



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/MARCH

28	SAT	4:00 PM	† Marilyn Carrafiello
		5:30 PM	† Rosemary Murphy
		7:30 PM	Brazilian Mass
1	SUN	7:30 AM	† Gene Bailey
		9:00 AM	† Lucy D'Souza
		10:30 AM	Our Parishioners
		12:00 N	† Gerald Martin
		5:30 PM	Spanish Mass
		7:30 PM	Brazilian Mass
2	MON	7:30 AM	† Charles Goldrick
		12:10 N	† Mathew Woods
3	TUE	<i>St. Katharine Drexel, virgin</i>	
		7:30 AM	† Agnes and Peter Gadbois
		12:10 N	† Joseph Sherry
4	WED	<i>St. Casimir</i>	
		7:30 AM	† Richard Moore
		12:10 N	In Thanksgiving
5	THU	7:30 AM	† Marian Scott
		12:10 N	† Frank Russo
6	FRI	7:30 AM	† Ella Talarico
		12:10 N	† Frances Simonovich
		7:00 PM	Evening Prayer with Speaker
7	SAT	<i>Sts. Perpetua and Felicity, martyrs</i>	
		7:30 AM	†
		4:00 PM	† Joseph N. Matranga
		5:30 PM	St. Peter Parishioners
		7:30 PM	Brazilian Mass
8	SUN	7:30 AM	† Deolinda Francesco
		9:00 AM	† Antonia George
		10:30 AM	Our Parishioners
		12:00 N	† Michele BiBuono
		5:30 PM	Spanish Mass
		7:30 PM	Brazilian Mass

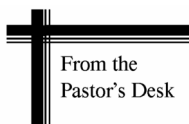
On the weekend, if the intention of the Mass is yours,
please see an usher about bringing up the gifts.

SACRIFICIAL GIVING – March 1, 2009 \$9,292
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
Amanda Arcentales

KINDLY REMEMBER THE SICK OF THE PARISH
Marion Aubin Eleanor Cassidy Doris Castille Lynn DiPasqua
Rev. Louis Dytkowski Mary Anne Fortin Michael Halpin
Lorraine Kain Lena Kovacs Thomas Liddane Tony Murphy
Kathleen Scott Isabella Valdiviezo



Happy Lent! Those of you around during Msgr. Wallin's day will recall him saying that this was one of Bishop Curtis' expressions. Happy Lent? What does that mean? What Bishop Curtis was pointing out was the good and positive aspect of the season of Lent. It is, as the prophet Isaiah said, the acceptable time, the time of our salvation. Lent gives us a period of spiritual renewal to prepare us for the celebration of Easter and new life. We are immensely grateful for the love of God that recreates us in mind and spirit. We can be happy because our God is good, kind, and merciful and does great things for us.

Lent began here with a bang. We saw very large crowds here for Ash Wednesday. The church was full at mid day and for the 5:30 Liturgy of the Word as well as the Hispanic and Brazilian Masses. The word I heard used was "packed." That's a good thing. Some parishioners joined the school children for their Mass. The third grade prepared the liturgy, taking the role of readers and writing the intercessions. They performed admirably. A photographer requested that she might come to that Mass to take some pictures. Mrs. McCormack and I agreed. We are very proud of the children. They behave very well at Mass, are prayerful and respectful. I thought, and I suppose so did Mrs. McCormack, that the publicity sure couldn't hurt us in attracting more students. I wasn't thrilled, however, to see myself twice. The baldness thing after all these years still makes me wince.

We have a number of things happening this week and next. At the top of the list is our talk on Friday by Fr. Lawrence Boadt. We have folded a Lenten spiritual talk into the Pauline year. Fr. Boadt is a scripture scholar and teacher, writer and, presently, the president of Pauline Press in Mahwah, New Jersey. We are fortunate to have been able to get on Fr. Boadt's speaking schedule. Fr. Michael Laskey, the chaplain at WestConn and weekend assistant at Sacred Heart on Cottage Street, told me at our book fair that he had Fr. Boadt as a teacher in the seminary and said he is excellent. We have invited folks from the surrounding parishes to join us. In fact, Fr. Laskey is planning to bring some students from the college. Rather than have the talk alone or with the customary Stations of the Cross, we have decided to celebrate Vespers, or Evening Prayer on Friday. Our quartet is preparing some lovely settings for the psalms and canticles. I think you will find the Vespers quite beautiful. Following the talk, we will have some cheese and crackers downstairs in the hall. I hope many of us will be able to attend. Keep your fingers crossed for good weather.

Next weekend is also the time for the Youth Group's 30 Hour Famine. They begin Friday evening and will join the parish for Fr. Boadt's presentation. The 30 Hour Famine draws attention to world-wide hunger. This is the young people's third year holding this event in conjunction with the organization, World Vision. Last month their Bake-Off raised money for the cause. At each Mass this weekend members of the Youth Group will speak after Communion to tell us more about the Famine and to ask for our financial support. If you have not already donated toward their effort, they and I thank you for considering a gift this weekend.

Reaching out to others in charity is one of the hallmarks of Lent. "Where charity and love prevail, there is God." We know that an act of charity covers a multitude of sin. We all should perform some acts of charity during Lent. Those acts of charity need not involve money, of course. They can be visits or phone

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

calls to relatives or friends we have somewhat neglected. They can be a helpful gesture, a kind word. In his description of the Final Judgment, who does Jesus say have his Father's blessing? Those who gave food to the hungry, drink to the thirsty, welcome to the stranger, clothing to the naked, comfort to the ill and imprisoned. Each of us considers what we will do. As we do so, let us keep in mind not only the 30 Hour Famine but also the Loaves & Fishes program to feed the hungry in Fairfield County and the Annual Bishop's Appeal. Collectively, I know the members of this parish to be generous and to do quite a lot. Things this year are very tight and uncertain, yet we continue to do what we can for others.

On this topic, I thank all of you who contribute to the monthly food collection for the Daily Bread Food Pantry run out of St. James Church. On Monday I dropped off what groceries had not been taken by our volunteers from our Community Concerns Committee on Sunday. I couldn't get into the small parking lot and there must have been a dozen people waiting outside for a bag of groceries. I have to tell you that I didn't see an abundance of items on the shelves. I learned from Rita on Monday that the Brazilian Community has begun to collect food to give to its members who are now unemployed and struggling to make ends meet, so out of the groceries I was delivering, I brought a box to the Brazilian Center. Another two bags I put aside for a family with five children in the parish. Our next food collection will be on the fourth weekend of March.

Sticking with Lent just a little longer, let me repeat that the Diocese's "Come to Confession During Lent" campaign begins this week. Every Tuesday evening the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available from 7 to 9 p.m. at every one of our parishes, including ours. The Brazilian Prayer Group meets in church on Tuesdays so church is always open that evening and the two won't interfere with one another. I should add at this time, that given the Confession Campaign, I am not going to schedule a parish penance service this Lent. With opportunities for Reconciliation on Saturday and Tuesday, another evening might just be superfluous.

Off the topic of Lent, I want to acknowledge and thank Bob Gentry for his service to the parish as a member of the Finance Committee. If I remember correctly, Bob told me he began sitting on this board at Msgr. Bumstead's request. Bob informed the committee at the February meeting that he felt it was time for him to resign. We are sorry to see Bob leave, but we certainly understand. Over all these years he has contributed a watchful eye on the parish's finances and provided sound advice. I am grateful to Bob for his presence and goodness.

Father Mecca



*We offer our condolences to the families of
Mary Engel
May "Gilly" Gilhooly
Janice Woodcock
who passed away last week.*

SAINT PETER-SACRED HEART SCHOOL NEWS

"Happy are they who hope in the Lord..." cries out the psalmist as we begin our holy season of Lent. Saint Peter-Sacred Heart students came together once again to celebrate mass as a school community welcoming Lent. Ashes were placed on our forehead

reminding us that we were created by God and it is to God's home we will return.

Our Lenten crosses will be placed outside of each school building and our symbolic rocks will also be placed around the cross reminding us that Jesus is Lord, that we are on our journey to soften (rock) hardness of heart knowing Jesus is with us.

During Lent each campus will pray the Stations of the Cross on Fridays, Sacred Heart Campus 8:40 AM, Saint Peter Campus 1:30 PM. Please join us. All parents, guardians, family and parishioners are most welcome.

As Lent is upon us, so also is spring dawning in the very near future. Just now our students at Saint Peter Campus have completed their Blue Ribbon testing and will soon be conferencing with parent, student and teacher. The Iowa Test of Basic Skills is being held now for Grades 3-8 and Grades K-2 will be in May.

Registration for our school is beginning as is the re-registration for students presently on campus. Financial Aid forms are available and need to be completed by the end of April. We have prepared our budget for school year 2009-2010 and set the tuition scale. Being mindful of our Country's economic situation, our tuition increase is just fifty dollars (\$50) over last year, \$3,650 to \$3,700. Please come and visit us, have your child spend a day with us. You will not be disappointed.

Mrs. Mary McCormack

SAINT PETER RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Classes this Sunday for all grades K – 8

First Reconciliation---The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated for the first time by those children preparing for First Holy Communion in May. The date is **Saturday, March 21, at 11 a.m. in the church.** 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- 4:30, and April 25 Saturday 2:30-4:30 in the Parish Hall.** Sorry for the confusion. Thank you.

Confirmation Students---Saints reports are due today, March 1. Please give the written report to your teacher. If you have missed any workshops or have missed more than 5 Sunday classes, you must call the Religious Ed office 743-1048, as soon as possible in order to avoid postponing your Confirmation. Don't forget the date for the third and final workshop, Sat. March 14th at 3:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

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

*This Friday, March 6, is the First Friday.
Please come spend some quiet time with Our Lord in the
Blessed Sacrament...8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.*

Mass Intentions

There are a number of Masses available in our 2009 Mass Book. Our 2010 Book is also available.

Community Concerns Committee---will meet this **Tuesday, March 3, at 7:15 p.m. in the Parish Hall.** All are welcome!

The **Emergency Overflow Shelter of Danbury** is looking for volunteers to staff the Shelter at the First Congregational Church on Deer Hill Avenue. Our next week of service is **March 16 through 22.** Please call Larry Morgan evenings at 744-1082 for information and to volunteer.

Lenten Confession Campaign---The theme for today's readings talks about overcoming the powers of evil. During Lent, we are called to focus our attention on the sacrifice that Christ has made for our redemption. We prepare for Easter through Lenten observances of additional prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

In preparing for Easter, we also have additional opportunities to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation in our Diocese. This Tuesday, March 3 begins the **Lenten Confession Campaign** in the Diocese of Bridgeport. Pope Benedict says that "Lent is an especially favorable season to meditate on the reality of sin in the light of God's infinite mercy, which the Sacrament of Penance expresses in its loftiest form." **Every Tuesday** every parish in the Diocese of Bridgeport will be open from **7:00 to 9:00 p.m.** and the Sacrament of Confession will be available.

Prayer for the fruitfulness of the Lenten Confession Campaign

O Father of Infinite mercy and compassion,
like the shepherd who searches for the lost sheep,
and the woman who looks for the lost coin,
You always seek us out when we sin that,
through the grace of the Holy Spirit,
we might be reconciled to You.

In the Holy Season of Lent,
draw Your people to the
Sacrament of Reconciliation
to experience the transforming joy
of Your Divine Mercy.
Let us know the power of
Your unconditional love
and the security of Your providential care.

Bless confessors so that they may be
your instruments in leading us
to true conversion of heart
and holiness of life.

Grant this through Christ Our Lord.
Amen.

Women's Guild---will meet **Tuesday, March 10, at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.**

Spiritual Direction---is the process of sitting with another for the purpose of discerning God's movement in your life and deepening your relationship with the Holy. If you wish to see if this is what you need at this phase of your journey with God, you may wish to meet with Yvette Lessard who is a trained spiritual director. She will be available this **Thursday, March 5.** Please call the Rectory for an appointment.

Lenten Tuesday Evening Confessor Schedule

Mar. 3 English/Spanish, Fr. Perez
Mar. 10 English/Spanish, Fr. Perez
Mar. 17 Brazilian Community, Msgr. Pedro
Mar. 24 English/Spanish, Fr. Perez
Mar. 31 Hispanic Community, Fr. Perez
Apr. 7 English, Fr. Mecca

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

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

"Finding God in All the Galleries"---A Lenten lecture meditation series in the Ignatian Tradition by Rev. Leo J. O'Donovan, S.J., president emeritus of Georgetown University and a past president of the Catholic Theological Society of America. The lecture will be held in the **Egan Chapel, Fairfield University, Wednesday, March 4, 18, 25, and April 15 at 7:00 p.m.** This series follows the liturgical rhythm of Lent and Easter. The themes of each evening will be *Imagining the incarnation, The Everyday, Meditations before the Cross,* and the *Hope of Easter* respectively.

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	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 Lenten Confession
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. 7:00 p.m. Youth Group Famine begins. Youth Group Famine ends.
Sat	Mar. 7	Rel. Ed. Classes Grades K – 8.
Sun	Mar. 8	Hispanic Prayer Group. 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall.
Mon	Mar. 9	Children’s Choir. 6:30 p.m.
Tue	Mar. 10	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. Brazilian Stations of the Cross. 8:00 p.m.
Fri	Mar. 13	Stations of the Cross. 7:00 p.m. Spanish Stations of the Cross. 8:00 p.m.
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. Brazilian Stations of the Cross. 8:00 p.m.
Fri	Mar. 20	Stations of the Cross. 7:00 p.m. Spanish Stations of the Cross. 8:00 p.m.
Sat	Mar. 21	First Reconciliation. 11:00 a.m. St. James Food Pantry Collection. All Masses.
Sun	Mar. 22	Rel. Ed. Classes Grade K – 8. St. James Food Pantry Collection. All Masses.
Mon	Mar. 23	Hispanic Prayer Group. 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall.
Tue	Mar. 24	Children’s Choir. 6:30 p.m. Brazilian Prayer Group. 6:30 p.m. Church
Thu	Mar. 26	Parish Choir. 7:30 p.m. Music Room. Brazilian Stations of the Cross. 8:00 p.m.
Fri	Mar. 27	Stations of the Cross. 7:00 p.m. Spanish Stations of the Cross. 8:00 p.m.
Sat	Mar. 28	CCC Lenten Collection. All Masses.
Sun	Mar. 29	Rel. Ed. Classes Grade K – 8. CCC Lenten Collection. All Masses. Coffee Hour. Hosted by Community Concerns. Following 7:30, 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. Masses.
Mon	Mar. 30	Hispanic Prayer Group. 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall.
Tue	Mar. 31	Children’s Choir. 6:30 p.m. Brazilian Prayer Group. 6:30 p.m. Church

Información Hispana!

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

Atención: se necesitan nuevos Catequistas que sean bilingües para la Catequesis de los niños en inglés 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 están cordialmente invitados. El Señor Jesús 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 serán programados solo los Sábados a las 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 están 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 educación 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 Bíblico se está llevando a cabo en la parte baja de la Iglesia y es de 4 a 5 de la tarde. Todos están invitados a conocer más 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.

Para saber cuando se han cancelado las clases de catequesis 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. También se puede llamar a la oficina de Catequesis al tel: 743-1048 y allí habrá un mensaje en la máquina contestadora

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

Dios los Bendiga.

Brazilian Stations of the Cross every Thursday at 8:00 p.m.

Stations of the Cross every Friday at 1:30 and 7:00 p.m.

Spanish Stations of the Cross every Friday at 8:00 p.m.

Friday, March 6

Vespers and Fr. Boadt at 7:00 p.m.

