

# 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.

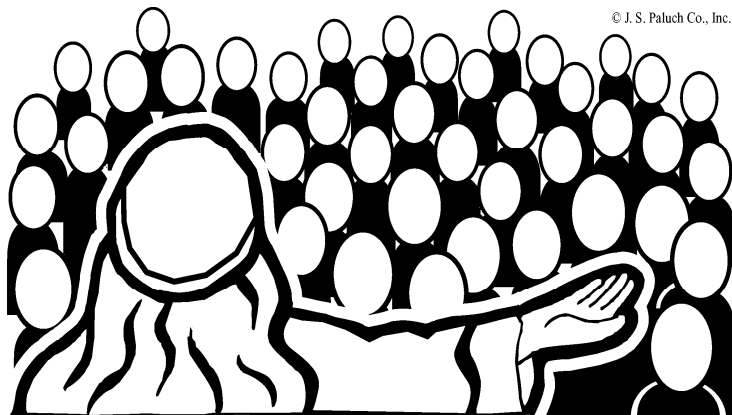
**PARISH REGISTRATION:** All families or individuals who have moved into the parish should register by filling out the registration card available at the church doors.

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)



## SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**FEBRUARY 14, 2010**

“Blessed are you who are poor,  
for the kingdom of God is yours.  
Blessed are you who are now hungry,  
for you will be satisfied.”

*Luke 6:20 – 21a*

### Masses for the Week

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<b>Sat. 13<sup>th</sup> 5:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Veronica Smith</b>	<b>Thu. 18<sup>th</sup> 7:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Joseph Redmond</b>
<b>Sun. 14<sup>th</sup> 7:30 a.m.</b>	<b>All Parishioners Living &amp; Deceased</b>	<b>Thu. 18<sup>th</sup> Noon</b>	<b>Rich Mitarotonda</b>
<b>Sun. 14<sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Helen Hojnacki</b>	<b>Fri. 19<sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Eileen Degelmann</b>
<b>Sun. 14<sup>th</sup> 10:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Catherine McStocker</b>	<b>Sat. 20<sup>th</sup> 8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Deceased Members of Kennedy Family</b>
<b>Sun. 14<sup>th</sup> Noon</b>	<b>Colleen Higgins</b>	<b>Sat. 20<sup>th</sup> 5:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Joseph Pope</b>
<b>Mon. 15<sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Collective Intentions</b>	<b>Sun. 21<sup>st</sup> 7:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Zoe Weyer &amp; The Jaegers</b>
<b>Tue. 16<sup>th</sup> 7:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Eugene Flanagan, Jr. &amp; Mary Flanagan</b>	<b>Sun. 21<sup>st</sup> 9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Navio Ottavi</b>
<b>Wed. 17<sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>James Fitzgibbon (7th Anniversary)</b>	<b>Sun. 21<sup>st</sup> 10:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Intentions of OLF Choir Members</b>
<b>Wed. 17<sup>th</sup> Noon</b>	<b>Eileen Degelmann</b>	<b>Sun. 21<sup>st</sup> Noon</b>	<b>All Parishioners Living &amp; Deceased</b>
<b>Wed. 17<sup>th</sup> 8:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Patricia Quinn</b>		

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

**PLEASE PRAY** for the happy repose of the souls of **Dorothy Thresher**, mother of Thomas Thresher of our parish and for **Mary Godzwon**, mother of Ellen Willis of our parish. May Jesus, our Lord and Savior, grant them eternal rest and joy.

**WE ARE HAPPY TO WELCOME Tanner William Livesay** baptized into the new community of the church and to a new loving relationship with Our Lord, Jesus Christ.

**THE OFFERTORY COLLECTION** last weekend was \$12,915. Last year’s comparable weekend was \$14,940. Thank you.

**LAST WEEKEND’S SECOND COLLECTION** for the needs of the parish totaled \$4,537. Thank you 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. 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

**ASH WEDNESDAY** This Wednesday, February 17th, is Ash Wednesday: On this Solemn Day of Fast and Abstinence, we begin the Holy Season of Lent. Let it be a holy season for all of us, not just a time to "remain in the state of grace," but to move forward and grow in the way of the Lord. Masses will be 9 a.m., Noon and 8 p.m. Ashes will be distributed at each of the masses and also during a scripture service for children and others at 4 p.m.

**FAST AND ABSTINENCE:** Catholics over the age of 14 years are required to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and every Friday. All Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are required by Church law to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Only one full meal is permitted to persons in this age group on those two days, plus two lighter meals. In the case of children under the age of 14, the Church recommends that parents encourage them to perform some kind of voluntary penance suitable for their age.

### LENTE WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

**Monday: 9 a.m. and 5:15 p.m.**

**Tuesday: 7:45 and Noon**

**Wednesday: 9 a.m.**

**Thursday: 7:45 a.m. and Noon**

**Friday: 9 a.m.**

**Saturday: 8 a.m.**

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS AND BENEDICTION** will be held on the Fridays of Lent at 8 p.m. All families and parishioners are invited to participate in this longtime Lenten devotion.

**I WAS HUNGRY, LOAVES AND FISHES:** This Lenten collection is a program to feed the hungry in our Diocese. Your spirit has been generous in the past and much appreciated by those who benefit from it. The envelopes marked "*I WAS HUNGRY*" are included in your set of monthly envelopes. They are also available at the Church doors.

**THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED TOMORROW,** Monday, February 15th, in observance of Presidents' Day. The office will re-open on Tuesday, February 16th, at 9 a.m.

**2010 BISHOPS APPEAL** "Living Our Faith" has begun in all parishes in the Diocese. A campaign brochure outlining the Appeal has been mailed to your home from Bishop Lori; if you have not received a brochure, please visit the Bridgeport Diocese website for more information: [www.bridgeportdiocese.com](http://www.bridgeportdiocese.com). Your contribution to the ABA supports our programs of services to the poor,

food for the hungry, and education of our children in faith. Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

**LENTE CONFESION CAMPAIGN** Our Lady of Fatima, along with all of the other parishes in our Diocese, will be offering Confessions on every Tuesday evening during Lent from 7-9 p.m. Our Holy Father says that "Confession must not be a mere formality in a Christian's life, but rather an essential ingredient to nourish and sustain a commitment to follow Christ."

**MSGR. ALBERT IS RETURNING** On the weekend of February 27th and 28th, Msgr. Richard Albert, the founder and director of the St. Patrick's Foundation in Kingston, Jamaica, will be here to speak at all our Masses. Then, **SAVE THE DATE—From Monday, March 1st through Wednesday, March 3rd**, Msgr. Albert will be leading a Lenten retreat here for our Parish, "The Eucharist—A Healing Sacrament". More information to follow in coming weeks.

**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.

**SPIRITUAL BREAK GROUP** "Give them something to eat" (Mark 6:6-8:10) 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, February 23rd at 10:30 a.m. in the Parish Center** for discussion, prayer and meditation while listening to spiritual music. Come once . 3 .

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, February 18, 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

**REMINDER:** There are no Religious Education classes for grades one through five this week---February 15-17. Classes for these grades resume on February 22.

**FIRST EUCHARIST CANDIDATES AND THEIR PARENTS** will meet next Sunday, February 21, at 9:45 A.M., in OLF School Gym. At this time we will distribute First Eucharist books for home study and completion, show a video on First Eucharist, and discuss details of the ceremonies in May. Please make every effort to attend this important meeting.

**ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28**, all ninth grade Religious Education classes (MORNING AND EVENING) will attend the 9:00 Mass. After Mass, we will proceed to the OLF School Gym for a review before taking the final exam. Pick up time is 11:00. If any ninth grader is unable to attend on February 28, please call the Religious Education Office to make an appointment to take the test before that date. Please note that there are **NO NINTH GRADE EVENING CLASSES ON FEBRUARY 28. GRADES SIX, SEVEN, AND EIGHT WILL MEET.**

**VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED FOR** chaperoning junior youth group and high school youth group activities, as well as for teaching Religious Education classes or helping in other ways in the Religious Education program. If you would like to help but have not been VIRTUS trained, there are training sessions on Tuesday, March 2, at the Catholic Center in Bridgeport (9:30 A.M.) and on Friday, March 12, at St. Roch Parish in Greenwich (9:30 A.M.) You should register in advance by going to the website [www.virtusonline.org](http://www.virtusonline.org). Select the word Registration and select Bridgeport Diocese as your organization. Then proceed through the menu. If you need help with the registration process, please feel free

to call the Religious Education Office at 203-762-9080.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** will return this summer (June 21-25). This is an annual event held here at Our Lady of Fatima for the past twenty years. It is a fun-filled week for boys and girls from three years of age (no diapers) to ten. Activities include arts and crafts, recreation, music, and lessons. More details will be forthcoming.

**TEEN VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED** for Vacation Bible School. This is a good way to earn Confirmation service hours! Please call the Religious Education Office (203-762-9080) if you can help out this summer. Adults are welcome also.

**IS THERE A MEMBER OF YOUR FAMILY** who is not Catholic but attends Mass with you each week and/or has asked you questions about our religion? Or someone who is Catholic, but has not practiced his or her faith for a number of years? If you know a person in either of these circumstances, please invite him or her to call Kathleen Rooney (762-9080) or one of our priests (762-3928) to learn about our outreach to non-Catholic adults and returning Catholics. There are parishioners who meet with both groups and would be happy to welcome another adult! There is someone out there who may be waiting to be asked!

## 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.)

**R U GAME?** All 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to a Junior Youth Group celebration on Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup>. Bring your friends!

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

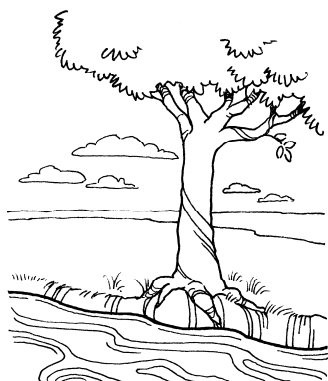
**THE MACKENZIE TREC (Teens Really Encountering Christ)** retreat program is coming for OLF High School Teens the weekend of March 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>. This exciting retreat will be held at the Seton Neumann Center in Danbury. The cost for the retreat is \$95 (includes lodging, meals, & much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

**THE MILLER/DRISCOLL WINTER CARNIVAL** will be held on Saturday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at Miller School. Junior High & High School Teens can earn service hours helping to run games, arts & crafts, prizes, & food services. Sign up for shifts between 11:00 am – 3:00 pm by contacting Mrs. Deb Bucklan at bucklan@optonline.net.

**CONVIVIO RETREAT:** This Diocese sponsored retreat will be held during the days of March 12, 13, 14, 2010 at Sacred Heart University. Join teens from around our Diocese at this Catholic Congress for Youth. Teens will reflect upon contemporary society & share their experiences, thoughts, & interests. Cost is \$35. Registration forms, due by February 28<sup>th</sup>, are available in the Religious Education office.

**WORLD YOUTH DAY 2011** will be held in Madrid, Spain. Join teens & young adults (16 years & older) from our Diocese for this incredible pilgrimage to see Pope Benedict XVI. This Diocese sponsored trip will be held from August 10-23, 2011 that includes a pre-WYD tour to Fatima, Portugal & Santiago de Compostela in Spain. In Madrid, you'll be on a spiritual journey with other pilgrims from all over the world. Cost is approx. \$3,600. For further details, contact Sharon Lynn in the Religious Education office.

*The one who trusts  
the Lord is like  
a tree planted  
near running water*



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## A VERY STRANGE VALENTINE'S MESSAGE

*On this Valentine's Day God's word confronts us with some unnerving "either/or" choices: either trusting in human beings or trusting in the Lord, being either poor or rich, hungry or full, weeping or laughing, hated or spoken well of. "Do we have to choose?" you might ask. Short answer: Yes.*

### INSIDE THE READINGS

The more familiar Beatitudes from Matthew's Gospel may initially seem richer and more spiritually significant than Luke's version that we hear today. There are nine Matthean Beatitudes compared to only four Lukan ones (Matthew 5:3–11; Luke 6:20–23). Moreover, two of the Beatitudes that Matthew and Luke share seem decidedly richer in their Matthean version. While Luke talks about the poor and the hungry being blessed, Matthew qualifies these groups as "the poor in spirit" and to those "who hunger and thirst for righteousness" (Matthew 5:3, 6; Luke 6:20–21). Luke's version of the Beatitudes encourages the disciples to continue to be generous stewards of the divine gifts in the face of their own present material and emotional needs. Thus, while the Matthean Beatitudes are addressed to disciples and crowds alike, Luke's are directed solely to the disciples, responding to their present situation. So Luke has no Beatitudes about the meek and the peacemakers because the Lukan disciples are not presently exercising that quality and function. Luke speaks of the poor and the hungry, those who are sorrowful and have been insulted, excluded, and denounced because of Jesus. All these experiences are what has just happened to them in Luke's Gospel. The disciples have been hungry and eaten grain that they picked on the Sabbath (6:1). This has incurred the displeasure of the Pharisees (6:2). They have also been criticized by the Pharisees for their dietary practices in general (5:33). Finally, they have accepted the risk of poverty in order to follow Jesus: whereas in Matthew and Mark's Gospels the first disciples leave their father and their nets to follow Jesus, Luke writes that they leave everything (Luke 5:11). The Beatitudes inform the disciples that divine bounty comes in what looks like human depletion. Their own self-gift and the needy state it places them in are the elements of their commitment through which the Godly gift comes to others.

### THOUGHTS FOR ACTION

Ask God to give you a heart that puts its trust in the Lord, that is willing to take action to show solidarity with the poor, the homeless, the oppressed, the grieving. Ask Jesus to reveal himself as the bridegroom, as love incarnate, as the compassion of God, and to bring you into this relationship of love.

*Excerpted and edited from LIVING THE WORD  
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commentary by Dennis D. Sylva and Rev. James A. Wallace, C.Ss.R.,  
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