

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@metliffe.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.

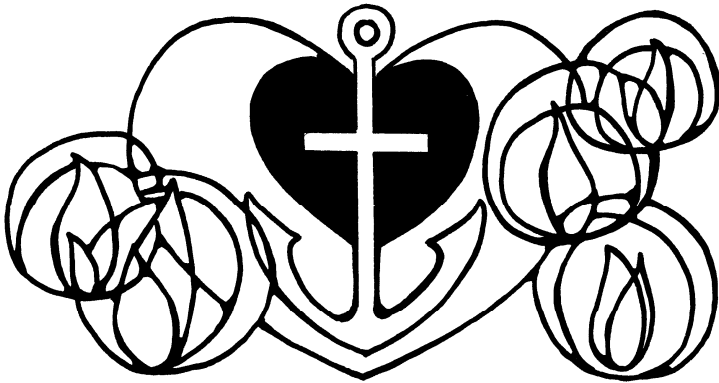


Rectory
762-3928
www.olfwilton.org

Church Fax
834-1261

Religious Education
762-9080
www.olfreligioused.org

School
762-8100
www.olfcatholic.org



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FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 31, 2010

Faith, hope and love remain, these three;
but the greatest of these is love.

1 Corinthians 13:13

Masses for the Week

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Sat. 30 th 5:30 p.m.	Gertrude, Thomas & Joseph Kinney	Fri. 5 th 9:00 a.m.	Robert T. Lynn <i>(20th Anniversary)</i>
Sun. 31 st 7:30 a.m.	All Parishioners Living & Deceased	Sat. 6 th 8:00 a.m.	Elizabeth & Roland Reynolds
Sun. 31 st 9:00 a.m.	Jim Dunn	Sat. 6 th 5:30 p.m.	Elizabeth, John & Jack Burke
Sun. 31 st 10:30 a.m.	Grace & Ed Zambo	Sun. 7 th 7:30 a.m.	Deceased Members of Fritz Family
Sun. 31 st Noon	Frank D'Amico	Sun. 7 th 9:00 a.m.	All Parishioners Living & Deceased
Mon. 1 st 9:00 a.m.	Thomas Ford	Sun. 7 th 10:30 a.m.	Liam Walsh
Tue. 2 nd 7:45 a.m.	Sean Emdy	Sun. 7 th Noon	Frank D'Amico
Wed. 3 rd 9:00 a.m.	Art Wall		
Thu. 4 th 7:45 a.m.	Anne d'Alessandro		

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

PLEASE PRAY for the happy repose of the souls of **Andrew Soltes**, father of Patti Conte of our parish, and for **Anthony Scianna**, father of Tony Scianna, formerly of our parish. May Jesus, our Lord and Savior, grant them eternal rest and joy.

THE OFFERTORY COLLECTION last weekend was \$12,546. Last year's comparable weekend was \$10,643. Thank you.

LAST WEEKEND'S SECOND COLLECTION for the Collection for the Church in Latin Amer-

ica totaled \$2,872. Thank you again for your generosity.

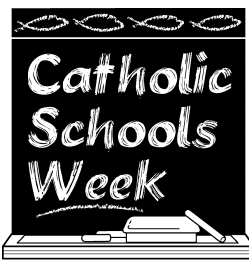
NEXT WEEKEND'S SECOND COLLECTION is the monthly collection for the needs of the parish. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

HAITI RELIEF: Thank you for the many donations you parishioners have made for Haiti relief. As of now, we have collected nearly \$10,000 in checks and cash which will be sent along to Catholic Relief Ser-

vices. If anyone else wishes to contribute please make out your check to Our Lady of Fatima' with a notation 'For Haiti Relief'. Thank you for whatever you are able to give to this important collection.

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.

PARISH NEWS



OLF OPEN HOUSE Beginning Sunday, January 31st, please join us for our celebration of Catholic Schools Week. This year's theme is "**Catholic Schools: Dividends for Life,**" which focuses on our school's commitment to infuse students with the faith, knowledge, morals and discipline that will help them lead fulfilling lives. We've planned a variety of events throughout the week that focus on and celebrate different aspects of Catholic education. **Please visit the school during our annual Open House TODAY, Sunday, January 31st from 10am - 1pm. Come see how Our Lady of Fatima School provides dividends for life.**

FIRST FRIDAY This Friday, February 5, is the First Friday of February. Daytime Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament begins in the upstairs chapel after the 9 a.m. First Friday Mass. Nocturnal Adoration begins at 9:00 p.m. at the Main Altar and continues until the 8:00 a.m. Saturday Mass. Please join the teams of people who give Daytime Adoration in half-hour shifts or the Nocturnal Adoration teams who serve one-hour shifts. Please contact Kathy

Tafuro regarding Daytime Adoration at 762-8816, or Franey Donovan for Nocturnal Adoration at 834-2444.

CAN YOU HELP? The Connecticut Bike Project, which has collected and distributed more than 850 bikes so far, distributes donated bicycles in good working condition to financially-challenged children and adults who need them. Besides offering them to children for recreation, the aim of their endeavor is to provide needed transportation to work and for running errands to the economically disadvantaged; individuals with physical or mental disabilities that prevent them from driving, ex-offenders re-entering the workforce, and other folks who can't afford a vehicle or are without licenses to drive.

What we need here at Fatima is an individual or group (perhaps a youth club, organization or team with a responsible adult in charge) to run a drive here in our Parish for this worthy cause. The project contact person and founder, Brooks Sumberg, suggests having a kick-off drive where he is likely to attend. If you are interested and willing to help, please contact the Parish Office.

AUDIE LOUIS, our maintenance man at OLF Parish, wishes, on behalf of himself and his family, to thank the many parish and school families and individuals who have been praying for his family in Haiti, and for their strong support of all the Haitian people so devastated by the recent earthquake in the Port-au-Prince area. The prayers offered for his mother and brother, Marguerite and Roland Pierre, at the Friday, January 15th Mass are particularly appreciated. Just at the end of that school day, the good news was announced that they were found alive and safe.

OLF ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY — SAVE THE DATE! The annual St. Patrick's Day Party will be held in the school gym on Saturday, March 6, at 7:00 p.m. We will be entertained by The Irish Band for what promises to be an exiting evening. We are holding the line

on prices at \$30.00 per person and \$20.00 per person for senior citizens. More detailed information will follow in coming weeks.

2010 HOMEFRONT DAY — SATURDAY, MAY 1ST — For 15 years, OLF volunteers have taken on a one-day project to make home improvements for Fairfield County residents. The 2010 OLF team is looking for volunteers. Professionals with home improvement skills are needed, but equally welcome is anyone with a desire to help a Fairfield County neighbor for even a small part of the day. For history of event, refer to www.americareshomefront.org, and contact Patrick Helbach (834.9905) to volunteer.

M.O.M.'s—MEETING OTHER MOMS: Please join us this **Thursday, February 4, 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.

PLEASE PRAY for all our service men and women who are protecting our freedom, and especially **Jake Hutchings, Matthew Smarella and Nate Snaric**. If you have a loved one serving overseas, or know of someone who is, call the Parish Office with their names. We welcome home Patrick Donohue; his family is so grateful for OLF's prayers!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, morning classes meet, but there are no evening classes. On February 14, there are no morning or evening classes.

REMINDER TO PARENTS OF FIRST EUCHARIST STUDENTS: Parents and First Eucharist students will meet on Sunday, February 21, in OLF School Gym, at 9:45 A.M. Please make every effort to attend.

ANY OF YOUR SPOUSES, FRIENDS OR RELATIVE WHO ARE NOT CATHOLIC but would like to know more about the Catholic faith are invited to call Kathleen Rooney (762-9080) or one of our priests (762-3928) to learn about our RCIA process here at OLF. Many men and women over the years have gathered together weekly with parishioners in prayer, reflection of the Scriptures, and discussion of the teachings and traditions of the Catholic Church. Please feel free to call one of us---no strings attached.

THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN AWAY FROM MASS AND THE SACRAMENTS and may want to return to active practice of the faith are invited to call one of our priests (762-3928) or Kathleen Rooney (762-9080) to talk about the issues that have kept them away. If you know such people, please assure them that we want to help in any way we can to ease the transition and to welcome them back to our family of faith.

YOUTH MINISTRY

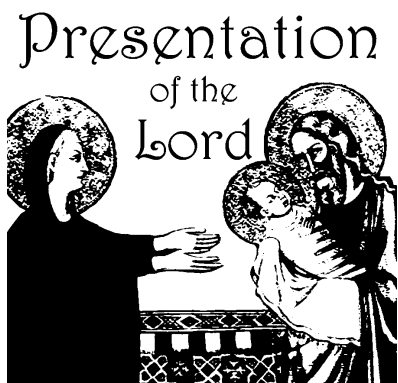
VALENTINE'S DAY LOLLIPOP FUNDRAISER will be held after all Masses on the weekend of February 13th - 14th at the Church entrances. Help support OLF's Religious Education programs by buying a delicious treat for that someone special whether it be child, parent, spouse, or friend for Valentine's Day. We thank you and appreciate the generous support of our parishioners!

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.)

R U GAME? All 6th, 7th & 8th graders are invited to a Junior Youth Group celebration on Saturday, February 20th beginning at the 5:30 pm Mass followed by a dinner party gathering including games, music, & fun in the OLF Parish Center. Cost is \$5 to cover the dinner expenses. Pick up is at 8:30 pm. Contact Sharon Lynn at 762-9080 or OLFY-outhGroup@aol.com to sign up by Friday, February 19th. Bring your friends!

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Our high school teens will participate in Stations of the Cross on Friday, February 26th at 8:00 pm in the Church. A rehearsal is scheduled for Wednesday, February 24th from 6:30 – 7:30 pm in the Church. We need lots of help with this project. All interested teens should talk to Junior Class Reps, Christopher Dehn or Michael Tudisco, or contact Sharon Lynn in the Religious Ed office.

HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT — SAVE THE DATE: The Mackenzie Trec (Ieens 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 Saltarelli.



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A GOD NOT TO BE HEMMED IN

Today we hear God telling Jeremiah that he is being sent forth as a prophet to the nations and that his own people will fight against him but not prevail. Jesus' own townspeople try to kill him when he challenges their resistance to the notion that God reaches out beyond Israel. In both cases, people are enraged enough to kill the prophet who challenges their limited understanding. But the prophetic word prevails.

INSIDE THE READINGS

In today's Gospel Jesus has just read from the prophet Isaiah in the synagogue in his hometown of Nazareth. He anticipates that the people there will ask him to do good there, as he did in Capernaum, that they will claim the privilege of the home-town (Luke 4:23). But, Jesus says, the local boy is accepted as one of them only as long as his message conforms to local views. The residents of Nazareth feel that Jesus should first do good to the residents of his own native village. Jesus responds, however, that generosity of spirit is what shows the real close-ness that enables a special relationship with God and not the proximity of having grown up together.

This is the reason that Jesus refers to two passages from the Old Testament. In each passage a foreigner showed a magnanimity that resonates with the divine gifts. These foreigners were the ones to whom God shows mercy and not Israelites. Thus, Elijah was sent to a Gentile widow when there was a famine for three and a half years (4:25–26). In this story in First Kings the woman accedes to Elijah's request for water and bread even though she and her son have only enough for a small meal left before they are without food altogether (1 Kings 17:10–15). Similarly, Jesus says that only the foreign leper Naaman was cured by Elisha the prophet (Luke 4:27). Naaman shows a generous response to God's healing of him (2 Kings 5:5, 15, 23–24).

The reaction of his own people to these words of Jesus is extreme. They take him up to a precipice and try to hurl him over (Luke 4:29). The distinction that they think is due them is something that every group zealously guards. But Jesus grounds distinction in the large-heartedness and open-handedness that freely shares one's gifts. These qualities make people receptive to God's gifts in their own lives.

THOUGHTS FOR ACTION

We pray that we will hear when God sends a challenging word to us, calling us to expand our boundaries and allow God to work in new and surprising ways. Lord, let us be open to your Spirit who moves as the Spirit wills.

Excerpted and edited from LIVING THE WORD for the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time commentary by Dennis D. Sylva and Rev. James A. Wallace, C.Ss.R., © 2010 by J. S. Paluch Co., Inc. 1/31/10

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**Special Instructions:
*Thank you.***