

#### **Weekends**

Saturday Vigil – 5:00 p.m.  
Brazilian Mass – 7:30 p.m.

Sunday – 7:30, 9:00 Children’s Liturgy and Choir,  
10:30 a.m. with Adult Choir and 12:00 N  
Spanish Mass – 5:00 p.m.  
Brazilian Mass – 7:30 p.m.

#### **Weekdays**

Monday through Saturday - 7:30 a.m.  
Monday through Friday - 12:10 Noon

**(HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE)**

#### **SACRAMENT OF PENANCE**

Saturday - 3:30 to 4:30 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 1:15 p.m. in the Rectory. Please pre-register by calling 203-743-2707. Baptisms will take place every Sunday at 1:15 p.m. except the second Sunday of the month.

## **Saint Peter Church, Danbury, CT**

#### **PASTORAL STAFF**

Rev. Gregg D. Mecca, Pastor  
Rev. Frank Eldridge, S.A. Parochial Vicar  
Rev. David J. Riley, In Residence



#### **QUASI PARISH OF OUR LADY OF APARECIDA**

Rev. Leonel S. Medeiros,  
Episcopal Vicar for Brazilians  
203-730-9071

#### **SAINT PETER SCHOOL OFFICE**

Mary Lou Torre — Principal - 203-748-2895  
School Fax: 203-748-5684

#### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND FORMATION**

Barbara Siano—Director of Religious Education K - 8  
203-743-1048 or [stpeterfuture@stpeterdanb.org](mailto:stpeterfuture@stpeterdanb.org)

#### **YOUTH MINISTRY**

Michael Falbo—Youth Group Director  
203-743-1048 or [ygstpeter@gmail.com](mailto:ygstpeter@gmail.com)

**Chairman of Parish Council** – Fred Visconti – 203-744-2311

**Chairman of Finance** – Arthur Mannion - 203-733-0183

**Homebound Ministry**— Sr. Mary Bernard Wiecezak, CSFN  
203-743-2707, Ext. 22

#### **PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. - MONDAY through FRIDAY  
104 Main Street, Danbury, CT

#### **OFFICE NUMBERS**

Phone: 203-743-2707 and Fax: 203-794-1928  
Email Address - [office@stpeterdanb.org](mailto:office@stpeterdanb.org)  
Website - [www.stpeterdanb.org](http://www.stpeterdanb.org)

#### **PARISH STAFF**

Dr. Glen Segger, Music Minister  
[gsegger@stpeterdanb.org](mailto:gsegger@stpeterdanb.org)  
Dr. Nancy Engel, Children’s Choir - 914-741-1670

#### **LATINO COMMUNITY**

203-743-2707



MARCH

|        |  |   |                             |
|--------|--|---|-----------------------------|
| 20 SAT | 5:00 PM                                  | † | Keilty and Drapeau Families |
|        | 7:30 PM                                  |   | Brazilian Mass              |
| 21 SUN | 7:30 AM                                  | † | Joann Waring                |
|        | 9:00 AM                                  | † | Francesco Le                |
|        | 10:30 AM                                 |   | Sister Frances Smalkowski   |
|        | 12:00 N                                  | † | Our Parishioners            |
|        | 5:00 PM                                  |   | Spanish Mass                |
|        | 7:30 PM                                  |   | Brazilian Mass              |
| 22 MON | 7:30 AM                                  | † | James Lynch                 |
|        | 12:10 N                                  | † | Polly Kelley                |
| 23 TUE | <i>St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop</i> |   |                             |
|        | 7:30 AM                                  | † | Isabelle Detje              |
|        | 12:10 N                                  | † | Souls in Purgatory          |
| 24 WED | 7:30 AM                                  | † | Louise Palestro             |
|        | 12:10 N                                  | † | Arlene Bucci                |
| 25 THU | <i>The Annunciation of the Lord</i>      |   |                             |
|        | 7:30 AM                                  |   | Msgr. Kevin Wallin          |
|        | 12:10 N                                  | † | Francis Kulhavnik           |
| 26 FRI | 7:30 AM                                  | † | Frances Augustine           |
|        | 12:10 N                                  | † | Adele Colatorti             |
| 27 SAT | 7:30 AM                                  | † | Matilde Unigarro            |
|        | 5:00 PM                                  | † | Joseph Hocking              |
|        | 7:30 PM                                  |   | Brazilian Mass              |
| 28 SUN | 7:30 AM                                  | † | Howard Schmiedel            |
|        | 9:00 AM                                  | † | Jose Salinas                |
|        | 10:30 AM                                 | † | William Schlichtig          |
|        | 12:00 N                                  |   | Our Parishioners            |
|        | 5:00 PM                                  |   | Spanish Mass                |
|        | 7:30 PM                                  |   | Brazilian Mass              |

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Our weekly goal.....                   | \$10,500 |
| SACRIFICIAL GIVING—March 14, 2021..... | \$ 5,621 |
| ONLINE GIVING—March 14, 2021.....      | \$ 1,895 |
| Shortfall.....                         | \$ 2,984 |

Thank you for your support. Father Mecca



**The Sanctuary Lamp Burns**

**In Memory Of**

**Thomas Pepin**



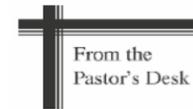
*We offer our condolences to the family of*



**Anne Morrisroe**

**John Webster**

*who passed away last week.*



Governor Lamont issued changes with respect to covid-19 restrictions. One of the updates that went into effect on March 19<sup>th</sup> was the elimination of a capacity on places of worship. Churches must, however, maintain six feet of distance between individuals/household units. How does the new rule affect us at St. Peter? Not very much. Our best estimate is that our capacity with maintaining the 6 ft. social distancing rises to 125 people. That is not a big increase, but it is just the same an increase that may be very helpful as we approach Easter Sunday. Last weekend, Marty told me how a few parishioners during the course of the weekend commented that we would be able to open up the pews this week. That is not the case, as you can see. Every other one remains closed off so that we are not in close proximity with others. As our attendance numbers rise, seating becomes a more intricate exercise. Marty is very good at mixing the households with single persons and couples so that we avoid an undesirable density. We will continue to do that for the foreseeable future

As you know, we keep track of how many people are in the church at each Mass. We saw an increase in attendance for two weeks. We hit a total of 460 people on the First and Second Sundays of Lent. There was a dip to 414 last week which may be attributed to Daylight Savings Time. It is too early to tell if we are experiencing a trend upward. There are definitely more of us at Mass than there were in the period from December through February. Marty and I are keeping our eyes on the numbers because if they rise much more at certain Masses we will have to make arrangements for spill-over seating downstairs in the hall. Last week, the total at 9 a.m., the most heavily attended Mass, went up to 114. There is not much more room for growth there. We took some time this past week to measure out the hall with chairs to determine how many people we could seat and to work with the streaming to see how well that projects onto the screen. We will be ready to offer spill-over seating as early as next weekend, Palm Sunday, should there be a need.

I am requesting that for Holy Week and Easter you take seriously our request to make a reservation for Mass either through the website or by phone. As attendance never seriously closed in on the former 100 person limit, we were not concerned with the number of walk-ins. We could seat everyone. That may no longer be the case for Holy Week and Easter Sunday. Our policy will be to seat people with reservations first. Walk-ins will be accommodated on a first come basis. When the church capacity is reached, people will be directed to the hall. We will have one of the priests or an Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist go downstairs at Communion time with the Blessed Sacrament. To date, our parishioners have been so cooperative with the regulations. I know I can count on you to continue to be gracious and understanding with the limits of what we can do.

So, having spoken of Holy Week, you will see the schedule of the liturgies in this bulletin. Let me highlight Monday of Holy Week which again in our diocese is

## FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

designated as Reconciliation Monday. Each deanery selected a couple of parishes where Confessions will be heard from 3 to 9 p.m. in order to provide maximum access to the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Our parish is one of the sites this year. There will always be two priests available, one of which will also speak Spanish. Confessions cannot be heard in the confessional because it is too confined of a space. We will have set-ups by the sanctuary that will allow for either anonymous or face to face confession. The church will be well marked to indicate where one may wait, walk, and pray.

—Fr. Mecca

### \*\*\*SAINT PETER SCHOOL NEWS\*\*\*

What have St. Peter School students been up to?



**Our read - a - thon continues and the heat is on! Thus far, \$5680 has been raised and the portion for St. Peter School is \$4,544. The students are loving the 20 minutes of daily leisure reading time, and we hope to keep up this positive reading energy for the rest of the school year! Collectively, the students have read 46,737 minutes. They eagerly await hearing the daily stats (top readers/top classes) and it spurs them on to devoting more time to reading! An unanticipated outcome of the read - a - thon is the thirst for reading new authors that has developed. With the funds raised, we have been able to invest in new books about timely topics our students hunger to investigate.**

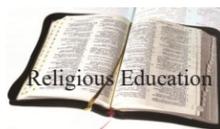
**The journey of Lent continues... The students have been participating in Virtual Stations of the Cross led by Fr. Mecca and representatives of the eighth grade class. This is a powerful experience for our students and is something that serves to support them and encourage them on their Lenten journey.**

**We are excited to share that the following students have been invited to attend Immaculate High School: Tracy Arias, Elemiah Castro, Jacey Clay, Paloma Curo, Michelle Fisher, and Kylie Macancela. These students have been invited to attend Henry Abbott Technical School: Lucas De Andrade, Andrew Duran, Lindsay Guaman, Emmanuel Inoa, and Johnny Rodriguez. We are very proud of ALL of our soon-to-be eighth grade graduates!**

**"Lent comes providentially to awaken us, to shake us from our lethargy." — Pope Francis**

—Mary Lou Torre, Pincipal

Over 50 students received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the time this weekend. They encountered God's love and mercy in this beautiful Sacrament!



Please remember them, their families and our catechists in your prayers as they continue to prepare to receive the sacrament of Holy Eucharist in May.

Registration For 2021/2022 Religious Education : Registration for 2021/2022 Religious Education will be Sunday April 18 and Sunday April 25. More information will be announced within the next few weeks, please check the bulletin.

### March

21— Virtual Class- 10:30 -11:15 am Lesson 20  
First Communion Class 10:15-11:30

28—Palm Sunday: Palm Sunday Zoom for all students

### April

4—Easter Sunday No Class  
11— Virtual Class- 10:30 am -11:15 am Lesson 21  
First Communion Class 10:15-11:30

—Barbara Siano, Director of Religious Education

### COMUNIDAD HISPANA SAN PEDRO

"Llega la hora de Jesús" Quinto domingo de pascua  
Jr 31, 31-34 Sal 50 Hb 5, 7-9 Jn 12, 20-33

A tan sólo siete días de la Semana Santa, los cristianos nos encontramos cara a cara con el misterio de la cruz. Cristo Jesús llegada la hora de su glorificación, al morir como el grano de trigo que cae en tierra, da el fruto de la nueva alianza en su sangre para el perdón de los pecados, como profetizó Jeremías y por la penosa obediencia de su Pasión, una vez constituido Señor, es fuente de salvación eterna para cuantos creen en Él. Como el grano de trigo, la muerte de Cristo será el principio de la vida. La Eucaristía nos da la fortaleza que necesitamos para morir al pecado y a nosotros mismos. Nos ponemos de pie para recibir a los ministros de esta celebración eucarística.

**Primera lectura: Jr 31, 31-34 (Haré una alianza nueva y no recordaré el pecado)** En esta lectura el profeta Jeremías resume toda la experiencia de su vida íntima y toda la enseñanza de la historia. Dios promete a su pueblo una nueva alianza escrita en el mismo corazón del hombre. La ley de su vida será su propia conciencia. Escuchemos este pasaje del Antiguo Testamento en que se menciona el Nuevo Testamento.

**Segunda lectura: Hb 5, 7-9 (Por su obediencia, Cristo es salvación nuestra)** La segunda lectura, tomada de la carta a los hebreos, el autor subraya la condición humana de Cristo. Aunque Él es Sacerdote, el Mediador de la Nueva Alianza, Él se sometió a la voluntad de Dios hasta padecer y morir.

**Tercera lectura: Jn 12, 20-33 (Si el grano de trigo muere, da mucho fruto)** Ha llegado la "hora" de que sea glorificado el Hijo del hombre, dice Él de sí mismo. En el Evangelio de Juan la glorificación de Cristo significa su pasión muerte y resurrección, que Él mismo nos explicará. La breve parábola del grano de trigo se centra en la fecundidad del mismo: "Si no cae en tierra y muere, queda

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Our Music Director, together with the St. Peter Schola, has created a virtual Stations of the Cross that can be viewed on our website. One of our choir members, Christy Langston, took wonderful pictures of our Stations here at St. Peter. These pictures will be shown on a YouTube video over a recording of our St. Peter Schola singing Franz Liszt's "Via Crucis." Liszt's "Via Crucis" is a powerful composition for organ and choir composed in 1879 specifically for the 14 Stations of the Cross. This 40 minute video will allow you to spiritually walk the Way of the Cross from the comfort of your own homes during this pandemic year.

—Glen Segger, Director of Music

### Notes from the Upper Room...

Each day around 4 p.m., a text message is sent to all participants, inviting them to stop whatever they are doing and to pray for a specific intention, followed by the recitation of one Hail Mary. This simple gesture unites thousands of people in prayer, while reminding us of the place that prayer should play in our ordinary lives. To date, over eight million prayer texts have been shared by subscribers. To join the movement is easy. Simply text the word pray from your smartphone to **55778**. You will automatically receive a response to confirm your subscription. Standard texting rates apply.

The Diocese has published a comprehensive list of the availability of the Sacrament of Reconciliation in all the deaneries of our Diocese. You can access this important information at <https://www.bridgeportdiocese.org/call-to-renewal/welcome/> or click "A Call to Renewal" at the top of the diocesan homepage.

The Bishop's Pastoral Exhortation *Let Us Enter the Upper Room with the Lord* is also now available in Spanish. You can view or download it at the website described above.

A Holy Hour for Vocations with reflection by Bishop Frank Caggiano will take place, Thursday, March 18 at St. Joseph Church, Danbury. Livestream Feed: [Facebook.com/BridgeportPriest](https://www.facebook.com/BridgeportPriest).



### Holy Thursday Seven Church Pilgrimage

April 1<sup>st</sup> 2021

Following the Mass of the Lord's Supper



"Remain here and keep watch with me."  
(Matthew 26:38)

Please join us as we travel on pilgrimage to 7 churches. At each church we will gather together for prayer, spend a few moments in adoration before the Blessed Sacrament, and then gather again afterward for reflection.

### 2021 Mass Book

The **2021 Mass Book** has many openings. They begin as early as March 28.

You may call the office to reserve Masses or stop by between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. weekdays.



The Book for 2022 is NOT yet available!

### KINDLY REMEMBER THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Daniel Alvarez Dorothy Bennett Richard Botelho  
Nubia Dekker Kristin Harrison Elizabeth Ianelli Dan Land  
Teddy Marchione Christopher McLaughlin  
Joseph Pepin Luciana Perreira Sr. Mary Bernard Wiecezak

**LENTEN  
ALMSGIVING**



| <b>Weekend of:</b> | <b>Item Requested</b>            |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| March 28           | Dish Soap and Household Cleaners |

**LENTEN REGULATIONS**

The church gives us the following regulations for Lent:

- \*Fasting and Abstinence on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are required for those 18 to 60 years of age.
- \*Abstinence from meat is required on ALL Fridays during Lent for all those 14 years of age and older. Fasting is defined as eating, during the day, only one full meal and two light meatless meals. Eating between meals is not permitted, although liquids are permitted.
- Abstinence is not eating meat at all during the entire day. Illness exempts one from these regulations.

**St. Joseph Church, Brookfield, CT**  
Tuesdays in Lent from 7 to 8 p.m.

An essential ingredient in the spiritual and pastoral revival of every community of faith is fostering ever greater availability to the Sacrament of Penance. To this end, Centers of Mercy have been established in each Deanery. St. Joseph Church, Brookfield, is the local center. Reconciliation is available each Tuesday from 7 to 8 p.m.

**Stations of the Cross**

Join us for Stations of the Cross each Friday evening at 7:00 p.m. during Lent.




**Monday, March 29**

Reconciliation Monday 3 - 9 p.m. Saint Peter Church is one of three sites in our deanery designated to offer Confession.

Confessions in either English or Spanish.



**Holy Thursday, April 1**

7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer

**Mass of the Lord's Supper**

5:30 p.m. English and Spanish

7:30 p.m. Brazilian

**Good Friday, April 2**

7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer

12:10 p.m. Stations of the Cross

3:00 p.m. Liturgy of the Lord's Passion (English)

5:30 p.m. Liturgy of the Lord's Passion (Spanish)

7:30 p.m. Liturgy of the Lord's Passion (Brazilian)

**Holy Saturday, April 3**

7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer

1 to 3 p.m. Confessions

5:30 p.m. Brazilian Easter Vigil

8:00 p.m. English/Spanish Easter Vigil

**Easter Sunday, April 4**  
**Regular Sunday Schedule**

