

Baptism of the Lord

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

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
Email Address - office@stpeterdanb.org
Website - www.stpeterdanb.org

PARISH STAFF

Dr. Glen Segger, Music Minister
gsegger@stpeterdanb.org
Dr. Nancy Engel, Children's Choir - 914-741-1670

LATINO COMMUNITY

Rev. Frank Eldridge—203-743-2707

SAINT PETER SCHOOL OFFICE

Mary Lou Torre — Principal - 203-748-2895
StPeterSchooldanbury.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND FORMATION

Barbara Siano—Director of Religious Education K - 8
203-743-1048 or spreligioused@stpeterdanb.org

Chairman of Parish Council – Fred Visconti – 203-744-2311
Chairman of Finance – Arthur Mannion - 203-733-0183



JANUARY

8 SAT	5:00 PM †	Rita Timan
	7:30 PM	Brazilian Mass
9 SUN	7:30 AM †	Rosemary Lariccia
	9:00 AM	Our Parishioners
	10:30 AM †	Lucia Tin
	12:00 N †	Robert Africano
	5:00 PM	Spanish Mass
	7:30 PM	Brazilian Mass
10 MON	7:30 AM †	America Perez
	12:10 N †	Matthew Weber
11 TUE	7:30 AM †	Mary Beth Garavel
	12:10 N †	Father Paul Merry
12 WED	7:30 AM †	Father Bernardo Rodriguez
	12:10 N †	Souls in Purgatory
13 THU	<i>St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</i>	
	7:30 AM †	Janina Dziazkowski
	12:10 N †	Rita Talarico
14 FRI	7:30 AM †	Paul Hart
	12:10 N †	Immac Thampoe
15 SAT	7:30 AM †	Souls in Purgatory
	5:00 PM †	John Esposito
	7:30 PM	Brazilian Mass
16 SUN	7:30 AM	Our Parishioners
	9:00 AM †	Lucia Tin
	10:30 AM †	Audrey Anderman
	12:00 N †	Vincent Casturani
	5:00 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.

Our weekly goal.....	\$10,500
SACRIFICIAL GIVING—December 26, 2021.....	\$ 5,452
Online Giving—December 26, 2021.....	\$ 2,492
Shortfall.....	\$ 2,557
SACRIFICIAL GIVING—January 2, 2022.....	\$ 8,198
Online Giving—January 2, 2022.....	\$ 1,922
Shortfall.....	\$ 380

Thank you for your support. Father Mecca

**The Sanctuary Lamp Burns
In Memory
of
Mary Beth Garavel**

WE WELCOME THE NEWLY BAPTIZED
*Elizabeth Andrade Hector Amaya Juan Coronado
 Ella Grasso Kellsey Rodriguez*

KINDLY REMEMBER THE SICK OF THE PARISH
*Daniel Alvarez Terry Austin Dorothy Bennett Richard Botelho
 Ray Condon Nubia Dekker Jerry DeJulia Elizabeth Ianelli
 Teddy Marchione Christopher McLaughlin Samantha Miller
 Anthony Pelle, Jr. Joseph Pepin Sr. Mary Bernard Wiecezak*

From the Pastor's Desk
 Happy New Year! This is the first column I am writing in the new year. Last week's bulletin had to be produced quite a number of days before the weekend, but we are back to our regular Thursday schedule. Carol, of course, begins the layout of the bulletin ahead of time, but I never write until Thursday morning which can make for some stressful time as we near the 2 p.m. transmission.

Where shall we begin for the first column of the year? I think that we should cast a glance at Christmas. Our attendance at the Masses was markedly down from what it usually is. We have to go back to Christmas 2019 to look for what was normal for us. The attendance was healthy enough but not close to what we were used to. I think that we have to attribute the loss of worshipers first and foremost to the surge and second to some icy road conditions on Christmas morning. We were not the only parish to experience a drop in attendance. Fr. Leonel experienced a significant decrease at the Brazilian Masses, and other pastors also told me that their numbers were way off. I hope that these were the causes and not that folks have become so used to staying home that they didn't budge even for Christmas Mass. We will have to wait and see what Christmas 2022 brings to do any analysis. Please, God, it will not be another "covid Christmas."

Nevertheless, Christmas was lovely here at St. Peter as usual, if I must say so myself. The church is always magnificent. We ordered fewer poinsettias to economize, but Mike Halas donated a whole bunch in addition, so the sanctuary is very full. Thank you, Mike for your kindness. Mike, his son and helpers also put up the wreaths and roping as their gift to the parish. Music was excellent, and the Merry Chimes added a special touch don't you think? You can view the memorial plaque on the next page. We hung it on the organ case below where the chimes are housed. I wish to thank all the Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, ushers, and servers for covering all the Masses. And I thank you for coming to worship the greatest gift of all—our Lord and God.

Next for the new year, let us talk, unfortunately, about the virus. This crazy rate of infection is touching us all. I'm sure your experience is like mine. Throughout the two years I've not known of more infected persons than I have since mid-December. For this reason, let us bring up masks at church. As you know, as a local church, we are following the mandates for wearing masks at indoor gatherings set by the local municipalities. This past week, Bishop Caggiano sent out a memo saying that regardless of local protocols, the Diocese "strongly recommends that people wear masks while attending Mass in interest of protecting others during the surge." I am making this announcement at each Mass. You may have

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noticed that I returned to wearing a mask throughout the entire Mass. For your health and that of our neighbors, I also encourage you to mask until the surge has subsided regardless of your vaccination status.

I would like to address our families who have a child preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation this year. Michael Falbo who was doing the Confirmation preparation left our employ as I told you. Mike designed a program of his own, but his departure is not leaving our teens hanging. Barbara has reviewed several programs, and we discussed what is good and what is lacking in each of them. We selected an instruction from Pflaum which has both a middle and high school level of the same program. Our parish has, in fact, used a previous version in the past, and St. Peter School has been using it for years for its 8th graders. Barbara has emailed all families with a revised schedule of classes and a syllabus so you will know the curriculum. The classes will be team taught by several catechists, Barbara, and even me so that I can spend a little time with the candidates. Be assured that we have our preparation for the young women and men well in hand.

Now for some odds and ends. For the sake of prudence, Brenda Farrah, our Bingo Person in Charge (that's a real title) and I decided to suspend our Bingo games until the surge runs its course. We want to protect not only the players from exposure in our building but our volunteers for whom we have a serious responsibility. Bingo is tentatively scheduled to resume the first week of February. You will notice three new signs in the parking lot. I know, more signage. I'd prefer to keep signage at a minimum, but it makes good legal sense to put them up. For ourselves, please note that we added a "no right turn" sign at the mouth of the upper parking lot. We really need to observe the designation of that first opening into the parking lot as an entrance only. I've been informed about so many near accidents there as folks coming in and going out almost kiss. Please proceed straight out of the upper portion of the lot and exit at the second opening. Lastly, Baut Studios sent me an email this week saying that our doors are moving into the fabrication phase. That's exciting.

—Fr. Mecca

SAINT PETER SCHOOL NEWS



If you have a child who is ready for Preschool and would like more information about the program at St. Peter School for this year or for the 2022 - 2023 school year, please contact one of the following at mrepole@spsdanbury.org, mcorrea@spsdanbury.org,

or mtorre@spsdanbury.org or call the school office - 203 - 748 - 2895.

School is back in session and it was nice to see all the staff and students back in action. Like everyone else, there are COVID - 19 blips on the radar screen, but that is to be expected. We are ready!

Catholic Schools Week is coming up and we are getting prepared to celebrate the beauty of a Catholic education with our students and families. More information will follow in the next few weeks on this topic...

We say congratulations to three St. Peter School teachers who were awarded grants through Foundations in Education for their proposed projects. Mrs. Lazzara - "Tomorrow's Leaders are Today's Reader's" Mrs. Puglisi and Ms. Vill - "Technology, Equipment, and NGSS(Science Standards) - Oh My!" Mrs. Boyle - "Tiny EL Techies" (EL = English Learners) We cannot wait to see the fruits of their work during the 2022-2023 school year!

"Always we begin again." Saint Benedict

—Mrs. Mary Lou Torre, Principal

SAINT PETER RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education Classes Changes to January Schedule

Religious Education classes resume today, January 9, 2022, however all classes except for the sacramental classes First Communion II A&B and Confirmation (which meets on January 16) will be online via Zoom. Zoom invitations were sent out but if you have not received the link, please call the office so your child can attend class. Classes will remain online for the month of January. Parents, please stop by the religious education office to pick up your child's book. We will be open today Sunday, January 9, until 2:00 p.m.



First Communion II and Confirmation Classes

Emails were sent out last week regarding the procedures for upcoming classes. Students will be required to wear a mask while in the building. If your child is not feeling well before class or has been quarantined for any reason, please let us know that he/she will not be in class.

Events Calendar

January 2022

9 - Lesson 11

16- Lesson 12

23-Lesson 13 - Quiz #4 on Lessons 10 -12 postponed until live classes resume

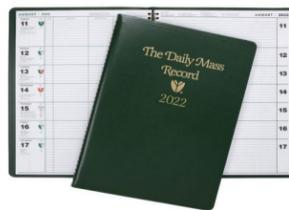
30 - No Class

—Barbara Siano, Director of Religious Education



The 2022 Mass Book is Open!

You may call or come in with your Mass Intentions for 2022. The number to call is 203-743-2707.



Bible (Study) & Bites begins January 6 through February 24, 2022 from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. We are studying:

Mary: The Bible and the Mother of God

The topics are:

- Jan. 6—The New Eve
- Jan. 13—The New Ark
- Jan. 20—Mother of the Messiah
- Jan. 27—The Queen Mother
- Feb 3—The Perpetual Virgin
- Feb 10—Mother of Sorrows
- Feb 17—The New Rachel
- Feb 24—Questions and Answers

Please submit this form with cash or check (payable to St. Peter Church) for \$18.00 in Church basket or drop it at the rectory by January 2, 2022..

Name: _____

Phone# _____

Enrolling in Mary: The Bible and the Mother of God - Bible Study & Bites Program.

COMUNIDAD HISPANA SAN PEDRO

Las fiestas cristianas han surgido paulatinamente a través de los siglos. Estas nacen de un deseo de la Iglesia Católica de profundizar en los diversos momentos de la vida de Cristo. Se comenzó con la fiesta del Domingo y la Pascua, luego se unió Pentecostés y, con el tiempo, otras más. Los misioneros, al evangelizar, fueron introduciendo las fiestas cristianas tratando de dar un sentido diferente a las fiestas paganas del pueblo en el que se encontraban. Podemos compararlo con una persona que recibe un regalo con una envoltura bonita, la cual guarda y utiliza posteriormente para envolver y dar otro regalo. La Iglesia tomó de algunas fiestas paganas las formas externas y les dio un contenido nuevo, el verdadero sentido cristiano.

La primera fiesta que se celebró fue la del Domingo. Después, con la Pascua como única fiesta anual, se decidió festejar el nacimiento de Cristo en el solsticio de invierno, d En lugar de festejar al “Sol de Justicia”, se festeja al Dios Creador. Así, poco a poco, se fue conformando el Año litúrgico con una serie de fiestas solemnes, alegres, de reflexión o de penitencia.

La liturgia es la manera de celebrar nuestra fe. No solo tenemos fe y vivimos de acuerdo con ella, sino que la celebramos con acciones de culto en las que manifestamos, comunitaria y públicamente, nuestra adoración a Jesucristo, presente con nosotros en la Iglesia. Al vivir la liturgia, nos enriquecemos de los dones que proceden de la acción redentora de Dios.

Cada celebración litúrgica tiene un triple significado:

1. Recuerdo: Todo acontecimiento importante debe ser recordado. Por ejemplo, el aniversario del nacimiento de Cristo, su pasión y muerte, etc.
2. Presencia: Es Cristo quien se hace presente en las celebraciones litúrgicas concediendo gracias espirituales a todos aquellos que participan en ellas, de acuerdo a la finalidad última de la Iglesia que es salvar a todos los hombres de todos los tiempos.
3. Espera: Toda celebración litúrgica es un anuncio profético de la esperanza del establecimiento del Reino de Cristo en la tierra y de llegar un día a la patria celestial.

Bautizos

Cuartos Domingos de cada Mes. Contacten con Ana Espinal para el formulario y la información sobre la clase pre-bautismal.

Confesiones

Domingos a las 4:00 p.m.

Grupo de Oracion

Todos los Lunes, a las 7:00 p.m. en el subsuelo de la Iglesia. Lider: Jorge Ordonez.

Horario de Oficina

De Lunes a Viernes, de 1:30 p.m. a 3:30 p.m. En español pregunten por Ana Espinal.

JANUARY 9, 2022

Thanking our Bingo players and volunteers...



Virgen de la Nube



January 1, 2022