



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
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PARISH OFFICE HOURS
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OFFICE NUMBERS
Phone: 203-743-2707 and Fax: 203-794-1928
Email Address - office@stpeterdanb.org
Website - www.stpeterdanb.org

PARISH STAFF

Dr. Glen Segger, Music Minister
gsegger@stpeterdanb.org
Dr. Nancy Engel, Children’s Choir - 914-741-1670

LATINO COMMUNITY
203-743-2707

SAINT PETER SCHOOL OFFICE
Mary Lou Torre — Principal - 203-748-2895
School Fax: 203-748-5684

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND FORMATION

Barbara Siano—Director of Religious Education K - 8
203-743-1048 or stpeterfuture@stpeterdanb.org

YOUTH MINISTRY

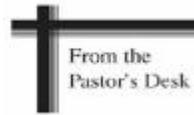
Michael Falbo—Youth Group Director
203-743-1048 or ygstpeter@gmail.com

Chairman of Parish Council – Fred Visconti – 203-744-2311
Chairman of Finance – Arthur Mannion - 203-733-0183
Homebound Ministry– Sr. Mary Bernard Wiecezak, CSFN
203-743-2707, Ext. 22



MARCH

6 SAT	5:00 PM †	Thomas Michael Liddane
	7:30 PM	Brazilian Mass
7 SUN	7:30 AM †	Ann Hines
	9:00 AM †	Thomas Nguyen
	10:30 AM	Our Parishioners
	12:00 N †	John M. Hanrahan
	5:00 PM	Spanish Mass
	7:30 PM	Brazilian Mass
8 MON	<i>St. John of God, Religious</i>	
	7:30 AM †	Souls in Purgatory
	12:10 N †	Agnes J. Fricker
9 TUE	<i>St. Frances of Rome, Religious</i>	
	7:30 AM †	Chuck Ferguson
	12:10 N †	Margaret Hartell
10 WED	7:30 AM †	Mary Beth Garavel
	12:10 N †	Bob McNulty
11 THU	7:30 AM †	Howard Schmiedel
	12:10 N †	Joseph Hocking
12 FRI	7:30 AM †	Ethel Lemoine
	12:10 N †	Henry Boucher
13 SAT	7:30 AM †	Rev. Walter Orłowski
	5:00 PM †	Palma Cerminara
	7:30 PM	Brazilian Mass
14 SUN	7:30 AM †	James Lynch
	9:00 AM †	Maria Ba
	10:30 AM	Our Parishioners
	12:00 N †	Frances Augustine
	5:00 PM	Spanish Mass
	7:30 PM	Brazilian Mass



Periodically I go to the 8th grade to assist in teaching their religion class. Mrs. Hanrahan and I survey the chapter and decide how we might share the material.

When we first began this joint endeavor, I envisioned doing many different things with the class, including some *exegesis*, that is, some pulling apart Scripture passages to better understand them. Time is never on my side, however, so I have not gotten around to choosing some Gospel passages and preparing materials for the class. I learned something from my guest appearances—I need to provide the students with a worksheet, or study guide. Those things take time to create. Beginning this month, the class will start to focus on preparation for Confirmation. We will leave the chronological order of the textbook’s chapters, employing supplemental materials and picking and choosing sections of the book. I hope to bring in some study and application of the Gospels this spring. The curriculum for 8th graders is heavily weighted on the history of the Church. I can see that the students are not lovers of history (why do young people yawn at history?) and are eager to be differently engaged.

This week we are tackling the Reformation. I think Mrs. Hanrahan is happy to hand off to me the theological controversies of the period. I have to admit that I have had to do some reading myself before presenting today’s lesson on the place of Tradition in the Catholic Faith and the challenges which the reformers hurled against it. Since I am scratching my head for material for today’s column, I thought I would speak on the subject here as well.

You may recall from your religion or history classes (did you also dread history class?) that the Protestant reformers of the 16th century had something of a rallying cry against the Traditions of the Catholic Church when they would say, “*solo scriptura*,” only scripture! They questioned the legitimacy of any Church doctrine or practice that could not be found in the scriptures. The season of Lent, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and penances are three things off the top of my head that would be a tie in to this time of year, but there are many important others, including the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into heaven.

Tradition (with a capital T) within the Church refers to the transmission of beliefs, doctrines, and rituals. The transmission could have origins in the Apostolic period or from a later time. The teachings of the Councils of the Church or of the popes, practices, doctrines and rituals that evolved over time all became part of the Tradition which were handed on to succeeding generations. Tradition is about preservation of belief and practice and seeing it continue forward. The Catholic Church says that these practices, beliefs, doctrines are inspired by the

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 SACRIFICIAL GIVING—February 28, 2021.....\$ 7,292

Thank you for your support.

Father Mecca



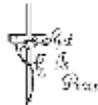
The Sanctuary Lamp Burns
In Memory Of
Theresa Lemoine



We offer our condolences to the family of

Maria Espinal

who passed away last week.



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Holy Spirit and, therefore, Tradition has equal weight with scripture in sanctifying us and leading us to salvation. The Protestant reformers argued that if something could not be justified by scripture it shouldn't be part of the Christian Faith. The Council of Trent (1545-1563) declared that Tradition must be "received and venerated with equal piety and reverence." The Catholic Counter Reformation of the late 16th century responded to Protestantism by asserting that scripture and Tradition are two complimentary sources of Christian doctrine, each containing a part of the divine revelation.

From a personal point of view, I find it comforting and satisfying that Jesus after His Ascension through the Holy Spirit continued to draw the Church, the People of God, deeper into the mystery of the divine life in many and varied ways over the course of the centuries. The Tradition and the Real Presence of the Lord in Holy Communion together make our Catholic Faith so enriching and beautiful.

—Fr. Mecca

SAINT PETER SCHOOL NEWS



What have St. Peter School students been up to?

St. Peter School students will begin a Read-A-Thon on March 8th. This is a new fundraiser for our school and we are extremely excited to get it underway! The funds raised will be used to purchase academic materials and additional books to expand and enhance our school library. The students are beyond excited about this fundraiser, which of course includes prizes. So far, we have raised \$636 in profit to meet our target goal of \$10,000.

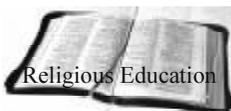
During our Read-A-Thon, we invite parishioners to write a note to a class telling the students what reading has meant to you, how reading has opened up new awareness, of exploration, pleasure, thought, ideas, etc. Choose any grade you like. Address your note to the students and drop it in the Offertory basket or mail it to the school (98 Main St.) at my attention. I know that the students will appreciate your interest in them and will be inspired to read more by your encouragement.

Our Lenten journey continues... The students continue to engage in acts of kindness such as giving five compliments to a friend, saying three prayers for someone, thanking God five times a day, and doing jobs around the house.

Our preschoolers are studying famous women painters such as Georgia O'Keefe. Next, they will be learning about St. Elizabeth Seton. Preschool is a busy place these days!

—Mary Lou Torre, Pincipal

This Lent Why Not: Attend the Stations of the Cross in Church or watch a live stream version of the Stations of the Cross as a family.



Sacramental Registration Forms and Fees First Communion and Confirmation registration forms are due. Please send in or drop completed forms with fees to the rectory.

March

07—Virtual Class- 10:30 -11:15 am Lesson 18

First Communion Class 10:15-11:15 am

14—Virtual Class- 10:30 -11:15 am Lesson 19

First Communion Class 10:15—11:30 a.m.

20—First Reconciliation for First Communion Students

28— Palm Sunday: Palm Sunday Zoom for all students

—Barbara Siano, Director of Religious Education

COMUNIDAD HISPANA SAN PEDRO

"La religión y el culto de la vida" Tercer domingo de cuaresma

Gn 9, 8-15 Sal 24 2da lect.: 1 Pedro 3, 18-22 Evangelio: Mc 1, 12-15

El tercer domingo de Cuaresma, es una muy buena ocasión para pensar en nuestra escala de valores. Las lecturas nos hablan de los diez mandamientos, la sabiduría de la cruz, el templo con sus sacrificios externos y el nuevo templo de Cristo resucitado. En él se dará la presencia de Dios entre los seres humanos y está en medio de nosotros para presentar al Padre nuestra acción de gracias. Empecemos esta liturgia cantando.

Primera lectura: Ex 20, 1-17 (La ley fue dada por Moisés)

La liberación de la esclavitud egipcia y el pacto con Dios en Sinaí, hacen de Israel el pueblo escogido. En su nuevo estado recibieron ellos una nueva ley, el Decálogo, que tiene sentido de respuesta, reconocimiento y acción de gracias por la gran intervención salvífica de Dios. Pongamos atención.

Segunda lectura: 1 Cor 1, 22-25 (Predicamos a Cristo crucificado)

Un tema muy espacial para san Pablo es el misterio de la cruz de Cristo en su muerte y en su resurrección. Para los cristianos comprometidos la cruz es fuerza y sabiduría salvadora para el mundo. Escuchemos.

Tercera lectura: Jn 2, 13-25 (Destruyan este templo y en tres días lo levantaré)

La expulsión de los traficantes del templo lo hace Jesús para que no conviertan en mercado la Casa de su Padre, que es Casa de Oración. Esto nos revela a Jesús como el enviado por Dios para establecer una nueva Alianza y una religión en espíritu y verdad. Con su resurrección se levantará un templo nuevo, su Cuerpo resucitado, la Comunidad nueva en que lo más importante es la fe y la vida interior.

A Lenten Prayer:



*O most gentle Jesus,
by your precious blood,
deliver us from all evils.
By your most bitter death
give us a lively faith,
firm hope and perfect charity,
so that with our whole hearts
we may love you
with all our sould and strength.
Make us persevere
in your service,
firm and steadfast in good works,
so that we may be always
able to please you. Amen.*

—St. Clare of Assisi



Confirmation Full-Day Retreat

The students in our Confirmation Program had a retreat this past Saturday! The theme was 'Persevering in our faith with the intercession of Our Lady Undoer of Knots'. Talks were given by a young married couple, and by a member of the adult RCIA team!

The teens played games and icebreakers to get to know each other more deeply. And they were able to reflect on the knots of sin and discourse that are tied in their lives, and how Our Lady helps us undo all these knots in a love relationship with Christ.

At the end of the retreat the teens were able to have a beautiful Mass celebrated by Fr. Mecca. We thank him for coming and giving us his time as well as his terrific homily! We are thankful also to Evan and Cynthia Psencik, as well as, Carlos Andino for the dedication to Christ and their willingness to share and witness to their faith!

—Michael Falbo, Youth Director



Musical Notes:

Our Music Director, together with the St. Peter Schola, has created a virtual Stations of the Cross that can be viewed on our website. One of our choir members, Christy Langston, took wonderful pictures of our Stations here at St. Peter. These pictures will be shown on a YouTube video over a recording of our St. Peter Schola singing Franz Liszt's "Via Crucis." Liszt's "Via Crucis" is a powerful composition for organ and choir composed in 1879 specifically for the 14 Stations of the Cross. This 40 minute video will allow you to spiritually walk the Way of the Cross from the comfort of your own homes during this pandemic year.



Zoom Course on Gregorian Chant

Don't forget to register for a Zoom Course examining the history and practice of Gregorian Chant. This online course will take place on Tuesdays, March 9, 16, and 23 from 8-9 pm. If you haven't experience Zoom yet, it's very easy. Simply go to our website and register with your name and email address. I will in turn email you instructions, along with a link which you will click to join the class. No musical experience is necessary. Why not increase your appreciation of one of the treasures of our Catholic heritage during this Lenten season!

—Glen Segger, Director of Music

2021 Mass Book

The **2021 Mass Book** has many openings. They begin as early as



You may call the office to reserve Masses or stop by between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. weekdays.

The Book for 2022 is NOT yet available!

KINDLY REMEMBER THE SICK OF THE PARISH

*Daniel Alvarez Dorothy Bennett Richard Botelho
Nubia Dekker Kristin Harrison Elizabeth Ianelli Dan Land
Teddy Marchione Christopher McLaughlin
Joseph Pepin Luciana Perreira Sr. Mary Bernard Wiecezak*

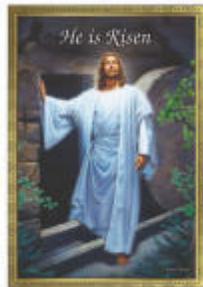
**LENTEN
ALMSGIVING**



Weekend of:	Item Requested
March 21	Toilet Paper
March 28	Dish Soap and Household Cleaners

EASTER CARDS

THE NOON MASS ON EASTER SUNDAY WILL BE OFFERED FOR OUR LIVING LOVED ONES. THE OFFERING IS \$5.00.



A BEAUTIFUL EASTER GIFT FOR SOMEONE SPECIAL.

**St. Joseph Church, Brookfield, CT
Tuesdays in Lent from 7 to 8 p.m.**

An essential ingredient in the spiritual and pastoral revival of every community of faith is fostering ever greater availability to the Sacrament of Penance. To this end, Centers of Mercy have been established in each Deanery. St. Joseph Church, Brookfield, is the local center. Reconciliation is available each Tuesday from 7 to 8 p.m.

Stations of the Cross

Join us for Stations of the Cross each Friday evening at 7:00 p.m. during Lent.



Help Stop State Sponsored Suicide

Politicians in Hartford are again considering assisted suicide legislation. The Public Health Committee of the Connecticut General Assembly is considering legalizing a form of suicide in our state commonly referred to as "aid-in-dying" or "physician-assisted suicide". The Committee has raised *House Bill 6425 "An Act Concerning Aid in Dying for Terminally Ill Patients"*.

Modern hospice care and the proper use of pain medications render suicide unnecessary, and we need to be mindful of the threat that a suicide mentality poses to vulnerable people and to people with disabilities

Many people believe that a physician is deeply involved in this process. This not true. The physician orders the mixture of medications, the patient must then consume the deadly cocktail of drugs without assistance. Many times without even a physician or nurse present.

We should never allow legislators to establish suicide as a solution to medical issues. Don't let the state persuade us that it's dignified for an ill person to sign their own execution order. Don't let the state create an environment where ill people will feel they have a "responsibility to die".

Catholic teaching condemns physician-assisted suicide because it, like murder, involves taking an innocent human life:

Suicide is always as morally objectionable as murder. The Church's tradition has always rejected it as a gravely evil choice: To concur with the intention of another person to commit suicide and to help in carrying it out through so-called "assisted suicide" means to cooperate in, and at times to be the actual perpetrator of, an injustice which can never be excused, even if it is requested. Saint Augustine writes that "it is never licit to kill another: even if he should wish it." True "compassion" leads to sharing another's pain; it does not kill the person whose suffering we cannot bear. (John Paul II, The Gospel of Life, no. 66).

TAKE ACTION:

Go to the website below, read more on the issue and then sign the petition to stop the legalization of assisted suicide in Connecticut

www.ctstopsuicide.org

Connecticut Catholic Public Affairs Conference

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