernian Mass. 11:00 a.m. Children's Choir. 6:30 p.m. Brazilian Prayer Group. 6:30 p.m. Church. Men's Society. 7:30 p.m. Parish Hall. |
| Thu | Mar. 19 | Parish Choir. 7:30 p.m. Music Room. |
| Sat | Mar. 21 | First Reconciliation. 11:00 a.m. |
| Sun | Mar. 22 | Rel. Ed. Classes Grades K - *. |
| Mon | Mar. 23 | Hispanic Prayer Group. 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall. |

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

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 Catequesis en la Escuela de St. Peter los Domingos a las 10:15 am.

El programa de RCIA o educacion Religiosa para los adultos: para recibir los Sacramentos de Iniciación (Bautismo, Primera Comunión y confirmación) en la Iglesia Católica. Las clases comenzaron en Septiembre en la parroquia. Las edades desde 13 años en adelante incluyendo adultos. Información con el Padre Perez. No hay inscripciones hasta el mes de Agosto.

Curso de Estudio Bíblico

El curso Biblico se está llevando a cabo en la parte baja 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 coner al Dios que amamos y nos ama. Esperamos nos acompañen en este nuevo evento. Gracias.

Para saber cuando se han cancelado las clases de catesismo por favor mirar en el canal 13 WFSB, canal 8 WTNH y los canales 4 y 6 WNBC los Domingos en la mañana y los días que haya mal clima y que usted piense que las clases pueden ser canceladas. Tambien se puede llamar a la oficina de Catequesis al tel: 743-1048 y alli habrá un mensaje en la maquina contestadora

Durante el tiempo de cuaresma, se estaran escuchando confesiones todos los Martes a las 7 de la noche. En todas la Parroquias de la Diocesis de Bridgeport se oiran confesiones. Aprovechen esta oportunidad.

Dios los Bendiga.

**BINGO EVERY WEDNESDAY
EARLYBIRDS BEGIN AT 6:30 P.M.**

