

Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2023
 Distribution—following 7:30 & 12:10 Masses
 Imposition of Ashes 5:00 p.m.
 and 6:00 p.m. (Spanish)

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 prior to the Baptism of the first child. 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 in English are on the first and third Sundays of the month at 1:15 p.m.

Saint Peter Church, Danbury, CT

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Gregg D. Mecca, Pastor

Rev. David J. Riley, In Residence

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

MUSIC MINISTER

Dr. Glen Segger, gsegger@stpeterdanb.org



LATINO COMMUNITY

Bautizos—Cuartos Domingos de cada Mes. Contacten con Ana Espinal para el formulario y la información sobre la clase pre-bautismal. Se celebra el sacramento de bautismo dos veces al mes: el primer domingo del mes a las 3 y el cuatro domingo a la 1:15.

Confesiones—Domingos a las 4:00 p.m.

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

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

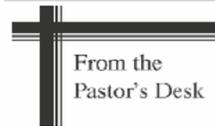
Chairman of Finance – Arthur Mannion - 203-733-0183



FEBRUARY

18 SAT	5:00 PM	†	Emilio Soto, Jr. and Annette Tanzella
	7:30 PM		Brazilian Mass
19 SUN	7:30 AM	†	Mary Ellen Cesca
	9:00 AM	†	Mary C. Riley
	10:30 AM		Our Parishioners
	12:00 N	†	Butch Melody and Joe Halas
	5:00 PM		Spanish Mass
	7:30 PM		Brazilian Mass
20 MON	7:30 AM	†	Elizabeth Ann Powers
	12:10 N	†	Mary Beth Garavel
21 TUE	<i>St. Peter Damian, Bishop & Doctor of the Church</i>		
	7:30 AM	†	Paul Dargie
	12:10 N	†	Penelope Wilder
22 WED	<i>Ash Wednesday</i>		
	7:30 AM	†	Kathryn Liddane
	12:10 N	†	Machinski Familyl
23 THU	<i>St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr</i>		
	7:30 AM	†	Ellen O'Connor
	12:10 N	†	Souls in Purgatory
24 FRI	7:30 AM	†	Josephine Steinberg
	12:10 N	†	Vincent Keilty Family
25 SAT	7:30 AM	†	Joao Crespo
	5:00 PM	†	Carmella Sergiovanni
	7:30 PM		Brazilian Mass
26 SUN	7:30 AM	†	Howard Schmiedel
	9:00 AM	†	Can and Nhung Nguyen
	10:30 AM	†	Richard Stiehl
	12:00 N		Our Parishioners
	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.



As you would expect, today's column is largely about our observance of Lent.

The season of Lent begins this Wednesday. Ash Wednesday is a very busy day here. We easily impose ashes on over 2,000 people between our three language communities, school children, and folks in the senior housing buildings. I know that our liturgies cannot accommodate everyone's schedule, but we try our best. The ashes which we accept on our foreheads are a sign of our recognition that we are sinners, that we acknowledge our guilt, and that we know that our redemption depends upon Jesus. There are two formulas that can be used as the ashes are placed on us. "Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return," and "Repent and believe in the Gospel." The first, of course, brings attention to our mortality, to the transitory nature of human life. We have, however, an eternal soul. What about it? If we strive to live without sin, our souls live forever with the Lord. We need to know and understand sin and virtue, and that ability comes from believing, which is to say, accepting the Gospel. We listen attentively to the Gospel all the time, but perhaps even more so during this season of repentance and growth in holiness. Lent is our collective retreat, our time as disciples to take account of ourselves, to listen to God speak to us of mercy and renewal, and embrace it.

As part of our collective retreat, we offer spiritual exercises and good works that we can together participate in. The devotion of the Stations of the Cross is a very worthy spiritual exercise. We contemplate the Lord's suffering and death for our sake, and as we do we offer our hearts with fervor and love to him in return. To help us listen and "to believe in the Gospel," we have available "The Word Among Us." This publication includes the readings for each day of Lent and a reflection. The reflections are short so they fit easily into our day. Please take one. They are stacked on the vestibule tables.

The disciplines of Lent include, in addition to prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Fasting is required on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Fasting is not particularly attractive, but the two-fold idea behind it is repentance and strengthening of our wills to give up sin. Fasting helps us to think less of meeting our own hungers (the sin of self-centeredness) and to think of other's. Those hungers can obviously be for food. Starting there, Catholic Charities runs the yearly Loaves and Fishes program which suggests that we select some days during Lent when we will eat more simply and give what we might have spent on a full meal to those who deal with food insecurity. Catholic Charities stopped printing their envelopes years ago to save money, but I never threw away the leftovers, so we have plenty of them on the tables in the vestibule. As part

SACRIFICIAL GIVING—February 12, 2023.....\$ 8,325
 Online Giving—February 12, 2023.....\$ 1,909
 Our weekly goal\$ 10,500

Thank you for your support. Father Mecca

The Sanctuary Lamp Burns

In Memory of

Hordt Family

We offer our condolences to the family of

Ann Barrett

who passed away last week.

KINDLY REMEMBER THE SICK OF THE PARISH

*Daniel Alvarez Dorothy Bennett Richard Baris Richard Botelho
 Ray Condon Nubia Dekker Jerry DeJulia Elizabeth Ianelli
 Joseph Kasinskas Teddy Marchione Christopher McLaughlin
 Samantha Miller Erick Neil Sister Clare Nguyen
 Anthony Pelle, Jr. Robert Soares Sr. Mary Bernard Wiecezak*

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ourselves, of meeting our needs, of getting the attention we want and of reaching out to others.

We have almsgiving that we do together as I will describe a little bit and you see in this bulletin, but don't forget the almsgiving that we can do on our own and that is more personal. For example, we can make the point this Lent of calling, visiting, or taking someone out who is alone or confined or having difficulties. We are partnering once again with the Sisters of Life who support women and their infants and with Catholic Charities which serves many of our neighbors here in our city. We thank, by the way, Christine Moore, chairperson of the Community Concerns Committee, and the committee members for assuming the direction of our parish almsgiving.

As we embark Wednesday on our annual spiritual retreat, let us remember to pray for one another that we grow stronger in faith, virtue, and love. May we all have a good Lent.

—Fr. Mecca

Musical Note



Changes to our Youth Choir—

During the season of Lent, our Youth Choir rehearsals will be taking place on Fridays from 5:30 – 6:30 PM (followed by pizza!). This way our rehearsals will not conflict with our weekly Stations of the Cross. Lent is a great time to join the choir! All youth grades 3 and up are welcome to come sing with us. Simply stop by the Music Room and check out one of our rehearsals!

—Glen Segger, Music Minister

SAINT PETER SCHOOL NEWS



For more information about registering your child at St. Peter School, please contact mcorrea@spsdanbury.org or mtorre@spsdanbury.org or call the school office @ 203-748-2895

St. Peter School exists to provide a nurturing environment where students become Disciples of Jesus Christ, embrace the love of lifelong learning, and believe in the dignity of all people.

We are all getting back into a regular routine after Catholic Schools Week. On Monday, our K-2 students celebrated

the 100th Day of school with a lot of different activities all related to the number 100. Many students dressed up as though they were 100 and there were a number of very creative costumes!

The Special Person Dance was a success and the students and families are ready for the next St. Peter School family event! Up next, Family Bingo Night!

Wishing you a blessed week ahead!

"Only God can see what is in the bottom of our hearts; we are half-blind." St. Therese of Lisieux

—Mrs. Mary Lou Torre, Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES TODAY

Reminder for Confirmation Candidates: Registration forms including sponsor forms and fees are due. Please contact the office if you have any questions.

Spanish Speaker

Rosa will be in the office Tuesday 11:30-2:30 pm, Wednesday 1-2:30 pm, Friday 1-3:30 pm and Sundays. If you need to contact the religious education office and need a Spanish speaker, please call during the listed hours. Office phone number is 203-743-1048.

Estamos agradecidos de anunciar que Rosa Curillo ha aceptado el puesto de Asistente de Educación Religiosa y de habla hispana. Rosa estará en la oficina los martes 11:30-2:30 pm, miércoles 1-2:30 pm, viernes 1-3:30 pm y los domingos. Si usted necesita ponerse en contacto con la oficina de educación religiosa y necesita un hablante de español, por favor llame durante las horas mencionadas anteriormente. El teléfono de la oficina es 203-743-1048.

February

19—NO CLASS

22—Ash Wednesday (Miercoles de Ceniza)

26—Lesson 16

March

5—Lesson 17

11—First Reconciliation (Primera reconciliacion)

12—Lesson 18

19—Lesson 19

26—Lesson 20

—Barbara Siano, Director of Religious Education

St. Peter's Men's Society is having a Night of Reflection—Tuesday, February 21, in the Parish Hall at 7:00 p.m. This program features Leo McIlrath offering a power point presentation on the “The Golden Rule in Many Faith Traditions”. A 45-minute presentation to prepare you for Lent. Everyone in the parish is welcome to attend.

40 Days for Life Spring 2023 Campaign—February 22 - April 2—Protect mothers and children by joining this worldwide campaign for an end to abortion! Through prayer, fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, 40 Days for Life has inspired millions of volunteers and saved thousands of lives! Please join us at one of these three locations, Bridgeport, Danbury or Stamford. To find out more information on any of these locations or to sign up for vigil hours visit www.40daysforlife.com.

Connecticut March for Life 2023—Join the Connecticut march for Life on Wednesday, March 22 in Hartford. Speaker rally will begin at 12:00 p.m. and the march will proceed at 1:00 p.m. around Bushnell Park. Round-trip bus rides from locations throughout Connecticut are available. Please visit <https://rally.co/ct-march-for-life> to find buses in your area. Contact Maureen Ciardiello, Coordinator of Respect Life Ministry for the Diocese of Bridgeport at mciardiello@diobpt.org or 203-416-1445.

**Immaculate High School’s Diamond Gala...
Celebrating 60 Years!**

Please join us on **Saturday, March 25, 2023** at the **Amber Room** for the “*Diamond Gala*” as we honor David J. Cappiello ‘86 & Jo-Anne Tomanio Price ‘66.

**Tickets are \$175 per person
Time: 6:00 to 11:00 p.m.**

Purchase tickets at immaculatehs.org/gala. For more information or to learn about sponsorship opportunities, contact Jeannie Demko at 203-744-1510 ext. 158.

**Immaculate High School \$10,000 Cash Raffle
\$100 per ticket - only 350 tickets will be sold.**

Drawing will take place on Saturday, March 25, 2023, 9:30 p.m. at the Amber Room Colonnade.
Winner need not be present. To purchase your tickets visit immaculatehs.org/gala.

**One In Christ – The 2023 Bishop’s Appeal
Your gifts at work**

The Institute for Catholic Formation offers parishes resources throughout the year that allow leaders to focus on what they do best - engaging with the faithful in the pews. From book clubs to reading groups, workshops, posters in Lent and Advent, the Institute provides free resources to make parish life better, a pastor’s life easier, and the faithful more engaged. When you make a gift to the Bishop’s Appeal, you support the ministries that continue faith formation.

Thank you for your gift.

To make a gift, or for more information, please visit us at 2023BishopsAppeal.org, call (203) 416-1470 or scan with your



*****PARISH EVENTS*****

Bible Study and Bites, February 23 through May 4, Thursday evening 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the Parish Hall
PETER: Cornerstone of Catholicism—The character of St. Peter is both inspiring and confounding to many of us. How could a stubborn and impulsive fisherman become the "rock" upon which Jesus would build his Church? Bringing together biblical accounts, historical evidence, Church teaching, classical art, and personal insights, Dr. Tim Gray, the presenter, gives a fresh perspective on Simon Peter that is immediately informative and relevant to our lives. After all, if Jesus could bring out the very best in someone like Peter, then there is hope for the rest of us.

To register return the portion below with your check made out to St. Peter Church for \$10 for the purchase of the book.

Name _____
email: _____
Phone _____

LENT BEGINS...

Ash Wednesday Schedule

February 22, 2022



- 7:30 a.m. Mass with Imposition of Ashes
- 9:00 a.m. Mass with Imposition of Ashes
(School Mass)
- 12:10 N Mass with Imposition of Ashes
- 5:00 p.m. Liturgy of the Word with Imposition of Ashes
- 6:00 p.m. Spanish Liturgy of the Word with
Imposition of Ashes
- 7:30 p.m. Brazilian Mass with Imposition of Ashes

Stations of the Cross
Every Friday in Lent at 7:00 p.m.

LENTEN ALMSGIVING



<i>Weekend</i>	<i>Item Requested</i>
<i>Feb. 26</i>	<i>Granola and Breakfast Bars Peanut Butter and Jelly</i>
<i>Mar. 5</i>	<i>Size 1 and 6 Diapers Baby Wipes & Diaper Cream</i>
<i>Mar. 12</i>	<i>Laundry Detergent & Bar Soap</i>
<i>Mar. 19</i>	<i>Coffee and Sugar</i>
<i>Mar. 26</i>	<i>Size 1 and 6 Diapers Baby Wipes & Diaper Cream</i>
<i>Apr. 2</i>	<i>Paper Towels & Toilet Paper</i>

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.

Catholic Charities Loaves and Fishes—Food insecurity continues to be the number one issue impacting many individuals and families in our community struggling to make ends meet due to the rising costs of food, gas and housing due to inflation. Thanks to YOUR generosity, Catholic Charities has been a leader in providing food to the most vulnerable members of our community. This Lenten Season, give to the Loaves and Fishes Campaign and help feed the hungry in our midst.

Soup and Stations



Come to the Parish Hall each Friday in Lent at 6:00 p.m.

Our speaker is Father Dave Riley.

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

