

Fourth Sunday Of Advent

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
203-730-9071

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

PARISH STAFF

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

LATINO COMMUNITY

Rev. Frank Eldridge—203-743-2707

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

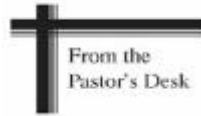
YOUTH MINISTRY

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



DECEMBER




18 SAT	5:00 PM †	Alfred Farrah, Sr.
	7:30 PM	Brazilian Mass
19 SUN	7:30 AM †	Charlie Greenwald
	9:00 AM	Our Parishioners
	10:30 AM †	Michele DiBuono
	12:00 N †	Paul Hart
	5:00 PM	Spanish Mass
	7:30 PM	Brazilian Mass
20 MON	7:30 AM †	Father Paul Merry
	12:10 N †	Carlos Espinal
21 TUE	<i>St. Peter Canisius, Priest & Doctor of the Church</i>	
	7:30 AM †	Eva Mannion
	12:10 N †	Richard Moore
22 WED	7:30 AM †	Ed Rasmussen
	12:10 N †	Souls in Purgatory
23 THU	<i>St. John of Kanty, Priest</i>	
	7:30 AM †	Bernadette Ward
	12:00 N †	Odelia Ruemenapp
24 FRI	7:30 AM †	Scarpetti Family
	4:00 PM †	Kenny, McLeary and O'Connor Families
	5:45 PM	All Parishioners and Fathers' Families and Friends
	7:00 PM	Spanish Mass
	7:30 PM	Brazilian Mass
	12:00 M	Our Parishioners
25 SAT	7:30 AM	Special Intention
	9:00 AM †	Brazilian Mass
	10:30 AM	The Priests of the Parish
	12:00 N	Spanish Mass
26 SUN	7:30 AM †	Seeley, Ryan and Pomeroy Families
	9:00 AM	In thanksgiving
	10:30 AM	Our Parishioners
	12:00 N †	Scott Dunbar
	5:00 PM	Spanish Mass
	7:30 PM	Brazilian Mass

Our weekly goal.....\$10,500
 SACRIFICIAL GIVING—December 12, 2021.....\$ 7,324
 Online Giving—December 12, 2021.....\$ 1,647
 Shortfall.....\$ 1,529

Thank you for your support. Father Mecca

**The Sanctuary Lamp Burns
In Memory
of
Paul Hart**



KINDLY REMEMBER THE SICK OF THE PARISH
*Daniel Alvarez Terry Austin Dorothy Bennett Richard Botelho
 Ray Condon Nubia Dekker Jerry DeJulia Elizabeth Ianelli
 Teddy Marchione Christopher McLaughlin Samantha Miller
 Anthony Pelle, Jr. Joseph Pepin Sr. Mary Bernard Wiecezak*

We are in the home stretch to Christmas. I am feeling a little comfort in the fact that we have four days in the fourth week of Advent.

On the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, Bishop Caggiano released a Pastoral Exhortation entitled, “Let Us Go Forth from the Upper Room,” to the people of the Diocese. Accompanying it is a 7 minute video. The text and the video are on the diocesan website (www.diobpt.org) for you to read and/or listen to. The title invokes the place where the Disciples gathered in fear after the crucifixion. The upper room becomes a metaphor for where they were, not physically but psychologically. They remained in a kind of state of paralysis. They kept to themselves surrounded as they were with a hostile and volatile environment. But the time came for the Disciples to leave the upper room, to go out as Apostles after the Holy Spirit came upon them. In this Exhortation, Bishop Caggiano says it’s time that we as the Church go out into the world bringing “a message of healing and hope to our neighbors, friends and people of good will, many of whom are weary of what we have endured these past 21 months.” Many people, he continues, “are seeking healing and encouragement in their ordinary lives and they can find new life in Jesus Christ.”

The Bishop invites us to reflect upon three tasks: “to teach and preach the Gospel with clarity and conviction, to transform our local parish or school communities into spiritual families united in faith, and to create bridges to those persons who feel neglected by the Church or whom the world considers ‘outcasts.’”

In his conclusion, Bishop Caggiano reminds us that “For over fifty years the Church’s Magisterium has been inviting us to engage in the work of missionary discipleship. Such work begins with an authentic personal life of faith, as well as the transformation of local faith communities into vibrant spiritual homes for its members.” The three tasks that the Bishop has outlined lay, as he says, “the foundation for the launch of effective missionary discipleship throughout our Diocese.” We must ask Jesus “what part He wishes us to play in this mission.”

As we move into next year, we will hear more about how we will embrace missionary discipleship.

Let’s go over the Christmas Mass schedule. I think it is the best that we can do. The second vigil in English is back but at 5:45 rather than 5:30. The 4 o’clock is always the heaviest attended, and the Mass gets rushed because of departure and arrival of cars. The extra 15 minutes will help. Our Hispanic community asked for a

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Vigil at 7, a time which gives working parents time to get home and get the family ready. Because the Brazilians Mass is upstairs, this Mass will be celebrated in the Parish Hall. Midnight remains at midnight. On Christmas Day, I brought back an early Mass in English at 7:30, the 9 is a Brazilian Mass, the 10:30 is the solemn Mass in English, and the noon became Mass in Spanish. The latter is a change for us. We needed a second Mass in Spanish and a time after 1 p.m. is just not desirable. Returning the 5:30 vigil to English and adding the early morning Mass, we have a total of five English Masses, the same amount we have on an ordinary weekend. We don't have the number of people coming to church to justify six Masses. The times are really for convenience. I know that we often get a decent crowd at noon on Christmas Day, but I am hoping those folks will shift to the 10:30. What a balancing act it is trying to find room for three language groups.

Lastly, on the schedule take note of the opportunity for Confession this week. We celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Friday from 11 to 12:30.

Merry Christmas!

Christmas Schedule



Confessions:

11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Friday, December 24

Christmas Eve Masses:

4:00 p.m. Vigil

Children's Choir will begin singing at 3:30 p.m.

5:45 p.m. Vigil. Organ and Cantor

7:00 p.m. Parish Hall—Spanish Liturgy

7:30 p.m. Brazilian Liturgy

11:30 p.m. Traditional Carols and

Seasonal Music

12:00 Midnight - Solemn Mass with

Organ and Choir

Saturday, December 25, Christmas Day Masses:

7:30 a.m. Organ

9:00 a.m. Brazilian Liturgy

10:30 a.m. Organ, Choir

12:00 Noon Spanish Liturgy



SAINT PETER SCHOOL NEWS

As I sit here in my office reflecting on Christmas 2021, I am keenly aware that the busyness of the Christmas season can easily interrupt the stillness we all crave. Yet, it is this very stillness that is the most beautiful part of this season; that is, if we take time to slow down, be still, and listen. Every year, as part of our personal Christmas journey, we prepare for, remember and celebrate the birth of the blessed baby Jesus with anticipation, hope, prayer, grace and joy.

I am sure that we all have special traditions to guide our individual Christmas journey. Perhaps it is attending Midnight Mass or making a traditional feast of family favorites; perhaps it is a special ceremony with cherished family prayers; maybe it involves singing special songs such as "Silent Night; or maybe it is a simple birthday celebration for Jesus complete with birthday cake and candles! Whatever it is, we cherish it and look forward to it every Christmas.

Sometimes folks at our table are missing and that can make us sad, but if we look carefully with our hearts, we find that their love is always there.

So many more times, new folks join us at the table, and we joyfully welcome them into the fold. I do my best to try and remember that this is all a part of our personal Christmas journey.

Wherever our Christmas journey leads us this year, I hope we can all take a minute and ask ourselves some simple questions such as: Have we made a place for Jesus in our hearts this season? Are we ready for what God wants to give us this year? Are we taking time to sit and be still during our busy days to reflect and pray about how we will carry His message of Christmas with us into 2022?

Happy Birthday, Jesus!

—Mrs. Mary Lou Torre, Principal

SAINT PETER RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



May the beauty, peace and joy of this blessed season envelop you all with the infinite love of God, and the wonder of His only Son, our Savior, Jesus.

A joyous and blessed Christmas to all!

—The Religious Education Team



ANGEL TREE

ALL GIFTS HAVE BEEN DELIVERED TO THE AGENCIES INVOLVED AND CLIENTS RECEIVED THE GIFTS OUR PARISHIONERS DONATED. THANK YOU ONCE AGAIN!

Dedication of the "Merry Chimes" takes place today, Sunday, December 19, at the 10:30 a.m. Mass.



Catholic Young Adults

On Friday, January 7 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Edward the Confessor Church, New Fairfield, Bishop Frank Caggiano will join us for a Chinese Dinner, and then speak to the young adults about the ways in which the Church needs their presence and vision.

Bible (Study) & Bites begins January 6 through February 24, 2022 from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. We are studying: Mary: The Bible and the Mother of God

The topics are:

- Jan. 6—The New Eve
- Jan. 13—The New Ark
- Jan. 20—Mother of the Messiah
- Jan. 27—The Queen Mother
- Feb 3—The Perpetual Virgin
- Feb 10—Mother of Sorrows
- Feb 17—The New Rachel
- Feb 24—Questions and Answers

Please submit this form with cash or check for \$18.00 in Church basket or drop it at the rectory by January 2, 2022..

Name: _____

Phone# _____

Enrolling in Mary: The Bible and the Mother of God - Bible Study & Bites Program.

COMUNIDAD HISPANA SAN PEDRO

En acción de Gracias y Bendición del Nacimiento familiar Querido Padre, Dios del cielo y de la tierra:

En esta noche santa te queremos dar gracias por tanto amor. Gracias por nuestra familia y por nuestro hogar. Gracias por las personas que trabajan con nosotros.

Bendícenos en este día tan especial en el que esperamos el nacimiento de tu Hijo. Ayúdanos a preparar nuestros corazones para recibir al Niño Jesús con amor, con alegría y esperanza. Estamos aquí reunidos para adorarlo y darle gracias por venir a nuestro mundo a llenar nuestras vidas.

Hoy al contemplar el pesebre recordamos especialmente a las familias que no tienen techo, alimento y comodidad. Te pedimos por ellas para que la Virgen y San José les ayuden a encontrar un cálido hogar

Padre bueno, te pedimos que el Niño Jesús nazca también en nuestros corazones para que podamos regalarles a otros el amor que Tu nos muestras día a día. Ayúdanos a reflejar con nuestra vida tu abundante misericordia.

Que junto con tus Ángeles y Arcángeles vivamos siempre alabándote y glorificándote.

(En este momento alguien de la familia pone al Niño Jesús en el pesebre o si ya está allí se coloca un pequeño cirio o velita delante de Él).

Santísima Virgen María, gracias por aceptar ser la Madre de Jesús y Madre nuestra, gracias por tu amor y protección. Sabemos que día a día intercedes por nosotros y por nuestras intenciones, gracias Madre.

Querido San José, gracias por ser padre y protector del Niño Jesús, te pedimos que ruegues a Dios por nosotros para que seamos una familia unida en el amor y podamos ser ejemplo de paz y reconciliación para los demás.

Muchas felicidades y bendiciones en este tiempo sagrado del nacimiento del Niño Jesús.

Padre Gregg Meca, Padre David Riley y Padre Francisco Eldridge, S.A.

Horario Navideno

Diciembre 24 7:00 p.m. Salon Parroquial (en el basement de la iglesia)

Diciembre 25 12:00 p.m. en la iglesia



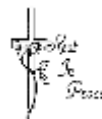
We offer our condolences to the families of

Eileen Lourenco

Daniel Mecca

Dorothy Schaffer

who passed away last week.



DECEMBER 19, 2021



In the silence of the manger cradle, in the quiet of our waiting hearts, LOVE was born at Christmas.

Wishing you the love and warmth the miracle of Christmas brings.

The clergy and staff of St. Peter Church.

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