

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



**FIFTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
FEBRUARY 7, 2010**

*I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with all my heart,
for you have heard the words of my mouth.*

Psalm 138:1

Masses for the Week

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Sat. 6th 5:30 p.m.	Elizabeth, John & Jack Burke	Thu. 11th 7:45 a.m.	Pat Emro
Sun. 7th 7:30 a.m.	Deceased Members of Fritz Family	Fri. 12th 9:00 a.m.	Margaret French
Sun. 7th 9:00 a.m.	All Parishioners Living & Deceased	Sat. 13th 8:00 a.m.	Ann & Al Becker
Sun. 7th 10:30 a.m.	Liam Walsh	Sat. 13th 5:30 p.m.	Veronica Smith
Sun. 7th Noon	Frank D'Amico	Sun. 14th 7:30 a.m.	All Parishioners Living & Deceased
Mon. 8th 9:00 a.m.	Stuart Werkle	Sun. 14th 9:00 a.m.	Helen Hojnacki
Tue. 9th 7:45 a.m.	Raymond J. Flanagan	Sun. 14th 10:30 a.m.	Catherine McStocker
Wed. 10th 9:00 a.m.	Frank Smith	Sun. 14th Noon	Colleen Higgins

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

PLEASE PRAY for the happy repose of the soul of **Don Leavitt**, brother-in-law of parishioner Jim Costello. May Jesus, our Lord and Savior, grant him eternal rest and joy.

THE OFFERTORY COLLECTION last weekend was \$11,499. Last year's comparable weekend was \$15,236. Thank you.

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

IF YOU ARE AN ELECTRONIC DONOR OR WOULD LIKE TO BE, and have not yet turned in your 2010 forms, please return them to the Parish Office as soon as possible. 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.

NOTICE TO ALL PARISHIONERS: If you did not receive your year-end financial contribution statement mailed by our parish office

last week, please contact the office at 203-762-3928. Thank you.

TIMELY NEWS

FATIMA LEARNS ABOUT FATIMA WEEK

sponsored by Our Lady's Association recently concluded, but if your family did not receive a blue folder with information on the story of Our Lady of Fatima, you may pick one up in the Parish Office during regular business hours. There are also a few copies of *The 13th Day* DVD still available; the price is \$20. Please call the Parish Office at 762-3928 to reserve a copy.

COLLECTION FOR HAITI Our OLF maintenance man, Audie Louis, is requesting **donations of t-shirts and shoes** for a collection to be sent to Haiti that is being coordinated by his church community. Please drop off donations directly to: French Speaking Baptist Church, 43 Day Street in Norwalk. Please call Pastor Larry Millus with any questions, 203-286-7991. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

M.O.M.'s—MEETING OTHER MOMS:

Please join us this **Thursday, February 11, 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.

TO ALL THE LADIES OF THE PARISH: Our Lady's Association invites you to the annual Valentine's luncheon on **Friday, February 12th at Noon** in the Parish Center following an 11 a.m. Mass. Please RSVP to MJ Fitzgibbon at 834-2208 or Judy Bourtin at 762-9674 or sanspareil13@hotmail.com.

VALENTINE'S DAY LOLLIPOP FUND-RAISER will be held after all Masses **next weekend, 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!

PARISH NEWS

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.

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 . 3 .

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.americashomefront.org, and contact Patrick Helbach (834.9905) to volunteer.

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.

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.

ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, morning and evening ninth grade Religious Education classes will meet for 9:00 Mass, followed by refreshments in OLF School Gym and a review for the final exam. The students will then go to their classrooms to take the test. Dismissal/pick-up is at 11:00. Any ninth grader who is unable to be here on February 28 is asked to call the Religious Education Office (203-762-9080) and make arrangements to take the test **before that date**.

IF YOU KNOW A NON-CATHOLIC WHO HAS ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR FAITH and has expressed an interest in Catholic teachings and traditions, now is the time to invite him or her to an inquiry session at which the RCIA process will be explained. Call Kathleen Rooney at 203-762-9080 for information on our next gathering.

MANY ADULTS WHO HAVE DRIFTED FROM THE CHURCH may be looking for a

way to re-connect. Reach out and help these friends, neighbors, relatives, or co-workers by inviting them to come and talk with one of our priests about returning to active practice of our faith. Call the rectory (762-3928) and ask for Father Palmer or Father James. The call will be welcome!

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.)

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 OLFYouthGroup@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 (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 Saltarelli.

DIOCESAN NEWS

THE ORDER OF MALTA warmly invites the community, most especially the sick and handicapped, to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes and World Day of Prayer for the Sick. Monsignor Kevin Wallin, ChM and Rev. Robert Dunn will concelebrate Mass during which the Sacrament of the Sick will be offered. The Mass will take place on **Thursday, Feb. 11 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Aloysius Church**, 40 Maple St., in New Canaan. A reception will follow the liturgy.

GOSPEL OF LIFE SOCIETY—FEB. 13TH State Senator Michael McLachlan will talk about Connecticut life and family issues before the state legislature. He serves as the Minority Whip of the State Senate Republican Caucus, and is a ranking member on the General Assembly's Government Administration & Elections Committee. He also sits on four other committees: Finance, Judiciary, Legislative Management and Transportation and has consistently supported the Catholic Church in CT. In 2005, Bishop William Lori presented him with the Diocese of Bridgeport's Saint Augustine Medal of Service Award for his work at Saint Peter Church where he is a parish trustee. Join us to meet Sen. McLachlan and spend some very special time with him. . The meeting will be on **Saturday, Feb. 13 at St. Mary's Church**, 669 West Ave. in Norwalk. It starts at **10:00 am**, after the 9:00 am Pro-life Mass. All are welcome! Refreshments! For information contact Eileen Bianchini, (203) 847-5727 or stmarygols@aol.com.

ENCOUNTERING THE HOLINESS OF GOD

Rarely do all three readings have a common thread. Today we can find one: our unworthiness before the holiness of God. Isaiah, Paul, and Peter all had an experience of what it means to be in the presence of the living God: All bow down in the presence of divinity and then all are sent forth to do God's work.

INSIDE THE READINGS

The account of Jesus' calling of the first apostles completes the circle of divine gift—human gift—divine gift in chapters 4 and 5 of Luke's Gospel. Last Sunday we heard that through Jesus God brings relief and joy for all who are oppressed in any way. Those who are receptive to these gifts are themselves generous in sharing their own gifts with others (Luke 4:18–30).

Now Jesus calls the first apostles—Simon, John, and James—to share in his ministry (5:1–11). The call comes at a low point in their lives. They had been fishing all night and had caught nothing (5:5). Despite tiredness and disappointment, Simon readily accedes to Jesus' request to take him a little way from shore so that Jesus can teach people from Simon's boat (5:3). As if all this were not enough, Jesus now asks Simon to go back out into deep water and cast his nets again (5:4).

When Simon catches so many fish that he has to request his "partners in the other boat" to help him, he asks Jesus to leave him because he is a sinner (5:7–8). What Simon is saying is that he is not worthy of this gift. Jesus responds, however, that Simon's unworthiness does not require him to be separated from Jesus. A gift is not for possessing but for sharing. The gift does not stop at Simon, who therefore need not worry about his merit. Simon is to be a mediator of gifts. Thus, Jesus tells Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men" (5:11). This reference is to the teaching Jesus had just been providing the crowds while in Simon's boat (5:3).

The gift Simon, John, and James received prepares them to be bearers of the message of God's gift to others. They are able to leave everything and follow Jesus because they have experienced God's sustaining and generous gift during their own time of disappointment, frustration, and need (5:11).

THOUGHTS FOR ACTION

We might pray the line from today's Mass that serves as an introductory antiphon: "Come, let us worship the Lord. Let us bow down in the presence of our maker, for he is the Lord our God" (Psalm 94:6–7).

Excerpted and edited from LIVING THE WORD for the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time commentary by Dennis D. Sylva and Rev. James A. Wallace, C.Ss.R., © 2010 by J. S. Paluch Co., Inc. 2/7/10

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