

# 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)



# FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

**FEBRUARY 21, 2010**

“The word is near you,  
in your mouth and in your heart.”

*Romans 10:8*

## Masses for the Week

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Sat. 20 <sup>th</sup> 5:30 p.m.	Joseph Pope	Wed. 24 <sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m.	Dr. Richard Quick
Sun. 21 <sup>st</sup> 7:30 a.m.	Zoe Weyer & The Jaegers	Thu. 25 <sup>th</sup> 7:45 a.m.	Alice Corcoran
Sun. 21 <sup>st</sup> 9:00 a.m.	Navio Ottavi	Thu. 25 <sup>th</sup> Noon	Rich Mitarotonda
Sun. 21 <sup>st</sup> 10:30 a.m.	Intentions of OLF Choir Members	Fri. 26 <sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m.	Collective Intentions
Sun. 21 <sup>st</sup> Noon	All Parishioners Living & Deceased	Sat. 27 <sup>th</sup> 8:00 a.m.	Frank & Catherine Squillace
Mon. 22 <sup>nd</sup> 9:00 a.m.	Margaret Hennessey	Sat. 27 <sup>th</sup> 5:30 p.m.	Helen Hojnacki
Mon. 22 <sup>nd</sup> 5:15 p.m.	Margaret Weigl	Sun. 28 <sup>th</sup> 7:30 a.m.	Ken Herbst
Tue. 23 <sup>rd</sup> 7:45 a.m.	MaryEllen & Navio Ottavi	Sun. 28 <sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m.	All Parishioners Living & Deceased
Tue. 23 <sup>rd</sup> Noon	Lou Toffolo	Sun. 28 <sup>th</sup> 10:30 a.m.	Joseph F. Monteleone
		Sun. 28 <sup>th</sup> Noon	Frank Nulty <i>(8th Anniversary)</i>

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

**PLEASE PRAY** for the happy repose of the souls of **Sister Joan (Paula) Armstrong, SSND**, former Associate Director of our Religious Education Program, and for **Frances Gigi**, daughter of Julia Bartolomeo and sister of Mary Russo of our parish. May Jesus, our Lord and Savior, grant them eternal rest and joy .

**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 elec-

tronic 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

**FAST AND ABSTINENCE:** Catholics over the age of 14 years are required to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and every Friday during Lent. 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.

**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.

**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.**

**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 CONFESSIOIN 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 — **beginning this Tuesday** — 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** Next weekend, 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. His St. Patrick's Mission has become, over the years, like a sister parish to OLF. 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". Come and take advantage of this special Lenten retreat opportunity. We look forward to Monsignor Albert's return!

**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 **this Tuesday, February 23rd 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](mailto:trlynn@optonline.net)) or Gale Roeder @ 762-3784 ([galeroe33@aol.com](mailto:galeroe33@aol.com)). All are welcome!

**M.O.M.'s—MEETING OTHER MOMS:** Please join us this **Thursday, February 25, 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.

**SOUL SUPPER—Tuesday, March 2nd at 7 p.m. at Dina's Restaurant** Come feed your body and soul!! Join us for a lively discussion on "Homosexuality and the Catholic Church". Our guest will be Father Paul Check, the Director of the apostolate group, Courage, which ministers to those with "same sex attraction" and their families. With many states considering same-sex marriage, it's a timely issue. Dinner is \$25. RSVP to Laurie Forcade (St. Theresa's Circle) at [lforcade@optonline.net](mailto:lforcade@optonline.net) or 203-210-5580.

**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 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.)

**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](mailto: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.

## DIOCESAN NEWS

**ONE DAY BIBLE STUDY WITH JEFF CAVINS**  
St. Mary's Parish in Ridgefield is having a one-day review of the Bible, presented by Jeff Cavins, author of the Great Adventure Bible Timeline Bible study (used here at Our Lady of Fatima for our Bible studies). Jeff Cavins is very dynamic speaker and you will not regret attending this session! The study will take place on **March 27 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the St. Mary School gym**. For more information, please contact Deacon McManus at 762-7142 or Laura Cody at 761-9183.

**SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY FOR THOSE WORKING IN AN EDUCATION SETTING**  
The second annual **Communion Breakfast for Education Professionals** will be held on Sunday, **March 7**, beginning with a **9 a.m.** Mass in **Sacred Heart University's New Chapel** of the Holy Spirit celebrated by Bishop William E. Lori. This special event is sponsored by *Centesimus Annus Pro Pontifice* (CAPP) of Fairfield County and Sacred Heart University's Isabelle Farrington School of Education. Dr. Brian Stiltner, director of the Center for Catholic Thought, Ethics and Culture at Sacred Heart University will be the featured speaker. Dr. Stiltner will articulate the critical role education has for society to flourish through the lens of Catholic social teaching. Tickets are \$35 for an individual; table of 10 for \$300. Spouse and friends are welcome. For additional information and registration go to [www.CAPP-USA.com](http://www.CAPP-USA.com) or [www.SacredHeart.edu/CommunionBreakfast.cfm](http://www.SacredHeart.edu/CommunionBreakfast.cfm).

## SPRINGTIME IN THE DESERT

*In one of the prefaces for Lent, the presider prays in the name of the community: "Each year you give us this joyful season when we prepare to celebrate the paschal mystery with mind and heart renewed." Lent, which means spring, becomes joyful when we turn our hearts and minds toward God.*

### INSIDE THE READINGS

After Jesus' baptism he is led by the Spirit into the desert, where he fasts for forty days. This is his identification with the experience of the Israelites in the wilderness for forty years following the Exodus. For both the generation of Moses and Jesus the wilderness experience is a time of testing. God tests the wilderness generation (Exodus 16:4), and the devil tempts Jesus (Luke 4:1-13). While the Israelites repeatedly failed their tests, however, Jesus successfully resists the three temptations.

The challenges confronted by Jesus represent three temptations that are common to all people, temptations that turn us away from others and into ourselves. The inducement to turn a stone into bread tests our trust in God to sustain our life at difficult times. The enticement to worship the devil in return for all the kingdoms of the world speaks to the pull that riches and power exert over our hearts. Finally, the temptation to jump from the parapet of the temple represents the tug that self-glorification exerts in our lives.

In Luke's version of this story, which is the Gospel for today, after successfully resisting the temptations Jesus moves to his ministry "in the power of the Spirit" (4:14). It was the Spirit who led Jesus into the desert where the temptations began (4:1-2). Luke is saying that by resisting the attempts to (1) think and act as if we sustain our own lives, (2) make wealth and power our goals, and (3) exult in our own glorification, we live in "the power of the Spirit" from which effective ministry develops and through which it progresses.

Only Luke writes that after his baptism Jesus was praying when the Spirit first descended upon him and then led him into the desert (3:21-22; 4:1). In doing so, Luke is suggesting that in order for Christians to stand firm against temptations they need to remain rooted in prayer.

### THOUGHTS FOR ACTION

The ancient creed of Israel recognized God working in their history "with his strong hand and outstretched arm" (Deuteronomy 26:8), bringing them from a land of slavery to a place "flowing with milk and honey" (26:9). Slowly say the Nicene Creed or the Apostles' Creed. Allow the words to bring you more deeply into the mystery of God.

Excerpted and edited from *LIVING THE WORD* for the First Sunday of Lent commentary by Dennis D. Sylva and Rev. James A. Wallace, C.Ss.R., © 2010 by J. S. Paluch Co., Inc. 2/21/10