

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.

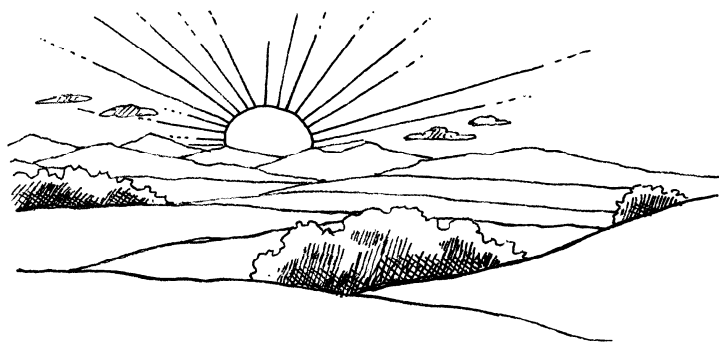
PARISH REGISTRATION: All families or individuals who have moved into the parish should register by filling out the registration card available at the church doors.

Rectory
762-3928
www.olfwilton.org

Church Fax
834-1261

Religious Education
762-9080
www.olfreligioused.org

School
762-8100
www.olfcatholic.org



SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 17, 2010

*Nations shall behold your vindication,
and all the kings your glory.*

— *Isaiah 62:2*

Masses for the Week

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Sat. 16th 5:30 p.m.	All Parishioners Living & Deceased	Thu. 21st 7:45	Jodi Conte
Sun. 17th 7:30 a.m.	Louise, George, and Anna Mumbach	Fri. 22nd 9:00 a.m.	Ellen Flanagan
Sun. 17th 9:00 a.m.	John Maggio	Sat. 23rd 8:00 a.m.	Frank Tiernan (1st Anniversary)
Sun. 17th 10:30 a.m.	William Palmer	Sat. 23rd 5:30 p.m.	Cynthia Timmons
Sun. 17th Noon	John Matthew O'Brien	Sun. 24th 7:30 a.m.	John Maggio
Mon. 18th 9:00 a.m.	Joseph Lebitz	Sun. 24th 9:00 a.m.	Maria Signore & Madelena Paniccia
Tue. 19th 7:45 a.m.	Betty Meyer	Sun. 24th 10:30 a.m.	Ken Kelly
Wed. 20th 9:00 a.m.	Vincent Flanagan	Sun. 24th Noon	All Parishioners Living & Deceased

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

PLEASE PRAY for the happy repose of the souls of **Dorothy Simmons**, mother-in-law of parishioner Joseph Nemias, and for **Peter Varco**, father of Julie Murray of our parish. May Jesus, our Lord and Savior, grant them eternal rest and joy.

THE OFFERTORY COLLECTION last weekend was \$15,199. Last year's comparable weekend was \$11,744. Thank you.

NEXT WEEKEND'S SECOND COLLECTION is the Collection for the Church in Latin America: Forming Disciples and Missionaries of Jesus Christ. For more than 45 years, proceeds from the Collection for the Church in Latin America have been distributed to dioceses, parishes, religious congregations, semi-

naries, and other Catholic institutions in 23 countries throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. It assists in the formation of priests, religious, lay ministers, missionaries, pastoral workers, catechists, and youth ministers. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

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. Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

TIMELY NEWS

RESPECT LIFE COLLECTION TODAY The Respect Life Ministry is taking up a collection at Church doors following all Masses **today**. 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.

THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED tomorrow, Monday, January 18th due to the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. The office will re-open at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, January 19th.

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. This weekend — **January 16 and 17** — representatives 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 mariewalsh@optonline.net, or call Kathleen Dineen at 762-7674.

"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 next 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).

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 **this 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!

M.O.M.'s—MEETING OTHER MOMS: Please join us this **Thursday, January 21, 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.

MARCH FOR LIFE—WASHINGTON, D.C.—FRIDAY, 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

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). We are looking forward to this special celebration with the children!

THERE WILL BE NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES for grades one through five on January 18, 19, and 20 due to the school holiday and catechist meetings. Classes resume on January 25.

REMINDER: Next Sunday, January 24, the seventh grade Religious Education classes will participate at the 10:30 Mass. Morning students will walk over to church after class. Evening students in seventh grade are also expected at the Mass and at their evening class.

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 member, 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.

RECENT CATHOLIC RESEARCH done by the Catholic Bishops Committee on Evangelization states that most Catholics who have left the active practice of their faith cite a variety of reasons: They did not experience the presence of God in their faith community; They were hurt by clergy or lay Catholics; They were in marriages not recognized by the Church; They were easily misled by those who attacked the Church. If you know an adult who would like to talk about coming home to his/her family of faith, please invite him/her to call one of our priests at 203-762-3928 to talk in confidence about these or other issues. We want to be whole again.

YOUTH MINISTRY

2010 SUMMER MISSION OUTREACH TRIP to the St. Patrick's Foundation in Kingston, Jamaica. From Sunday, June 20th to Sunday, June 27th, 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 22nd! 6th, 7th, & 8th 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 19th to Sharon Lynn in the Religious Ed office. It's a fun way to earn service hours needed for Confirmation!

FATIMA LEARNS ABOUT FATIMA: High Schoolers - Save the date of Sunday, January 24th at 11:30 am (after the 10:30 am Mass) as we'll be watching the powerful new movie – The 13th Day. We'll meet for pizza, watch the movie & have group discussions to learn more about the mysteries of Fatima. Details will be forthcoming.

JUNIOR YOUTH GROUPERS — SAVE THE DATE ... All 6th, 7th & 8th graders are invited to a Junior Youth Group dinner & game night celebration on Saturday, February 20th. More 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 6th & 7th. 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 Sallarelli.

DIOCESAN NEWS

HEALING MASS Father Bill McCarthy, a Missionary of the Holy Apostles Father & Co-Director of My Father's House in Moodus, CT will celebrate a Mass for Healing on Thursday, February 4th at 7:30 p.m. at St. Philip's Church, 1 Fr. Conlon Place, Norwalk. For questions or additional information, please contact Meg Styles at 203-541-8629.

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR & SENIOR BOYS: Consider adding St. John Fisher Seminary to your list of college visits. It seems to be such a mystery what life is like in a house of discernment. We are offering the opportunity to live the schedule and life of the house for 24 hours. For more information and to schedule your visit, please contact Father Robert Kinnally at 203-416-1513 or e-mail at vocations@hearthecall.org.

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT DAY Please join us **Saturday, February 13, 2010 from 8:30 am – 4:00 pm at The Catholic Center, Bridgeport** for a Day to Remember, Celebrate and Believe in the Power of Your Marital Love. This workshop is based on the book "Forever and a Day: An Invitation to Create a Marriage That Lasts a Lifetime" by Robert and Rita Boeke. Boekes' presentations combine great stories filled with humor, faith, gentleness and affection with hints, tips and things learned over many years of married life. This is a day designed to strengthen and enhance marriages. The registration fee of \$35 per couple includes a continental breakfast, lunch and featured book. **Registration is required;** please contact Family Life Ministry for details, 203-416-1442 or bcasaretti@diobpt.org.



JESUS, GRACIOUS GUEST

Jesus goes to a wedding, and at his mother's request some-what reluctantly changes water into wine. Only in John's Gospel, presented in his Book of Signs (1:19 — 12:50), do we find this event, so we suspect this is more than the act of a gracious guest. Or perhaps that is exactly what it is on the most profound level.

INSIDE THE READINGS

The Gospel reading today recounts the first miracle of Jesus in the Gospel of John. In this Gospel the miracles are called "signs" because they witness to who Jesus is.

This first miracle changes water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana. It portrays Jesus as the ample provision for the spirits of his disciples no matter in what situation they find themselves. The Johannine Christians appear to have been cast out of synagogue fellowship (John 9:34; 12:42; 16:2). We should not minimize the psychological effects of this expulsion because humans are social creatures through and through. Ostracism cuts to the very heart of our social needs. The first sign of Jesus addresses this most basic psychological need for the joy that comes through human companionship. When wine has run out at the wedding, Jesus changes water into wine (John 2:3-10). The rest, refreshment, and celebration may continue. If the commitment of the disciples to Jesus separates them from their larger society, they need not worry. Jesus gives them the wine that is often symbolic of joy both in the Old Testament and in other ancient Mediterranean writings. At the same time, Jesus provides his disciples a new perspective on the social sufferings they experience, a perspective that also sustains them in troubling times. The response of Jesus to his mother when she notifies him, "They have no wine," is "Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come" (2:4). Jesus' "hour" is a reference to the time of his death. So while Jesus does change the water into wine, thus prolonging the joy of the wedding feast, he seems to be strangely unconcerned with the matter because of his focus on his hour. This puts into perspective the concern for present sufferings and the joy that God provides in the midst of them. There is something even more joyful to which all suffering leads.

THOUGHTS FOR ACTION

Pray over the words of the prophet Isaiah, speaking in God's name, in today's first reading: "As a young man marries a virgin, / your Builder shall marry you; and as a bridegroom rejoices in his bride / so shall your God rejoice in you" (Isaiah 62:5).

*Excerpted and edited from LIVING THE WORD
for the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Commentary by Dennis D. Sylva and Rev. James A. Wallace, C.Ss.R.
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