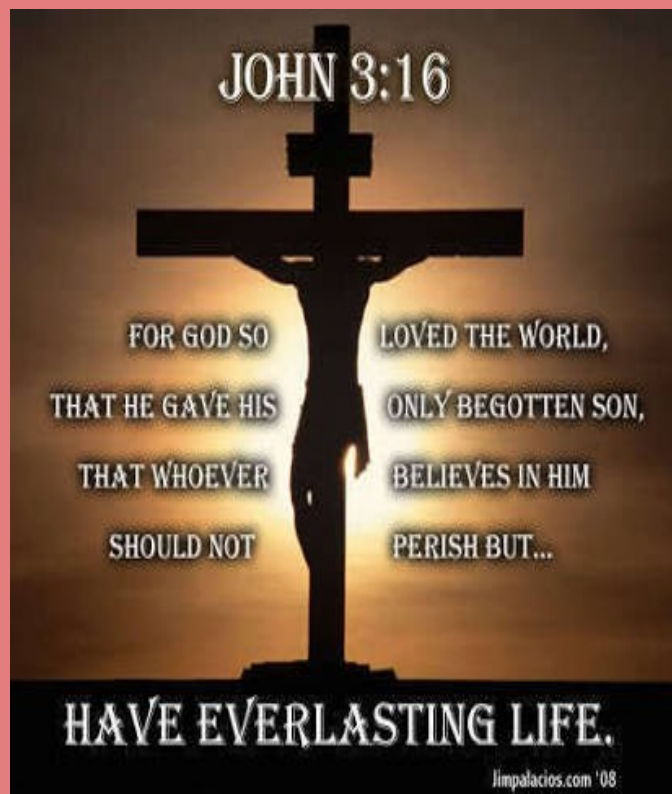


The Fourth Sunday in Lent (Laetare Sunday)



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. and in Spanish the second and fourth Sundays at 1:15 p.m.

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



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



MARCH

9 SAT	5:00 PM	†	Chuck Ferguson
	7:30 PM		Brazilian Mass
10 SUN	7:30 AM	†	Mary Ellen Cesca
	9:00 AM		Our Parishioners
	10:30 AM	†	Peter Hoa Tran
	12:00 N	†	Angelo Rossi
	5:00 PM		Spanish Mass
	7:30 PM		Brazilian Mass
11 MON	7:30 AM	†	John Jacocks
	12:10 N	†	Ryan and Kennedy Famililes
12 TUE	7:30 AM	†	Souls in Purgatory
	12:10 N	†	In Reparation to the Sacred Heart and Immaculate Heart of Mary
13 WED	7:30 AM	†	Cornelius, Mary & Helen Delury
	12:10 N	†	Elizabeth Verott
14 THU	7:30 AM	†	Jim Lynch
	12:10 N	†	Thereza and Fiorino Magnifico
15 FRI	7:30 AM	†	Alfred Perez
	12:10 N	†	Adele Colatorti
16 SAT	7:30 AM	†	Ann Moffa and Robert McNulty
	5:00 PM	†	Joseph Hocking
	7:30 PM		Brazilian Mass
17 SUN	7:30 AM		Our Parishioners
	9:00 AM	†	Tran Thi Dung
	10:30 AM	†	Peter Hoa & Maria Ha Tran
	12:00 N	†	James McCaffery
	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—March 3, 2024.....\$ 8,100
Online Giving—March 5, 2024.....\$ 2,144
Our weekly goal\$ 10,500

Thank you for your support.

Father Mecca



The Sanctuary Lamp Burns

In Memory of

Herbert Lemoine



We offer our condolences to the family of

Edwardo Cuevas

Herbert Lemoine

who passed away last week

WE WELCOME THE NEWLY BAPTIZED

Daniel Romero

KINDLY REMEMBER THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Dorothy Bennett Ware Cohen Barbara Glasso

Richard Baris Nubia Dekker Joshua Erickson

Elizabeth Ianelli Joseph Kasinskas Teddy Marchione

Catherine McDermott Anthony Pelle, Jr.

Christopher McLaughlin Marita Repole Robert Soares



I saw a metaphor for Laetare Sunday at home on Wednesday. I don't know why, given how spring arrives earlier every year now a days, but I was surprised to see the tulips in the front border beginning to push through the wet—muddy even--soil. The daffodils had done that many weeks ago, and, in fact, are probably six inches high or more in the back yard. But tulips coming up out of the soil in March? Aside from my cursing of climate change, I saw a correlation with our church calendar as we reach the 4th Sunday of Lent or Laetare (Rejoice) Sunday. At this point in the Lenten journey, the Church points to the joy to come in three more weeks—the brand-new light of the Resurrection. The appearance of the tips of the first tulip leaves reminds me and you of the approach of blooms luminous in the bright spring sun. Our prayerfulness, our fasting from sin, and our almsgiving during these days of Lent opens us to greater holiness and to the joy passing from death to life with Jesus our risen Lord.

Our new sound system is installed. How is it different from what we had? The former system, if I wrote it down correctly, was line array technology which broadcasts sound everywhere. What we now have is a point system which lazar focuses the sound to the congregation. Practically, that means reverberation is practically eliminated. The preceding word will not still be moving through the building when the following one is spoken. Without reverberation, the quality of sound will be cleaner and more distinct. Because the system is created to bring the voice closer to you, the speakers are also further down the columns than the former ones. (More on that below.) You should notice a positive difference today listening to the spoken word.

The system has the capacity for custom settings which can allow us to enhance the sung word. We know that it can be difficult to hear the cantor when the organ is played with fullness and richness, especially when seated in the rear, closest to the great division of the instrument where most of the ranks of pipes are located. (Just an aside, it always baffles me that the folks who don't like loud organ seem to like sitting in the rear. I would think they would sit up front away from the source and where the sound is much more diffused.) Keep in mind that with this point system, the cantor's voice is no longer being broadcast throughout the entire air space as is the sound of the pipes. The voice is closer to you. But, in addition, with settings that Glen and Peter Scandone created, and can tweak as we spend time with the system, the speakers in the rear of the church can be upped in volume while those in the front are not. We would appreciate your feedback, so please let me or

FOURTH(Laetare) SUNDAY OF LENT

Glen know what you are hearing and what you are not. Now, I need to confess one thing. I was not as ready for these high-tech speakers as I thought I would be. The overall appearance of the speakers, which are hung at the height they are meant to be, bother my eye. For me, they change the aesthetics of the church. As each day passes, I am getting more comfortable with them but not totally, and I believe a large part of that is the whiteness. Unfortunately, the speakers are made only in white or black, but fortunately, they can be painted to blend in. That is something we certainly will consider when we look at freshening up our interior.

—Fr. Mecca

Music Notes—

Reflections on Gregorian Chant – Part 4

Last week I talked about how Gregorian chant embodies and encourages our Catholic unity. This week, I would like to reflect more specifically on why this unity is so important for our particular community of faith here at St. Peter.



Ours is a multicultural parish with a growing Spanish-speaking population. While we typically celebrate Mass in our respective languages (English and in Spanish), the Church occasionally calls on us to worship together as *one* community of faith. Holy Thursday and the Easter Vigil are two such occasions. At such gatherings, the Church documents state that “it is most appropriate to celebrate the liturgy in Latin, with the exception of the readings, the homily and the prayer of the faithful. In addition, selections of Gregorian chant should be sung at such gatherings, whenever possible” (*Sing to the Lord*, Par. 62).

This year we will be singing the Latin Chant Mass at both our Holy Thursday and Easter Vigil Masses. When we join our voices together for the *Sanctus* (the Holy, Holy) and *Agnus Dei* (Lamb of God), we will be singing in Latin, the Church’s language that unites us all. We will be singing Gregorian chant, the Church’s song that unites us all. St. Peter’s is becoming an increasingly diverse community of faith, a wonderfully diverse community united in our Lord Jesus Christ. Simply put, Gregorian chant provides a practical and beautiful way for us to express this unity.

—Glen Segger, Music Director

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.

Our enrollment is robust so far and we have over two hundred students signed up for the 2024-2025 school year! Spots are filling fast; if anyone is interested in learning more about St. Peter School, please contact us.

Our St. Peter School Read-A-Thon is going strong. So far we have raised \$2735.20, our students have read for 19,591 minutes, our fourth grade has raised the most amount of money and our 5th grade has the honor of holding the spot for the top minutes read. The students are motivated to stretch their reading prowess by prizes which include a pizza party, lunch with the principal, choosing a Treasure Chest item, and so much more! The Read-A-Thon is always great fun for our students!

Our 7th and 8th grade students are looking forward to the Catholic School dance being held this Friday evening. The middle schoolers love coming together with peers from the area Catholic schools. All the principals attend which is also great!

Have a blessed week!

—Mrs. Mary Lou Torre, Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

First Holy Communion

Over 80 students received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Saturday, March 9. They encountered God’s love and mercy in this beautiful Sacrament! Keep them in your prayers as they continue their journey to First Holy Communion.

Más de 80 estudiantes recibieron el Sacramento de la Reconciliación por primera vez el sábado 9 de marzo. ¡Encontraron el amor y la misericordia de Dios en este hermoso Sacramento! Manténlos en tus oraciones mientras continúan su viaje hacia la Primera Comunión.

Calendar Clarification

There is class today Sunday March 10, for all classes except for First Communion 2. Everyone including First Communion 2 students are required to attend Mass.

March 10, 2024

Hay clase hoy domingo 10 de marzo, para todas las clases excepto Primera Comunión 2. Todos, incluidos los estudiantes de Primera Comunión 2, deben asistir a Misa.

For more information about our Religious Education program and registration information visit us at <https://stpeterdanb.org/> you will find more information under Faith Formation.

Para obtener más información sobre nuestro programa de Educación Religiosa e información de registro, visítenos en <https://stpeterdanb.org/> encontrará más información en Formación de Fe

March

10 – Class 18

17 – Class 19

24 – Class 20

31—Easter No Class

—Barbara Siano, Director of Religious Education

*St. Edward the Confessor Parish is proud to announce that it will be hosting the **relics of St. Padre Pio** on display for veneration on **Thursday, April 25th from 11:00am to 6:30pm in our church**. There will be a Mass to follow the relic display at 7:00pm in honor of St. Pio. St. Edward Parish hopes that you can witness such a special display of relics of one of the most beloved saints of the day."*

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. **March 14 from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.** in the **Parish Hall** is Episode 10: "Not Only About the Future' remedies to strengthen us to win the battle against temptation".

The Diocese of Bridgeport Project Rachel Ministry - Are you suffering from the wound of abortion? Do you feel guilt, shame, regret? Begin the healing journey. Come to an Entering Canaan Day of Prayer and Healing for women who have experienced abortion on Saturday, March 16, 2024. For confidential registration or more information contact Maureen at projectrachel@diobpt.org or 203-426-1619. God's love and mercy are waiting for you!



Save the Date:

Saturday, April 20

7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall

St. Peter Parish will

host a Cabaret!

The Murphy Center for
IGNATIAN
SPIRITUALITY
of Fairfield University

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. There is one lecture remaining Saturday, March 16th. The time is 10:30 AM to 12 PM. in the Parish Hall. You are welcome.

Connecticut March for Life—March 20, 2024

Join us for the 3rd Annual Connecticut March for Life on Wednesday, March 20, at the Connecticut State Capitol, 210 Capitol Avenue. The Rally at the Capitol begins at 12:00 noon followed by the March at 1:00 p.m. Rally speakers will be announced soon! For more information visit www.ct.marchforlife.org.

Prayer for Priests

Saturday, March 16 at 8:00 a.m. parishioners will gather for Prayer for Priests. Join us in the Parish Hall.



The **Men's Society** would like to welcome you to a **Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall**, this **Sunday, March 17** 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.

Lent continues...

Stations of the Cross
Every Friday in Lent
7:00 p.m. in English
7:45 p.m. in Spanish

LENTEN ALMSGIVING



<i>Weekend</i>	<i>Item Requested</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.



Soup and Stations

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

**March 15 Mario Arreola
(of our Spanish Community)**

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



Loaves and Fishes Campaign

Will you and your family consider the Lenten sacrifice of a “meager meal” once a week during Lent and donate the money you would have spent on a substantial meal to feed local families who can’t afford to put food on their tables? Please consider supporting Catholic Charities Loaves and Fishes Lenten campaign to feed our most vulnerable neighbors. Food insecurity continues to be the number one issue impacting people in our community. Donations can be made online via the Catholic Charities website at www.ccfairfield.org/loaves. Also, Checks made out to Catholic Charities may be mailed to: Catholic Charities, ATT: Finance Dept/L&FCampaign, 238 Jewett Ave, Bridgeport, CT 06606 .

A PRAYER FOR LENT

*O most gentle Jesus by your
most bitter death give us a lively faith,
a firm hope and a perfect charity,
that with our whole hearts
we may love you with
all our soul and strength. Amen.*

—St. Clare of Assisi

EL SANTO ROSARIO

**Sabado 5:00 a.m.
en nuestra Iglesia**

*Iglesia St. Peter
Danbury CT.*



“The community that I have been invited to belong to here at St. Mary has positively impacted my life. Work peers have become friends, program leaders have become teammates, and the families of our parish have become those I wish to be supportive of as they grow together in faith. The Institute has allowed me to shine as a leader here at our Parish, as I utilize their training, community forums, and progressive resources to help bring a modern-day church to parish-ioners.” - Maggie Kent—Catechist, St. Mary, Bethel

**Make your gift to the Bishop's Appeal today!
Visit: www.2024BishopsAppeal.org**



2024 Annual Bishop's Appeal

**Pledged to date: \$18,510.00
Donors: 37**