

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

27	SAT	4:00 PM	✠ Maria, Joseph and Rosa Miguel
		5:30 PM	Our Parishioners
		7:30 PM	Brazilian Mass
28	SUN	7:30 AM	✠ Winifred Seeley
		9:00 AM	✠ Paul DuBois
		10:30 AM	✠ Winifred Cordery
		12:00 N	✠ Wilhelmina Levesque
		5:30 PM	Spanish Mass
29	MON	7:30 AM	✠ Souls in Purgatory
		12:10 N	✠ Ruth Herrick
		8:00 PM	Brazilian Mass
30	TUE	7:30 AM	✠ Louise Fauser
		12:10 N	✠ Walter Straiton
		8:00 PM	Brazilian Mass
31	WED	7:30 AM	✠ Elizabeth and Neil McCaffery
		12:10 N	✠ Esther Brown
		8:00 PM	Brazilian Mass
1	THU	8:00 AM	Morning Prayer
		7:30 PM	Liturgy of the Lord's Supper
2	FRI	8:00 AM	Morning Prayer
		12:10 N	Stations of the Cross
		3:00 PM	Veneration of the Cross
3	SAT	8:00 AM	Morning Prayer
		8:00 PM	Easter Vigil
4	SUN	7:30 AM	Our Parishioners
		9:00 AM	✠ Leo Delohery
		10:30 AM	✠ William Schlichtig
		12:00 N	✠ Christopher Chianelli
		5:30 PM	Spanish Mass
		7:30 PM	Brazilian Mass

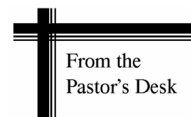
On the weekend, if the intention of the Mass is yours,
please see an usher about bringing up the gifts.

SACRIFICIAL GIVING – March 21, 2010 \$10,417
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
Ellie Moore Elijah Siharaj

KINDLY REMEMBER THE SICK OF THE PARISH
*James Buzaid Nicholas Buzaid Eleanor Cassidy
 Lynn DiPasqua Mary Anne Fortin Michael Gintoli Ann Hickey
 Michael Halpin Thomas Liddane Daniel Marzella Tony Murphy
 Dr. James Pegolatti Kathleen Scott Isabella Valdiviezo*



Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna! Today is

Palm Sunday when we commemorate our Lord's entrance into Jerusalem to the shouts of praise from the crowd. We experience the most powerful and rich liturgies as we enter ourselves once again into the Lord's Passion, death and Resurrection--what we call the Paschal Mystery. It is important that we understand that we do not just commemorate these life giving events. We literally *enter into them*. They are real to us now as they were real two thousand years ago. We experience the death of our sins and the new life God's Spirit gives to us. The word, 'paschal,' comes from the Hebrew *pesach meaning* a "passing by" or a "passing through." It is the root word for 'Passover.' The Israelites were saved from slavery when the angel of death struck the firstborn of the Egyptians but "passed over" them. The remembering of this saving act of God became the heart of the Hebrew religious experience. Jesus' passing from death to life is, of course, the heart of our religious experience. The timing of the Lord's Passion was no coincidence. With the backdrop of the Exodus, God demonstrates his ultimate act of salvation for his children. There can be no more dramatic, no more spectacular rescue than to be saved from eternal death.

The Palm Sunday liturgy begins with the blessing of palms from the back of the church, a place outside of the sanctuary and different from our usual format, in imitation of the triumphant procession of Jesus from Bethany to Jerusalem. We bless the palms and read the Gospel of Jesus' entrance into the city as people greeted him with palm branches and shouts of joy. Soon afterward, the theme of triumph changes radically with the reading of the Passion narrative. The Palm Sunday liturgy is devoted more to the suffering of Jesus than to his triumphant reception by the people. The Church telescopes these events to emphasize the meaning of Holy Week. On Thursday, Friday, Saturday/Sunday--the Sacred Triduum (Latin, "three days")--we break down the Paschal Mystery into its historical pieces. Our schedule of Liturgies for Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter is printed prominently in the bulletin. I encourage you to participate in the Mass of the Lord's Supper and Good Friday service. If you are unable to do so, please be sure to set aside these special days with some prayer and meditation on your own.

Our Youth Group held their famine Friday to Saturday. They end the famine with Mass at 4 p.m. and dinner *immediately* following. The young people are quite dedicated and committed to this effort. The thirty hours are spent in a combination of prayer and service in the true spirit of Christian living. Through the generosity of our parishioners they are contributing \$3,100 to World Vision for food programs. All this is truly wonderful. I thank and acknowledge the young people, you and Mary Ellen Barlow-Hansen, who facilitates the Youth Ministry, for her time and commitment.

I want to acknowledge today as well, the goodness you exhibited in assisting with our Good Samaritan Fund.

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

We contributed \$1,002.00 last week. Thank you so much. Just to give you an idea of the continuing requests for assistance, I had just gotten in the door after the noon Mass when the phone rang. A mother of three, who we have met before, was calling to request enough quarters to do laundry and a gift card to purchase some groceries. She lost her home but she and the children are fortunate to be living at a transitional housing facility. Still, her money is tight and doesn't cover all her needs. The donations to the fund were put in the tamper-proof offertory bags. I felt like a thief ripping one open to gather enough quarters for her to do a couple of loads. I can't tell you how appreciative I was that you gave quarters.

On the same topic of giving, I must say that I think the Community Concerns Committee's other Lenten effort, that is, the weekly food drive, was an unqualified success. I hope you, yourselves, saw the quantity of goods contributed each week. Overall, I'd say we here at St. Peter's took quite seriously the Lenten discipline of almsgiving. God bless you for your charity toward others.

I saved mention of the Penance Service for the end of my column. We selected Tuesday evening for it since we must be open on Tuesdays throughout Lent for confessions anyway. You are familiar with my approach to penance services. I don't believe in making them long and tiring. We come as a community to acknowledge that we are sinners but sinners who trust in the love of God. We listen to God's promise of forgiveness, healing and life in the Scriptures, we pray and then we celebrate the Sacrament. If you have been planning on being reconciled with God this Lent and have not as yet done so, this is the evening to come. We have Confessions scheduled for Saturday for those who are hopelessly last minute, but it would be smarter to come on Tuesday.

I wish us all a blessed and spirit filled Holy Week.
---Fr. Mecca



We offer our condolences to the families of

*Maureen Armstrong
Margaret Krack
Justino Ottavio*

who passed away last week.

SAINT PETER-SACRED HEART SCHOOL NEWS

The Students at St. Peter-Sacred Heart will spend Holy Week mindful of our school work but taking time to be meditative in our thoughts and actions remembering all Jesus said and did. We invite you to come to Sacred Heart Campus Gym on Holy Thursday as our Grade 8 reenacts the Stations of the Cross. Our prayer begins at 10:30 AM and ends about 11:30 AM.

Please know dear parishioners, parents and children that you are our support and our hope for the future of

Catholic Education at St. Peter-Sacred Heart. We, therefore, remember you in our daily prayer.

Happy Easter!

Mrs. Mary T. McCormack, Principal

On Another Note.....You are Invited!

After three years of loyal support a few of our St. Peter-Sacred Heart School Advisory Board members have resigned in order to be attentive to other matters in their lives. We are most grateful for their support and thank God for the talents they shared with us. Therefore we move forward seeking volunteers to assist us:

Positions Available:	Marketing Development
	Secretary or Note Taker
	Planning
	Finance Background

Meetings are held monthly at St. Peter Campus lasting about 90 minutes in length. Please call St. Peter Campus at (203) 748-2895.

*****SAINT PETER RELIGIOUS EDUCATION*****

Classes this Sunday – Palm Sunday K – 8---During this coming Holy Week, parents, please bring your children to the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday at 7:30 p.m., Good Friday Stations of the Cross at 12:00 N and the Easter Vigil at 8:00 p.m., since they have been learning about all the events of Jesus' Passion, death and Resurrection in their classes.

No Classes next Sunday, Easter Sunday!!!

Confirmation Students---Confirmation Mass is Saturday, April 24, at 11:00 a.m.---There will be a reception following the mass in the parish hall. Check your schedule and make sure that you have handed in all your assignments and requirements that are due and are working to complete your service hours. Mark the important dates on your calendar: the **retreat is Saturday, April 10, and the interviews with the pastor are during the retreat.**

Confirmation rehearsal is Thursday, April 22, 6:30p.m. in the church.

First Communion Families---Each child will be making a banner with their name on it to hang on the end of the pew where their family sits during the First Holy Communion Mass. Please bring \$5 on Sunday, April 11 to purchase a banner kit. You will receive a flier today explaining all details. The next and final workshop is Sunday, April 25, beginning with 9 am mass and continues in the school classroom until 12 noon. We will begin making the banners on that Sunday during the workshop.

PARISH EVENTS

Schedule for Holy Week

Tue	Mar. 30	Lenten Penance Service. 7:00-9:00 p.m.
Thu	Apr. 1	Holy Thursday. 8:00 a.m. – Morning Prayer 7:30 p.m. – Liturgy of the Lord’s Supper
Fri	Apr. 2	Good Friday. 8:00 a.m. – Morning Prayer 12:10 p.m. – Stations of the Cross 3:00 p.m. – Veneration of the Cross
Sat	Apr. 3	Holy Saturday. 8:00 a.m. – Morning Prayer Confession. 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Easter Vigil. 8:00 p.m.
Sun	Apr. 4	Easter Sunday Liturgies. 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 a.m. and 12:00 N Spanish Mass. 5:30 p.m. Brazilian Mass. 7:30 p.m. No Religious Education Classes.

Community Concerns Committee---will meet Tuesday, **April 6, at 7:15 p.m. in the Parish Hall.**

Spiritual Direction is one means of deepening our relationship with God. It helps people tend a deep connection with the Holy, and it has been a suggested spiritual practice for over 300 years by such spiritual masters as St. Ignatius of Loyola, St. Theresa of Avila, St. John of the Cross, etc. Yvette Lessard is a trained spiritual director, and she will be at the rectory on **Wednesday, April 7.** Please call the rectory if you would like an appointment to see if this would be helpful for your spiritual life.

2010 Annual Bishop’s Appeal

St. Peter Goal	\$110,000
Pledged	\$ 57,296
No. of Pledges and Gifts	188

2010 Annual Bishop’s Appeal---Hospital Chaplains play a vital role in helping patients, their families and friends. The Annual Bishop’s Appeal supports our Hospital Chaplains throughout the Diocese. There are 16 Hospital Chaplains in the Diocese of Bridgeport. Their role is to discuss concerns about sickness, old age or death and help them bring their faith into their circumstances and see God’s hand during the illness. As one parishioner reflects, “If it were not for the support of the Hospital Chaplains during a very difficult time in the life of my loved one, I do not know how I would have survived the daily interactions with the medical staff

and my family member’s prognosis. My faith is strong in our Lord and the Chaplain helped me to understand His role in the journey. I had to make some difficult decisions and his gentle guidance helped me tremendously. We need Christ in every area of our life and I am grateful for the ministry of the Hospital Chaplains.” Chaplains pray with patients and family, provide the anointing of the sick and last rites and are available 24 hours a day. Thank you for your gift to the 2010 Annual Bishop’s Appeal.

Stop In... AND HAVE A CUP OF COFFEE 

Our monthly Coffee Hour is hosted by the Eighth Grade Religious Ed. Class this Sunday, March 28, following the 7:30, 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. Masses. Join us in the Parish Hall.

OTHER EVENTS

Paschal Triduum Retreat---Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center in West Hartford will offer a silent retreat for men and women **April 1-3.** The retreat centers on the celebration of the Paschal Mystery of Christ's death and resurrection as we move through Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil. The retreat begins with dinner on Holy Thursday evening at 6:30 p.m. and concludes with brunch at 11:30 a.m. on Holy Saturday. Retreatants are welcome to remain at Holy Family for the Easter Vigil at 8:00 p.m. The offering is \$210-250. Information is available at (860) 521-0440. Register at www.holyfamilyretreat.org.

EPS Forum presents Serving Humanity in the Marketplace--- **Wednesdays, through April 21, 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the Charleston Room at St. Philip Parish, Norwalk.** Pope John Paul II called us to contemplate how the mystery of the Trinity is not only within us, but also within our brothers and sisters. How can understanding this shared communion within the Church improve our home and parish lives? How can it help our participation in the economy, politics, interreligious dialogue and international relations? Register now! Contact Priscilla Toumey at epsctprogram@trinitydc.edu or 203-847-2363.

Diocesan Celebration of Marriage Anniversaries---Bishop William E. Lori will celebrate a Mass, in which the commemoration of significant marriage anniversaries will occur at **St. Theresa Church, Trumbull, Sunday, April 25, at 3:00 p.m.** Couples who have or will be celebrating (during the months of January through June 2009) one of the following wedding anniversaries – 15th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 45th, 50th, and 50 plus years are invited to participate. The deadline for registration is Monday, April 12.

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

St. Peter Calendar

Sat Mar 27	Youth Group 30-Hour Famine Ends.
Sun Mar 28	Palm Sunday. Rel. Ed. Classes. Grades K – 8. Coffee Hour. Following 7:30, 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. Masses. No Baptisms.
Mon Mar 29	Latino Prayer Group. 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall.
Tue Mar 30	Prayer Group of Reparation. After 12:10 Mass Children's Choir. 6:30 p.m. Lenten Penance Service. 7:00 p.m.
Wed Mar 31	No Bingo.
Thu Apr 1	Holy Thursday. Morning Prayer. 8:00 a.m. Liturgy of the Lord's Supper. 7:30 p.m.
Fri Apr 2	Good Friday. Morning Prayer. 8:00 a.m. Stations of the Cross. 12:10 N Veneration of the Cross. 3:00 p.m.
Sat Apr 3	Holy Saturday. Morning Prayer. 8:00 a.m. Easter Vigil. 8:00 p.m.
Sun Apr 4	Easter Sunday. Masses at 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 a.m. and 12:00N No Religious Education Classes. No Baptisms
Mon Apr 5	Latino Prayer Group. 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall.
Tue Apr 6	Prayer Group of Reparation. After 12:10 Mass Children's Choir. 6:30 p.m. Brazilian Prayer Group. 6:30 p.m. Church
Thu Apr 8	Parish Choir. 7:30 p.m. Music Room.
Sat Apr 10	Confirmation Retreat. Parish Hall. 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Sun Apr 11	Rel. Ed. Classes. Grades K – 8. Rel. Ed. Teen Baptisms. 1:00 p.m. Volunteer Reception. 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Rectory.
Mon Apr 12	Latino Prayer Group. 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall.
Tue Apr 13	Prayer Group of Reparation. After 12:10 Mass Children's Choir. 6:30 p.m. Brazilian Prayer Group. 6:30 p.m. Church
Thu Apr 15	Parish Choir. 7:30 p.m. Music Room.
Sun Apr 18	No Religious Education Classes.
Mon Apr 19	Latino Prayer Group. 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall. Parish Council. 7:30 p.m. Rectory.
Tue Apr 20	Prayer Group of Reparation. After 12:10 Mass Children's Choir. 6:30 p.m. Brazilian Prayer Group. 6:30 p.m. Church
Thu Apr 22	Confirmation Rehearsal. 6:30 p.m. in Church. Parish Choir. 7:30 p.m. Music Room.
Sat Apr 24	Confirmation. 11:00 a.m. Reception following in Parish Hall.
Sun Apr 25	Rel. Ed. Classes. Grades K – 8. Coffee Hour. Following 7:30, 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. Masses.
Mon Apr 26	Latino Prayer Group. 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall.
Tue Apr 27	Prayer Group of Reparation. After 12:10 Mass Children's Choir. 6:30 p.m. Brazilian Prayer Group. 6:30 p.m. Church
Thu Apr 28	Parish Choir. 7:30 p.m. Music Room.

Información de la Comunidad Latina de San Pedro

Misa Dominical: Por favor acercarse antes de la misa a la parte posterior de la Iglesia a solicitar su intención. Se le recomienda hacerlo a las 5:15 pm. Usted encontrara la hoja de registro a la entrada de la Iglesia.

Grupo de Oración:

El grupo de oración en San Pedro se reúne todos los lunes a las 7:00 pm en el subsuelo de la Iglesia. Todas las personas están cordialmente invitadas a asistir.

AVISOS:

Invitación

- Invitamos a todas las madres de la comunidad Latina de San Pedro a participar de la celebración que se llevara a cabo el segundo domingo de mayo (luego de la misa en español)

Oraciones

- Por favor ore para que la Diócesis de Bridgeport nos asista con un sacerdote Latino.

Repaso Grupo de Música

- En el subsuelo de la Parroquia todos los Jueves de 6:00 a 9:00 pm
- Excepto el siguiente día: Jueves 1 de Abril

Horario Celebraciones Cuaresma

Confesiones

El sacerdote se encuentra confesando todos los domingos a partir de las 5:00 de la tarde.

Martes 30 de Marzo noche de confesiones para la comunidad.

Misas de Cuaresma

- Jueves Santo 7:30 pm
- Viernes Santo 5:30 pm
- Sábado Santo 8:00 pm (misa conjunta con la comunidad Americana)

Contactos:

- Registración parroquia:
Ana Espinal (203 730 0623)
- Grupo de Oración (Curso Bíblico):
Alvaro Tobar (203 791 2920)
- Lectores: Juan
Carlos Gonzalez (203 904 4951)
- Monaguillos:
Katherine Tobar (203 791 2920)
- Música:
Gerardo Gándara (203 791 8753)

