

# Our Lady of Fatima Church

*"WE ARE A WELCOMING COMMUNITY"*

229 Danbury Road  
Wilton, Connecticut 06897



**REV. MICHAEL C. PALMER**  
PASTOR

Rev. James C. Vattakunnel  
Assistant Pastor

Thomas J. McManus  
Deacon  
Financial Council Chairman 762-7142

Sister Mary Jane Card  
Ministry to the Elderly 761-9879

Mrs. Kathleen Rooney  
Director of Religious Education

Miss Sharon E. Lynn  
Director of Youth Activities

Mr. Clay Zambo  
Music Director and Organist 847-4987  
czambo@mac.com

Mrs. Mary Bozzuti - Higgins  
Adult Choir 563-9697

Mrs. Betsy McGowan  
Children's Choir Director 857-0467

Peter Slavin, Grand Knight  
Knights of Columbus 722-9415  
pslavin@metlfe.com



## **MASSES:**

Daily: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9:00 AM  
Tuesday and Thursday 7:45 AM  
Saturday 8:00 AM and 5:30 PM  
(5:30 for Sunday Obligation)  
Sunday: 7:30, 9:00, 10:30, and 12:00 Noon  
Holy Day: 5:30 PM (Eve of Holy Day)  
7:00, 9:00, Noon, 8:00

**SACRAMENT OF PENANCE:** Saturday 4:00-5:00 plus 5:00 PM on Eve of Holy Day

**BAPTISMS:** Arrangements for Baptism can be made at the Rectory

**MARRIAGES:** Arrangements must be made at least eight months in advance. However we encourage they be made one year in advance.

**SICK AND HOMEBOUND:** Please notify the Rectory if anyone in your home is seriously sick or homebound.

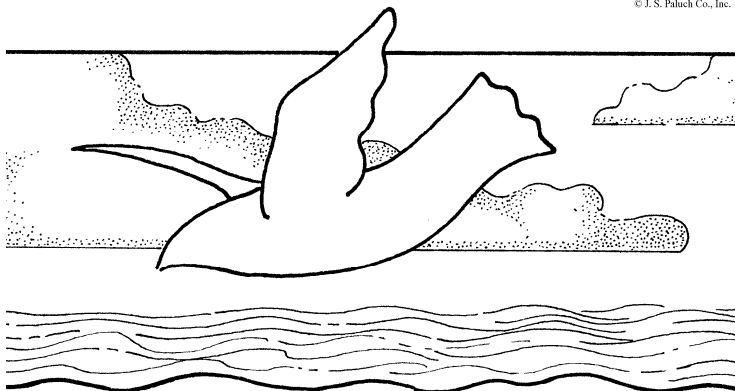
**PARISH REGISTRATION:** All families or individuals who have moved into the parish should register by filling out the registration card available at the church doors.

Rectory  
762-3928  
[www.olfwilton.org](http://www.olfwilton.org)

Church Fax  
834-1261

Religious Education  
762-9080  
[www.olfreligioused.org](http://www.olfreligioused.org)

School  
762-8100  
[www.olfcatholic.org](http://www.olfcatholic.org)



## BAPTISM OF THE LORD

**JANUARY 10, 2010**

*He saved us through the bath of rebirth  
and renewal by the Holy Spirit.*

— *Titus 3:5*

### Masses for the Week

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<b>Sat. 9<sup>th</sup> 5:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Jean Lord Bartek</b>	<b>Fri. 15<sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Collective Intentions</b>
<b>Sun. 10<sup>th</sup> 7:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Marion &amp; Ara Cambere</b>	<b>Sat. 16<sup>th</sup> 8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Pasquale Romeo (9<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)</b>
<b>Sun. 10<sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>All Parishioners Living &amp; Deceased</b>	<b>Sat. 16<sup>th</sup> 5:30 p.m.</b>	<b>William Palmer</b>
<b>Sun. 10<sup>th</sup> 10:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Helen Hojnacki</b>	<b>Sun. 17<sup>th</sup> 7:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Louise, George, and Anna Mumbach</b>
<b>Sun. 10<sup>th</sup> Noon</b>	<b>Eugene Flanagan, Jr.</b>	<b>Sun. 17<sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>John Maggio</b>
<b>Mon. 11<sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>James Fitzgibbon</b>	<b>Sun. 17<sup>th</sup> 10:30 a.m.</b>	<b>All Parishioners Living &amp; Deceased</b>
<b>Tue. 12<sup>th</sup> 7:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Georgia Jaskot</b>	<b>Sun. 17<sup>th</sup> Noon</b>	<b>John Matthew O'Brien</b>
<b>Wed. 13<sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Betty Piza</b>		
<b>Thu. 14<sup>th</sup> 7:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Charles Kolb</b>		

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**  
**Monday – Friday**  
**9 a.m. – 5 p.m.**

**PLEASE PRAY** for the happy repose of the souls of **Wells Jarboe**, father of Paul Jarboe of our parish, **Veronica Gunderson**, mother of Barry Gunderson of our parish, and for **Geraldine Card**, sister-in-law of Sister Mary Jane Card of our parish. May Jesus, our Lord and Savior, grant them eternal rest and joy.

#### THE OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS:

Christmas	2009: \$53,641	2008: \$58,947
Holy Family	2009: \$17,559	2008: \$16,492
New Year's	2010: \$2,636	2009: \$3,689
Epiphany	2010: \$11,582	2009: \$13,084
Monthly*	2010: \$3,812	2009: \$3,814

\* 2nd collection on Epiphany — monthly offertory for needs of the parish

**IF YOU ARE AN ELECTRONIC DONOR**, and have not yet turned in your 2010 forms, please return them to the Parish Office as soon as possible. If you misplaced your forms, or would like to sign up to become an electronic donor, you may pick up forms in the Parish Office during regular business hours, or download the forms from our website — [www.olfwilton.org](http://www.olfwilton.org). Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

### PARISH NEWS

**AFTER-MASS COLLECTION TO SUPPORT LIFE ORGANIZATIONS—NEXT WEEKEND (JANUARY 16/17)** The Respect Life Ministry will take up a collection at Church doors following all

Masses next weekend. Proceeds will support our parish ministry and local life organizations including Birthright of Norwalk, Connecticut Right to Life, Gospel of Life (Norwalk) and Rachel's Vineyard. For donations by check, please list OLF as payee.

**"FATIMA LEARNS ABOUT FATIMA" WEEK:** Come and join with other parishioners in deepening our understanding of the message and miracles brought to the world by OUR LADY OF FATIMA at Fatima, Portugal, in 1917. Since that time, many popes have confirmed the truth of Mary's appearances to the original three children and the world.

A week-long event is planned beginning at the 9 a.m. Mass on **Sunday, January 24th**, which will include a procession of the Pilgrim Virgin Statue from Fatima. A powerful new movie on Fatima, "**The 13th Day**", will be shown during this week with discussions from parishioners who have made a pilgrimage to this holy site. Please join fellow parishioners in a parish Rosary, devotion before the Pilgrim Statue, at Mass or at one of the movie events and discussions. *Look for "Fatima Fact Sheets" regarding these programs in the coming weeks.* For more information, please contact Sheila Beck (762-8727) or Laura Cody (761-9183).

**FREE THROW CHAMPIONSHIP** – It's time once again for the annual OLF Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship, to be held **TODAY, January 10th**, from 1:00—2:30 p.m. in the Our Lady of Fatima School Gym. All boys and girls ages 10 to 14 are invited to step up to the line to compete. Prizes will be awarded for each age group and winners will have the opportunity to compete in regional, state and national finals. For additional information please contact Peter Rubsam at 761-1461 or Chris Terranova at 762-7307.

**M.O.M.'s—MEETING OTHER MOMS:** Please join us this **Thursday, January 14, 2010** from 10:00—11:30 a.m. in the Parish Center for a craft, a snack, songs and free play. New moms and children (ages newborn to 5) are always welcome. For more information please call Mary Jones at 761-6687 or Martina Kahn at 210-7059.

**CAN YOU HELP WITH A BABY SHOWER** which will support the work of The Sisters of Life? The shower is sponsored by the Bridgeport Diocesan Council of Catholic Women to help the Sisters, who care for 500 women and their babies each year. Next weekend — **January 16 and 17** — represen-

tatives in the **Parish Center** will be collecting maternity clothes (some lightly used are OK) as well as newborn clothes and baby supplies, which are just a few of the items that the Sisters need. For more information and an expanded list of items, please call Marie Walsh at 203-569-2559 or mariet-walsh@optonline.net, or call Kathleen Dineen at 762-7674.

**SPIRITUAL BREAK GROUP** "Other seed fell into good soil and brought forth grain" (Mark 4:1-33) Have you been thinking of finding out what our group is all about? We meet once a month for an hour in a relaxed atmosphere. Each month we will be focusing on one chapter of Father Donders' book, Seven Days with the Gospel of Mark. Join us **Tuesday, January 19th at 10:30 a.m. in the Parish Center** for discussion, prayer and meditation while listening to spiritual music. Come once or join us each month. Questions? Terry Lynn @ 762-7413 (trlynn@optonline.net) or Gale Roeder @ 762-3784 (galeroe33@aol.com). All are welcome!

**MARCH FOR LIFE—WASHINGTON, D.C.— JANUARY 22, 2010** March for the Unborn! Again this year, OLF Marchers will bus to Washington to participate in the Annual March For Life. Buses will arrive at the Ellipse (south of the White House) in time for the Life Rally at noon, March along Constitution Avenue to the Capitol and Supreme Court, and leave Washington by 5:00 P.M. for arrival back in Connecticut at about 10:30 P.M. Parishioners have a choice of **two points** of departure:

*Norwalk - St. Mary Church. Buses will leave at 6:00 A.M. (immediately following 5:00 A.M. Mass). Cost is \$55 per person (scholarships available).*

*Ridgefield - St. Mary Church.*

Bus will leave at 5:45 A.M. Cost is \$50 for adults, \$25 for children. For more information please contact Kathleen/Tim Dineen at 762-7674.

**PLEASE PRAY** for all our service men and women who are protecting our freedom, and especially Jake Hutchings, Patrick Donohue and Matthew Smarrella. If you have a loved one serving overseas, or know of someone who is, call the Parish Office with their names.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**SUNDAY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES RESUME JANUARY 10.** There are no classes on January 17.

**REMINDER TO PARENTS OF FIRST RECONCILIATION STUDENTS:** The children's Reconciliation books will be checked on **January 11, 12, and 13.** Please be sure that the book is completed and that your child knows the Sign of the Cross, the Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, and the Act of Contrition.

**PARENTS OF FIRST RECONCILIATION STUDENTS** will meet in the church at 7:30 P.M. on **Monday, January 11.** At this time, final details of the January 23 ceremonies will be discussed. There will be an opportunity for parents to go to confession after the brief meeting. Please take advantage of receiving the sacrament of Reconciliation as your child prepares for his/her first confession. This meeting is for PARENTS ONLY.

**THE SCHEDULE FOR THE TWO CEREMONIES FOR FIRST RECONCILIATION** has been given to parents. If you have a question about the time your child should attend on January 23, please call the Religious Education Office (203-762-9080).

**THERE WILL BE NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES** on **Monday, January 18,** due to the school holiday.

**AT THIS TIME, MANY NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS ARE MADE.** Have you thought of one that affects your spiritual life? If you or someone you know has been away from the church for any length of time, wouldn't it be a wonderful start to the New Year to "come home"? There are many reasons why men and women "leave" the active practice of their faith, but the knowledge that God loves and forgives is an invitation to join our family of faith once again. Please call Father Palmer or Father James (203-762-3928) in confidence to talk about coming back. We belong together.

**RCIA** is a process through which men and women of different faith traditions are received into the full communion of the Catholic Church or are initiated through the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. Do you have a friend, family mem-

ber, co-worker, or neighbor who has expressed an interest in our faith? If so, please invite him/her to call Kathleen Rooney (203-762-9080) or one of our priests (203-762-3928) to learn more about joining a group of parishioners on a weekly basis to reflect on Scripture, discuss the teachings of the Catholic Church, and pray together.

## YOUTH MINISTRY

**2010 SUMMER MISSION OUTREACH TRIP** to the St. Patrick's Foundation in Kingston, Jamaica. From **Sunday, June 20<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, June 27<sup>th</sup>,** the high school youth group will travel to Jamaica to work in the mission centers & at St. Joseph's Catholic Hospital helping the needy, poor, & abandoned elderly. Cost for the trip is \$1,250. Applications are now available in the Religious Education office. (note: submission of application does not automatically guarantee a spot on the mission trip.)

**JR. YOUTH ARTS & CRAFTS PARTY:** Save the date of **Friday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>!** 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, & 8<sup>th</sup> graders are encouraged to join us when we visit Brookdale Place (formerly Sunrise Assisted Living) after school to 5:00 pm for an Arts & Crafts Party with the elderly. We'll pick you up at Middlebrook or OLF School and go to Brookdale for some delicious snacks and to make crafts with the residents. Sign up with a permission slip is a must by Tuesday, January 19<sup>th</sup> to Sharon Lynn in the Religious Ed office. It's a fun way to earn service hours needed for Confirmation!

**MARCH FOR LIFE — TEEN PILGRIMAGE:** Our Diocese of Bridgeport is sponsoring a mini-retreat & pilgrimage to Washington, DC on **January 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>** to pray & petition our government to protect human life! The group will leave by bus at 8:00 am on the 21<sup>st</sup> and return at 11:00 pm on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. The cost is \$175 which includes transportation, one night hotel stay, most meals as well as evening prayer vigil, youth rally & Mass for life, fantastic musicians, inspiring reflections and the March to the Capital & Supreme Court. Teens will need to plan on missing 2 full days of school for this program. For details & to sign up, contact Sharon Lynn at OLFYouthGroup@aol.com or at 762-9080 ASAP!

**FATIMA LEARNS ABOUT FATIMA:** High Schoolers - Save the date of **Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup>** at

11:30 a.m. (after the 10:30 Mass) as we'll be watching the powerful new movie – "The 13<sup>th</sup> Day". We'll meet for pizza, watch the movie & have group discussions to learn more about the mysteries of Fatima. Details will be forthcoming.

### **HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT — SAVE THE DATE:**

The Mackenzie Trec (Teens Really Encountering Christ) is coming for OLF High School Teens the weekend of **March 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>**. This exciting retreat will be held at the Seton Neumann Center in Danbury. The cost for the retreat is \$95 (includes lodging, meals, & much more). For details & permission slips, please talk to Sharon Lynn in the Religious Ed office or Teen Leaders, Tim Becker & Jackie Saltarelli.

## **DIOCESAN NEWS**

### **NEW COVENANT HOUSE FUNDRAISING**

**CONCERT, JANUARY 16:** On Saturday, **January 16, 2010**, at the Palace Theater in Stamford, New Covenant House of Hospitality and the Stamford Symphony Orchestra will be making music together to benefit the hungry in our community. Beginning with cocktails and hearty hors d'oeuvres at 6:00 p.m., the evening includes a "Behind the Baton" presentation by Music Director Eckart Preu, a breathtaking Mozart concert featuring violinist Elena Urioste, intermission dessert and coffee, and a post concert cordial. Tickets are \$200 per person. All proceeds benefit New Covenant House of Hospitality. New Covenant House's soup kitchen, food pantry and after-school meal program serves more than 350,000 meals annually to the poor, homeless, and disadvantaged in Stamford, Greenwich, Darien, and New Canaan. For tickets, please contact Terry Laughren at [laughren@optonline.net](mailto:laughren@optonline.net).



### **Baptism of the Lord**

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## **BELOVED CHILDREN SENT FORTH**

*As this feast of Jesus' baptism brings the Christmas season to a close, we remember this event as another epiphany of the Lord: Jesus stands revealed as beloved Son of the Father as the Holy Spirit descends, and Jesus goes forth led by that Spirit. We, too, are sent forth into Ordinary Time to continue our mission in the world as beloved children of the Father.*

### **INSIDE THE READINGS**

The first reading for the Baptism of the Lord is from the portion of Isaiah called Second Isaiah. It was written shortly before the decisive events in which Cyrus of Persia would defeat the Babylonians and allow the Jewish people in exile in Babylon to return home. Although the first reading speaks of how God is acting through Cyrus, Luke's use of part of this reading shows that he sees God also acting through Jesus in a somewhat analogous way. The Isaian reading speaks of God putting the divine spirit upon the servant, something that Matthew, Mark, and Luke say happens at Jesus' baptism (Matthew 3:16; Mark 1:10; Luke 3:22). The effect of this Spirit-infusion will be justice for peoples (Isaiah 42:1, 4, 6). This justice is immediately defined, however, in terms of mercy: "To open the eyes of the blind, / to bring out prisoners from confinement, / and from the dungeon, those who live in darkness" (42:7). This is also the way that Luke speaks, in both his Gospel and in his Acts of the Apostles, about the effects of Jesus' baptism. In Acts these effects are summarized neatly. After writing about Jesus' being "anointed with the holy Spirit and power" at baptism, Luke describes this spiritual power being expressed by Jesus "doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil" (Acts 10:38). What is instructive is that the ultimate effect of the actual-ization of this power is a restoration of the relationship with God through forgiveness of sins (Acts 10:43). Thus, the purpose of Jesus' baptism is to bring about justice through mercy. This mercy has concrete effects in our daily lives. Certain healing comes through the divine mercy of Jesus. The final goal of Jesus' baptism and the mercy to us that comes through it is, however, the restoration of the relationship between all human life and God.

### **THOUGHTS FOR ACTION**

We pray as Jesus prayed that we might hear the voice of the Father, a voice that speaks of God's love for us. We ask that we might allow that Spirit, God's holy breath that came upon us at our own baptism, to move us out into the world in service to those most in need whom God has set before us.

*Excerpted and edited from LIVING THE WORD  
For the Baptism of the Lord*

*commentary by Dennis D. Sylva and Rev. James A. Wallace, C.Ss.R.  
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