



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
Website - www.stpeterdanb.org

MUSIC MINISTER

Dr. Glen Segger, gsegger@stpeterdanb.org

SAINT PETER SCHOOL OFFICE

Mary Lou Torre — Principal - 203-748-2895
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
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

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



FEBRUARY

3 SAT	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
5 MON	<i>St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr</i>		
	7:30 AM	†	Charlotte, and Jack Barrows
	12:10 N	†	Souls in Purgatory
6 TUE	<i>St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs</i>		
	7:30 AM	†	Tom and Chris Gallo
	12:10 N	†	Dick Moore
7 WED	7:30 AM	†	Jose Duque
	12:10 N	†	Ellen Needham
8 THU	<i>St. Jerome Emiliani; St. Josephine Bakhita, Virgin</i>		
	7:30 AM	†	Lawrence Connor
	12:10 N	†	James McCaffery
9 FRI	7:30 AM	†	Souls in Purgatory
	12:10 N	†	Sally Gereg
10 SAT	<i>St. Scholastica, Virgin</i>		
	7:30 AM	†	Richard Sturdevant
	5:00 PM	†	Ellen Roth
	7:30 PM		Brazilian Mass
11 SUN	7:30 AM	†	Marie R. Cesca
	9:00 AM	†	Rose Kovacs
	10:30 AM	†	Peter Tuyen Le & Peter Hoa Tran
	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.

SACRIFICIAL GIVING—January 28, 2024.....\$ 5,457
Online Giving—January 28, 2024.....\$ 2,214
Our weekly goal\$ 10,500

Thank you for your support.

Father Mecca



As you know, I write this column on Thursday mornings, and this Thursday one of the things I have on my mind is Saint Brigid of Ireland. Today is her feast day, but we here would not necessarily know that because her feast does not appear on the American Church's calendar of saints. It just so happens that this year marks the 1500 anniversary of her death believed to have been in 524. She was born around 451. The women of the Ancient Order of Hibernians sponsored Mass here last Saturday. They began the tradition of celebrating Ireland's other great saint three years ago with Mass accompanied by beautiful Irish music. Because of the early era in which St. Brigid lived, we do not have a lot of reliable information about her. When you read about her you come across many legends and miracles associated with her. What is fact is that as a girl she was very attracted to the Lord, and when she came of age to be given in marriage, she struggled with her parents to be a bride of Christ. She prevailed, and her bishop consecrated her to religious life. She established a house in Kildare which grew into an influential abbey with monasteries for both women and men, and Brigid is believed to have been the abbess for both communities. This abbey became a center of learning and the arts. Brigid was known most particularly for her charity, her expansive love for the poor and needy. The medieval Book of Lismore said that it was Brigid's desire "to satisfy the poor, to expel every hardship, to spare every miserable man. . . She was a temple of God; her heart and mind were a throne of rest for the Holy Spirit." I think this statement is beautiful, don't you? How different our world would be if everyone made their heart and mind a place for the Holy Spirit to dwell. We could benefit from making this reflection during the upcoming season of Lent.

Speaking of Lent, we are including information about it in this bulletin. We never know what weather event will take place next week that will prevent the dissemination of information prior to Ash Wednesday. First and foremost, I must tell you that if you are planning to celebrate Valentine's Day with dinner, you should do so on Tuesday or another evening of the week as Ash Wednesday falls on the 14th. Ash Wednesday will remain a day of fast and abstinence. Don't expect a dispensation from the bishop! He already informed us to tell you it cannot happen.

Our Liturgy and Spirituality Committee has been in touch since last year with The Murphy Center for Ignatian Spirituality at Fairfield University. From their conversations, we have decided to offer an Ignatian Parish Pilgrimage which the Center conducts. Let me explain what this is and invite you to experience it. A pilgrimage is a movement toward the sacred. In this pilgrimage we will not be boarding a plane or a bus to a sacred site. Rather, we will



The Sanctuary Lamp Burns
In Memory of
Lawrence Connor



WE WELCOME THE NEWLY BAPTIZED

Emily Mejia Eric Mejia Juliet Robles Aylin Rodriguez
Jadiel Sosoranga Dwyant Ventura Noe Ventura

KINDLY REMEMBER THE SICK OF THE PARISH

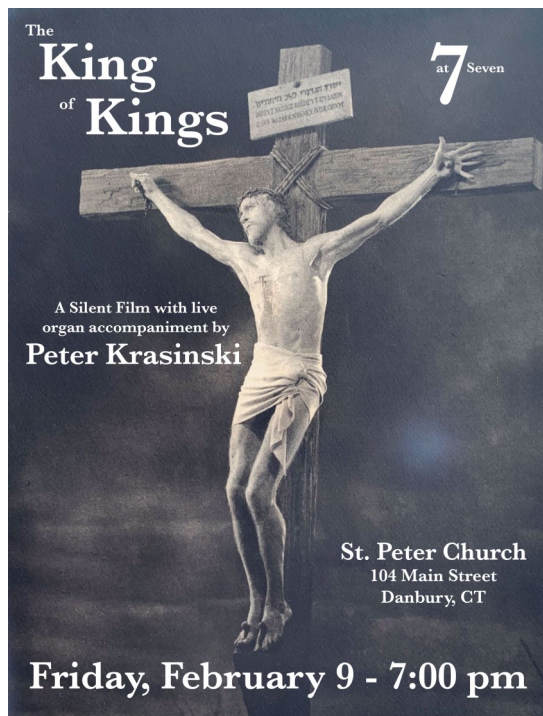
Daniel Alvarez Dorothy Bennett Ware Cohen Barbara Glasso
Richard Baris Nubia Dekker Jerry DeJulia
Joshua Erickson Elizabeth Ianelli Joseph Kasinskas
Teddy Marchione Catherine McDermott Anthony Pelle, Jr

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

move ourselves more deeply into the sacred. The Pilgrimage has three Steps, and one can follow all three or one or two of them depending upon one's time and inclination. Step One is four lectures on Ignatian Spirituality that begin on Saturday, February 24. I have to confess that I am not at all familiar with the whole tradition springing from St. Ignatius of Loyola, so I am planning to attend the lectures. I invite you to think about doing the same. You see that there is an insert in this bulletin with a fuller explanation. The Murphy Center would like to have an idea of what attendance might be for their planning purposes. Think about attending the lectures, perhaps making them part of your Lenten experience. As we move through the lecture series, we will discern whether or not to continue our pilgrimage with the following two steps.

See you on Friday for The King of Kings movie! Do come. You will be glad that you did. After all, where else can you experience this classic film as people did in 1927 when it was released?

—Fr. Mecca



SAINT PETER SCHOOL NEWS



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

Catholic Schools Week was quite an experience for the students! On Tuesday, the students enjoyed tacos specially prepared by Fr. Mecca and his crew. They devoured every morsel. A special thank you to Fr. Mecca, Rose, and Mrs. Steuber for serving tacos to the students. Throughout the week, the students read to each other, did crafts, played

games, danced, and decorated their classroom doors for Decades Day! The door winners were PK - 4 for Medieval Times and Grade 4 for Ancient Egypt. These two classes will celebrate with a pizza party! On Thursday, "students dressed for success" and made a card for Fr. Mecca. On Friday, Ms. Vill's 6th grade students planned First Friday Mass. We held dress down days to collect food for the food pantry and we collected money to support Malta House and the Special Olympics Torch Run held in June. Friday was a day to celebrate the faculty and we did so with a dessert/coffee/tea truck. At Mass, Fr. Mecca offered a special blessing for the teachers. We also had a visit from two people from the Diocese during the week - Mrs. Steuber (Deputy Superintendent) and Mrs. Ortiz (Human Resources).

The New Family Open House was held on Thursday and we had a number of new families attend to check out our school. It is always wonderful to meet new families and share a little bit about St. Peter School with them.

Here are a few more testimonials from our St. Peter students about what it means to attend St. Peter School: "We are all followers of Jesus." "I love Taco Tuesday with Fr. Mecca. We get a lot of toppings and some snacks on the side." "I love the Christmas concert because we remake the scene when Jesus was born." "I love the Christmas concerts because we sing very cool songs and the best part is to watch the little kids sing!" "Basketball!!" There are many, many more reasons why students love attending St. Peter School. These are some thoughts from the current fifth graders.

Have a blessed week!

—Mrs. Mary Lou Torre, Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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.

First Reconciliation- First Communion Candidates

Students in First Communion (FC II) A,B, C & D will receive the sacrament of First Reconciliation March 9, 2024, at 10:00 am St. Peter Church

Following the penance service parents and students will meet in the parish hall for a brief meeting about First Communion.

February

4 – Class 13

11- Class 14

14-Ash Wednesday

18 – No Class

25 – Class 15

—Barbara Siano, Director of Religious Education

February 4, 2024

**LENTEN
ALMSGIVING**



<i>Weekend</i>	<i>Item Requested</i>
<i>Feb. 18</i>	<i>Paper Towels, Toilet Paper, Dish Soap, Household Cleaners</i>
<i>Feb. 25</i>	<i>Size 5 & 6 Diapers, Diaper Cream Baby Wipes & Baby Lotion</i>
<i>Mar. 3</i>	<i>Price Rite Food Cards \$10 to \$25</i>
<i>Mar. 10</i>	<i>Tooth Paste, Liquid Hand Soap, Laundry Soap, Bleach</i>
<i>Mar. 17</i>	<i>Size 5 & 6 Diapers, Diaper Cream Baby Wipes & Baby Lotion</i>
<i>Mar. 24</i>	<i>Price Rite Food Cards \$10 to \$25</i>

When donating food cards, please attach the receipt indicating the value.

Prayer for Priests

Saturday, February 10 at 8:00 a.m. parishioners will gather for Prayer for Priests. Join us in the Parish Hall.

**Ash Wednesday Schedule
February 14, 2024**



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

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 8 from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.** in the **Parish Hall** is Episode 5: Not Just a Legal Transaction “...transforms us from the inside out, healing the root of our brokenness; our hearts...”

February 4, 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!**

Music Notes—



The big day is almost here! "The King of Kings" will be showing this Friday, February 9, at 7pm. Come watch this silent film with musical accompaniment by organist Peter Krasinski, who will be joined by our very own Parish Choir. Peter came to rehearse with our Choir last week Saturday, and what a fun time we had! You will not want to miss this event. And be sure to invite your friends and family.

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.



The **Men's Society** would like to welcome you to a **Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall**, this **Sunday, February 18** after the **7:30 and 9:00 a.m. Masses**.

There is no charge to attend. Just come down and meet new and old friends after Sunday morning Mass.