

#### **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](mailto:office@stpeterdanb.org)  
Website - [www.stpeterdanb.org](http://www.stpeterdanb.org)

#### **MUSIC MINISTER**

Dr. Glen Segger  
[gsegger@stpeterdanb.org](mailto:gsegger@stpeterdanb.org)

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

Mary Lou Torre — Principal - 203-748-2895  
[StPeterSchooldanbury.org](http://StPeterSchooldanbury.org)

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

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

#### **LATINO COMMUNITY**

Rev. Frank Eldridge—203-743-2707

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



## MARCH

5 SAT	5:00 PM	†	Chuck Ferguson
	7:30 PM		Brazilian Mass
6 SUN	7:30 AM		Our Parishioners
	9:00 AM	†	Anthony Martins
	10:30 AM	†	Maria Ba
	12:00 N	†	Jose Duque
	5:00 PM		Spanish Mass
	7:30 PM		Brazilian Mass
7 MON	<i>Sts. Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs</i>		
	7:30 AM	†	Peter Ciliberto
	12:10 N		Mrs. Guzman
8 TUE	<i>St. John of God, Religious</i>		
	7:30 AM	†	Daniel Mecca
	12:10 N	†	Suzanne Marie Boutot
9 WED	<i>St. Frances of Rome, Religious</i>		
	7:30 AM		Ann Balletta
	12:10 N	†	Donna Lee White
10 THU	7:30 AM		Special Intention
	12:10 N	†	Joseph Hocking
11 FRI	7:30 AM	†	Mary Beth Garavel
	12:10 N	†	Souls in Purgatory
12 SAT	7:30 AM	†	Chris and Tom Gallo
	5:00 PM	†	Mary Frances Weiner
	7:30 PM		Brazilian Mass
13 SUN	7:30 AM	†	Joseph Stasiak
	9:00 AM	†	Lucia Tran Tin
	10:30 AM	†	Nettie Mecca
	12:00 N	†	Nicholas Stroz
	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—February 27, 2022.....\$ 7,291  
Online Giving—February 27, 2022.....\$ 2,507  
Shortfall.....\$ 702

Thank you for your support.

Father Mecca



The Sanctuary Lamp Burns  
In Memory  
Of  
John J. Murphy

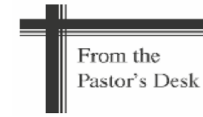


## WE WELCOME THE NEWLY BAPTIZED

*Kristen Anguisaca Sarahi Anguisaca  
Angela Iliguicota Jonael Panjon Jennifer pena*

## 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. Rocky Placella Sr. Mary Bernard Wiecezak*



From the  
Pastor's Desk

Today is the First Sunday of Lent. On this Sunday the dioceses around the world celebrate in the presence of the local bishop the Rite of Election for catechumens (the unbaptized) and the Candidates (baptized but never received Holy Eucharist or Confirmation). Today, following the custom set in the ancient Church, these individuals are declared “the Elect” by the bishop as they now enter the final preparation for the Sacraments of Initiation into the Catholic Faith. This year our Parish has one Candidate, Irene Massallo, who approached us for catechesis through the RCIA. Irene is the mother of three children who seeing to the religious formation of her children desired to draw closer to our Lord and to His Church herself. We are delighted that Irene has chosen to complete her Sacraments of Initiation and has asked us to assist her in the process. Today at the 10:30 Mass, we will conduct a short “Rite of Sending” during which we send Irene, accompanied by our RCIA coordinator Terry Pepin, off to the bishop with our prayers and blessing.

We returned to a normal Ash Wednesday, and I would say that while the number of people was not exactly at pre-covid attendance, it was certainly very good. Our ashes display our humility before God and our acknowledgement to Him and to ourselves that we are guilty of sin and are always in need of deeper conversion. I am working with the 8<sup>th</sup> graders on Confirmation prep. We began last Monday with a review of what sacraments are. One of the things I stress when speaking of Baptism is how as a result of the coming of the Spirit of the living God into us we become divine human beings. God’s Spirit joins with our humanity in the same way in which our humanity joined with Jesus’ divinity at the Incarnation. We have great potential to be holy, but we do not always behave and think like the God within. On Ash Wednesday we acknowledged that regrettable fact and demonstrated our desire to be more holy as God is holy.

The Church gives us three Lenten disciplines to make us more God-centered and less us-centered. We are reminded to reflect and pray, fast to strengthen our wills, and give alms. There are at this writing some copies of “The Word Among Us” still available in the vestibule for following the daily scriptures and meditating on the Word. We have a little spiritual talk every Friday at the Soup & Stations, and, of course, the Stations of the Cross devotion at 7 p.m. Envelopes for the Loaves & Fishes program are placed on the tables to help feed the hungry in our county, and this bulletin contains the parish’s almsgiving for our Lenten season. I encourage you to take part in some of these offerings if you do not have practices of your own.

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

We thoroughly enjoyed “The Camera Man” on Tuesday evening. Buster Keaton is a single guy with a movie camera on a tri-pod trying to film New York City’s excitement and sell the film, but he is bumbling and really not very skilled. But in the end, he captures a scoop and the girl he admires. Peter Kaminski was brilliant and so clever. He wove in a few bars of songs or themes like that from “Jaws” that, if you caught them, was hysterical. The sounds he pulls from the organ is amazing. About 80 people attended, and it seemed like everyone enjoyed themselves.

We are heart sick over the war, the casualties and destruction. We are also in awe of the strength, courage, and resolve of the Ukrainian people and President Zelenskyy. We don’t know what the outcome will ultimately be, but our prayers are that the military and Russian elites will come to their senses and repudiate madman Putin. In the meantime, a great humanitarian crisis is developing thanks to his disregard for life. Our American Conference of Catholic Bishops announced this week a special collection in all our parishes for aid to the victims of the war. Because the help is needed quickly, the collection will be taken next weekend and the proceeds immediately forwarded to agencies on the ground. As someone said to me, we feel sad and helpless. We are not completely helpless. We can demonstrate our love and support of the victims of this morally repugnant war with the necessities of life.

—Fr. Mecca

**\*\*\*Diocesan News\*\*\***

**The Connecticut Catholic Conference**, in cooperation with the National March for Life and other pro-life organizations in our state, is sponsoring **Connecticut’s first official March for Life** event on **March 23, 2022 at the State Capitol**. The Catholic Bishops of Connecticut support this historic undertaking and are hoping that it will be an overwhelming success.

**Don’t Miss the Shroud Encounter!** Russ Breault’s highly acclaimed presentation—**Shroud Encounter** has been called a “Tour de force”, “Spellbinding”, “Mesmerizing”, “Riveting” and more. Explore the science, history and mystery in a fast-passed dramatic visual experience. A life-size museum quality replica will also be available on display during the event. Explore the Mystery at St. Edward the Confessor, 21 Brush Hill Road, New Fairfield, CT on **Saturday, March 12 at 5:15 p.m.** or St. Mary Church, 26 Dodgingtown Road, Bethel, CT on **Sunday, March 13 at 4:00 p.m.**

*We offer our condolences to the families of*



*Geta Allain  
Bernadette Fereaud Cherisme  
Joyce Gleissner  
Annatolia Jimenez  
Alice Pepin  
who passed away last week.*



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

If you or someone you know would like to register your child at St. Peter School, please contact [mcorrea@spsdanbury.org](mailto:mcorrea@spsdanbury.org), [mrepole@spsdanbury.org](mailto:mrepole@spsdanbury.org), or [mtorre@spsdanbury.org](mailto:mtorre@spsdanbury.org) or call the school office - 203 - 748 - 2895. We are accepting registrations for PK through Grade 8. Tours are available by appointment only. We look forward to meeting new families!

As a school community, we walked across the street to receive Ashes on Ash Wednesday. It was a reverent way to begin the Lenten Season. We thank Fr. Mecca and Fr. Riley for distributing ashes to the school community.

Our students and teachers are celebrating Read Across America this week with guest readers and literacy activities. First grade celebrated with a snack of green eggs and ham on one of the days.

*"Have a deep compassion for people. To be able to have a heart full of compassion, we need to pray."*  
*Mother Teresa*

—Mrs. Mary Lou Torre, Principal

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

May your Lenten journey bear much fruit and bring you closer to Our Lord, and may you be a bright lamp for your family and community. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden (Matthew 5: 14-16)



**Confirmation Documentation** - All outstanding confirmation documentation is due today. Please bring documents and fees to class.

**First Reconciliation**- The First Communion Class will receive the sacrament of Reconciliation on March 26, 2022. Please keep our students in your prayers as they prepare for their first confession.



**Events Calendar**

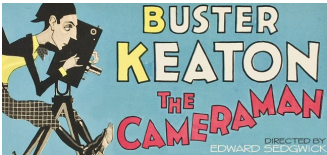
**March 2022**

**6-Lesson 17 - Confirmation Class 2:00-3:30**  
**13-Lesson 18**  
**20- Lesson 19 Quiz 6 Lessons 16,17,18**  
**26- First Reconciliation- 11:00 am St. Peter Church**  
**27-Lesson 20**

**April 2022**

**3- Lesson 21**  
**10 - Palm Sunday Mass and class - Lesson 22**  
**17 - Easter Sunday - No class**  
**24 - No Class**

—Barbara Siano, Director of Religious Education



Thank you to all those silent film fans who attended the movie Tuesday evening. A fun experience was had by all! A big “thank you” goes to all those behind the scenes who made it possible. Thank you!

**\*\*\*OTHER EVENTS\*\*\***

**SAVE THE DATE: IMMACULATE HIGH SCHOOL'S 17TH ANNUAL GALA**—Immaculate High School presents "Together Again on Broadway" on Saturday, March 26, 2022, from 6:00pm to 11:00pm. Location: Amber Room Colonnade, 1 Stacey Road, Danbury, CT 06810. For more information, please visit [www.immaculatehs.org/gala](http://www.immaculatehs.org/gala) or contact Alumni & Events Director, Jeannie Demko at [jdemko@myimmaculatehs.org](mailto:jdemko@myimmaculatehs.org) or (203)744-1510 ext. 158.

**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.**

**COMUNIDAD HISPANA SAN PEDRO**

El AYUNO: ¡Explicámelos!

“Yo sufro, es verdad, para que Él me perdone; yo me castigo para que Él me socorra, para que yo sea agradable a sus ojos, para gustar su dulzura”

San Agustín, “la utilidad del ayuno”

En estos días cuaresmales libros como el que reseño son especialmente útiles. Todos los años la misma pregunta ¿por qué no comes carne los viernes de cuaresma? Y la supuesta sesuda diatriba sobre el sacrificio, el marisco y otras ideas inteligentísimas de gente que no entienden que alguien pueda hacer sacrificios voluntariamente.

“El Miércoles de Ceniza, el Viernes Santo, y todos los viernes, sobre todo los de Cuaresma. son días que los fieles viven a tope cuando se respetan las tres preciosas y fundamentales indicaciones del evangelio de Mateo (6,1-6.16-18) que escuchamos el primer día del tiempo cuaresmal: oración, ayuno, limosna.”

Decía San Ignacio en sus ejercicios espirituales, “La primera manera (de hacer penitencia) es acerca del comer; a saber, cuando quitamos lo superfluo, no es penitencia, sino temperancia; penitencia es cuando quitamos de lo conveniente, y cuanto más y más, mayor y mejor, solo que no se corrompa el sujeto ni se siga enfermedad notable.”

En el año 2009 Benedicto XVI hablaba del valor del ayuno, “En nuestros días, parece que la práctica del ayuno ha perdido un poco su valor espiritual y ha adquirido más bien, en una cultura marcada por la búsqueda del bienestar material, el valor de una medida terapéutica para el cuidado del propio cuerpo. Está claro que ayunar es bueno para el bienestar físico, pero para los creyentes es, en primer lugar, una “terapia” para curar todo lo que les impide conformarse a la voluntad de Dios.”

El autor se muestra tajante sobre aspecto externos del ayuno y la abstinencia. “La abstinencia de carne representa también una señal distintiva para los cristianos, que en estos tiempos corremos cada vez más peligro de desaparecer, nos arriesgamos a caer en la insignificancia. Hoy, en los comedores escolares, en los aviones e incluso en algunos restaurantes se ofrecen menús especiales para judíos, musulmanes, vegetarianos... ¡Pero no para nosotros los cristianos!” “Pensemos en signos exteriores como el ayuno y la abstinencia en Cuaresma; pensemos también sin más en la señal de la cruz antes de comer. No lo son todo, es cierto, pero, si los descuidamos y olvidamos, ¿qué signos nos ofrecemos a nosotros mismos, y a nuestros hijos, a nuestras familias, a las nuevas generaciones, al mundo? Se abandonan con rapidez, se eliminan, pero en su lugar tampoco se hace nada. O, peor, otros signos otras iniciativas o costumbres los suplantán, los reemplazan.”



**SPECIAL COLLECTION  
FOR  
UKRAINE**

**To take place the weekend  
of March 12 and 13**

**The Subcommittee on Aid to the Church in  
Central and Eastern Europe of the United States  
Conference of Catholic Bishops is asking that par-  
ishes take up a special collection to aid the victims  
of war in Ukraine.**

**Online giving has been set up to accept your**

***LENTEN*  
ALMSGIVING**



*Weekend of: Item Requested*

*March 13 Diapers—Sizes 4, 5, 6  
(Sisters of Life)*

*March 20 Laundry Detergent*

*March 27 Dish Soap, Household Cleaners*

*April 3 Paper Towels, Toilet Paper*

*April 10 Tooth Brushes, Floss*



**Soup and Stations**

**Come to the Parish Hall each Fri-  
day in Lent (March 11, 18, 25, and  
April 1, 8) at 6:00 p.m.**

**Our first speaker is Leo McIlrath.**

**Enjoy a bowl of soup and a  
Lenten message prior to  
the Stations at 7:00 p.m.**



**Musical Notes—**



We will be introducing a new Mass setting at the 9:00 am Mass this weekend. Our children's choir will be singing "The Psallite Mass: At the Table of the Lord," composed by the Collegeville Composer Group. It's a rather unique compositional process; six composers gather for retreats and compose liturgical music as a collective. Their music is simple and chant-like, emphasizing words over music. If you can speak it, you can chant it.

Another wonderful characteristic of "The Psallite Mass" is that it is multilingual. The languages they use include English, Spanish, Latin, and Greek; and they encourage parishes to incorporate even more languages reflective of their community, which is easy to do with chant.

Music leaflets of "The Psallite Mass" will be available at the back of the church before Mass. These will be available for the next few weeks. Soon, however, I believe we will be able to sing this Mass setting from memory, or "by heart," which, after all, is where our prayers to the Almighty come from.

—Glen Segger, Musical Director



**PRAYER LINE**

You can now access the Saint Peter prayer line at [prayer.request@stpeterdanb.org](mailto:prayer.request@stpeterdanb.org) or by recording your request in the prayer intention book located at the base of the St. Peter statue located on the altar. May the Lord bless our intercessors who will be praying on our behalf.

**BINGO  
RETURNS  
THIS WEDNESDAY  
MARCH 9, 2022!**