



# Saint Peter Church, Danbury, CT

## PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Gregg D. Mecca, Pastor  
Rev. David J. Riley, In Residence  
Deacon Rafael Regus

## 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)



**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.

## HISPANIC COMMUNITY

**Confesiones**—Primer Domingo del mes—3:45—4:45 p.m.  
**Grupo de Oracion**—Lunes 7:00 p.m. Sotano de la Iglesia  
**Estudio de La Biblia**—Viernes 7:00 p.m. Sotano de la Escuela  
**Rosario de La Aurora**—Sabado 5:00 a.m.—Iglesia  
**Bautizos**—Requiere de una clase prebautizmal contactarse con nuestra oficina 203-743-2707 [office@stpeterdanb.org](mailto:office@stpeterdanb.org)  
**Ministerio del Coro**—Alejandro Servin 203-300-9584  
**Intensiones para la Misa**—Anotarse 15 minutos antes en la entrada.  
**Horario en Espanol**—1:30 - 3:20 p.m. de Lunes—Virnes  
Deacon Rafael Regus 9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. lunes y jueves

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND FORMATION

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

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



## JANUARY/FEBRUARY

27 SAT	5:00 PM	†	Jim Lynch
	7:30 PM		Brazilian Mass
28 SUN	7:30 AM	†	John Merullo
	9:00 AM	†	Peter Tuyen Le
	10:30 AM	†	Philomena and Joseph Trieu
	12:00 N		Our Parishioners
	5:00 PM		Spanish Mass
	7:30 PM		Brazilian Mass
29 MON	7:30 AM	†	Margaret Fong
	12:10 N	†	Thomas F. Harkins
30 TUE	7:30 AM	†	Thomas Charles Pepin and Robert Kirk Melvin
	12:10 N	†	Robin Williams
31 WED	<i>St. John Bosco, Priest</i>		
	7:30 AM	†	Jim Lynch
	12:10 N	†	Alfredo Manalili
1 THU	7:30 AM	†	Peter Scott
	12:10 N	†	Souls in Purgatory
2 FRI	<i>The Presentation of the Lord</i>		
	7:30 AM	†	Erick Neill
	12:10 N	†	Immac Thampoe
3 SAT	<i>St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr; St. Ansgar, Bishop</i>		
	7:30 AM	†	Margaret Ward
	5:00 PM	†	Susan Lynch
	7:30 PM		Brazilian Mass
4 SUN	7:30 AM	†	Our Parishioners
	9:00 AM	†	Than and Lanh Nguyen
	10:30 AM	†	Edith Palanzo
	12:00 N	†	Joseph Duc Trieu
	5:00 PM		Spanish Mass
	7:30 PM		Brazilian Mass

On the weekend, if the intention of the Mass is yours,

SACRIFICIAL GIVING—January 21, 2024.....\$ 6,710

Online Giving—January 21, 2024.....\$ 2,000

Our weekly goal .....\$ 10,500

Thank you for your support.

Father Mecca



The Sanctuary Lamp Burns

In Memory of

Edith Palanzo



We offer our condolences to the families of

Petar Vidmar

who passed away last week.

### KINDLY REMEMBER THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Daniel Alvarez Dorothy Bennett Ware Cohen Barbara Glasso

Richard Baris Nubia Dekker Jerry DeJulia

Joshua Erickson Elizabeth Ianelli Joseph Kasinskas

Teddy Marchione Catherine McDermott Anthony Pelle, Jr

Christopher McLaughlin Marita Repole Robert Soares



There is not one but two kick-offs today. The Annual Bishop's Appeal begins today and so does Catholic Schools Week. Let's begin with the ABA which is entitled "One In Christ." I will say a few words at each Mass this weekend, and we will listen to the Bishop's message to us. Both the audio and video address have also been put on our website if you would like to listen and view it there. You might ask why we have this Annual Appeal. The simple answer is to provide the funds for ministries that the Diocese needs to conduct that would be impossible for individual parishes. The Diocesan Church has no way of raising money for its ministries that serve people except for appealing directly to us. The cathedralism, that is the tax on the parishes based on the parish's income, is money to pay exclusively for the expenses of the chancery. So, there are two income streams, one to support administrative costs; the other to do the good works of preaching the Gospel, serving others through human services and pastoral care, and building up the Faith by providing the young and old and everyone in between with encounters with the living God. The goal of the Appeal remains the same this year at 8 million. Our parish goal remains at \$58,000. Sufficient for today is to make everyone aware that the Appeal is beginning and to direct our thoughts towards joining one another as God's family to do the great and necessary things we must do as Christ in the world.

Let's turn to Catholic Schools Week which runs this week. This week is a time to celebrate our schools and the mission that they have in our society. Catholic schools are dedicated to teaching the whole human person, the intellect, the social, and the spiritual through an environment where Jesus is present, loved, talked about, and modeled. Catholic Schools Week is also a time when we reach out to alumni and all Catholics of good will to support our schools through prayer and gifts. I wish we did not have to include that element, but we do. St. Peter School has reached its highest enrollment since I've been here. We have 274 students enrolled from Pre-K 3 to 8<sup>th</sup> grade. We cannot fit many more students in the classrooms which is a good problem to have. The pace of education costs out-strip our families' ability to pay the actual per student cost, so St. Peter School relies on the generosity of several donors, the Bishop's scholarship fund, and donations from us. There are envelopes in the pews and an envelope in your offertory packet. Our parishioners are very supportive of the school, and I thank you for how you aid the kids during their fundraisers. I am hoping you can make a gift during Catholic Schools Week. Mary Lou Torre is sharing with you two essays from two of our students.

—Fr. Mecca

## FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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



For more information about registering your child at St. Peter School, please contact [mmartinez@spsdanbury.org](mailto:mmartinez@spsdanbury.org) or [mtorre@spsdanbury.org](mailto:mtorre@spsdanbury.org) or call the school office @ 203-748-2895.

The St. Peter School Prospective Family Information Night for PK and Kindergarten is going to be held on Thursday, February 1, 2024 from 6 to 8 p.m. We currently have spaces for PK, K, and 2nd grade students for the 2024-2025 school year. Limited spaces are available in some of the other grades. Please check us out if you are looking for a Catholic education for your child! We hope to see you there!

Next week is Catholic Schools Week! We have many things planned for our students as well as the staff who care for them throughout the day and guide them along their spiritual pathway. A special family project ( Family Memory Box) is going home for families to work on next weekend. It is a great way to spend quality time together and make new memories! I cannot wait to see what they create!

Here are two 8th grade student testimonials about what it means to attend St. Peter School:

\*\*\*

Going to a Catholic School means a lot. When you walk into a Catholic School, you feel included, like they are your family. Most people don't get to receive a Catholic education. Attending a Catholic school makes you feel a lot closer to God. You get opportunities to attend Mass every Friday and have a close connection with God. We feel safe at our school.

To me, Catholic School means the highest education. I can hold utmost confidence in religious schools to grant me the gift of a successful life. To me it means a school I know I can count on, a school that I can trust, and a school that holds standards. Saint Peters School believes in having a friendly atmosphere, good education, and also, having a good moral compass. This school has taught me values, lessons, and has granted me knowledge. It also, while teaching me many life skills and knowledge, granted me further knowledge and understanding of faith, God, and religion. There are no downsides to Saint Peters School either; this school has only been beneficial to my education and religion since I started attending the school. So to answer finally, what does it mean to me to attend St. Peter School? It means knowing that my future is in the most capable hands it can be in. My future is bright, set on a guided line that I know I can follow. My life has changed, and will continue to change, all for the better. If I could change one thing, I would have come to St. Peters far sooner. I have pride and love for St. Peters. Through ups and downs wherever, I can count on the integrity of this capable school to guide me through life and all of its hardships. Thank you St. Peters, for I am in eternal debt to God and this school.

—Mrs. Mary Lou Torre, Principal

### \*\*\*RELIGIOUS EDUCATION\*\*\*

#### No Classes Sunday January 28, 2024

No religious education classes Sunday, January 28, 2024; classes resume February 4, 2024.

#### Confirmation Forms

Completed registration and sponsor forms and the Confirmation fee are due February 25, 2024.

#### First Communion Forms

Parents of First Communion candidates please come to the office if you have not received the First Communion registration form.

Completed forms and fees are due February 18, 2024.

#### 2024 Calendar

##### January

27- Rite of Covenant

28- No Class

##### February

4 – Class 13

11- Class 14

14-Ash Wednesday

18 – No Class

25 – Class 15

—Barbara Siano, Director of Religious Education



#### **Bishop's Appeal Prayer**

Almighty and ever-faithful Lord we gratefully  
acknowledge

Your mercy and we place our trust in You.

Your Gospel proclaims the Good News to all  
radiant with Your glory and inviting us to rejoice.

Your love and guidance fill our hearts with joy.

May the Holy Spirit inspire us to respond to

***One in Christ, the 2024 Bishop's appeal.***

Bless us with generosity that in love  
we may freely share our gifts with others.

Bless us with understanding that we may  
recognize that everything we have is a gift from God.

Bless us with wisdom that we may  
wisely use the gifts God has given us.

Bless us with a true sense of joy—  
the fruit of generous and grateful giving.

May Mary, Mother of God, be with us to inspire,  
guide and protect us

We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen



*January 28, 2024*

**Summary of Operations  
For the Month of December 2023**

**Revenues:**

Collections (1)	\$	73,493
Other Revenues:		
Bingo		10,000
Other (2)		<u>11,718</u>

**Total Revenues** 95,211

**Expenses:**

Personnel	42,874
Church (3)	19,280
Other (4)	<u>3,085</u>

**Total Expenses** 65,240

**Net income from Operations** \$ 29,971

- (1) Weekly, Monthly & Holy Day collections  
(2) Bequests, parking lot lease, Excess Annual Bishop's Appeal & funds for church usage  
(3) Church & Rectory liturgical supplies, flowers, maintenance, utilities & insurance  
(4) Office & grounds

Parking Lot Collection	\$	3,761
Loan Balance	\$	49,312

**Save the dates—**



**Ignatian Parish Pilgrimage**

St. Peter Parish is sponsoring an In-House *Ignatian Parish Pilgrimage* for Lent, which is designed to foster a healthy and active spiritual life. The dates are Saturdays: February 24<sup>th</sup>, March 2<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 16<sup>th</sup>. The time is 10:30 AM to 12 PM. March 23<sup>rd</sup> is the “snow date”.

**Watch our logo for more information.**

**Discover Our Faith**

At every Sunday Mass, Catholics confess that Jesus came down from Heaven “for us men and our salvation.” But what does “salvation” mean? In this remarkable 10 part video series, Scripture scholar and theologian Michael Patrick Barber provides a thorough, deeply Catholic, and deeply biblical, answer. **February 1 from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.** in the **Parish Hall** is Episode 4: Not Just Personal “...our relationship with Jesus and relationship with His Church...”

*January 28, 2024*



**St. Peter Men's Society**  
is sponsoring

**A Night of Reflection**  
with

**Dr. Patrick Donovan**

**Tuesday, February 13**

in  
**7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall**

Dr. Donovan is the Director of the Institute of Catholic Formation in the Diocese. He is an author, theologian, teacher, and above all, a husband and father.

The topic is **"How Parables Change Us"**. At its simplest, a parable is a metaphor or simile drawn from nature or common life. It arrests the hearer by its strangeness and leaves us with a new understanding of our reality. Join us for a conversation about parables and how, if we really listen, we can be challenged to grow in faith as we launch into Lent 2024.

**ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US!**

### **The Bishop's Lecture Series 2024...**

The mission of the Bishop's Lecture Series is to provide opportunities for compelling adult faith formation regarding catechetical, theological or pastoral issues of contemporary importance. Each year four such lectures will be given in various regions of the Diocese.

**Father Michael Clark** is the first lecturer on **Wednesday, January 31, at 7:00 p.m. at All Saints School, Norwalk**. His topic is: **"Rooted in Light: Gothic Architecture and the Transformation of Culture"**.

To RSVP to a Bishop's Lecture event, please visit:

**[www.bridgeportdiocese.org/bls](http://www.bridgeportdiocese.org/bls) OR**

**Email: [bishopslecture@diobpt.org](mailto:bishopslecture@diobpt.org)**

During unpredictable weather, to verify whether an event will take place, please call the office (203-743-2707) or check our website at [stpeterdanb.org](http://stpeterdanb.org).