

# 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, VC  
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 856-6459

Paul Niche, Grand Knight  
Knights of Columbus 203-650-6394  
pمنية@optonline.net



## **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)

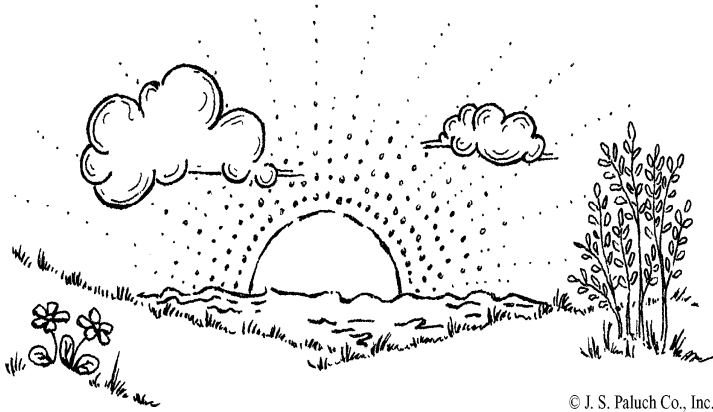
School  
762-8100  
[www.olfcatholic.org](http://www.olfcatholic.org)

# SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 11, 2010

*Once I was dead, but now I am alive forever and ever*

— Revelation 1:18a



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## MASSSES for the WEEK

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Sat. 10 <sup>th</sup> 5:30 p.m.	Leavitt Pope	Thu. 15 <sup>th</sup> 7:45 a.m.	Donald Patrick Moriarty
Sun. 11 <sup>th</sup> 7:30 a.m.	Patricia & Leon O'Branski	Fri. 16 <sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m.	Dorothy Thresher
Sun. 11 <sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m.	Helen Hojnacki & Michael Gibbons	Sat. 17 <sup>th</sup> 8:00 a.m.	Elise Murray
Sun. 11 <sup>th</sup> 10:30 a.m.	All Parishioners Living & Deceased	Sat. 17 <sup>th</sup> 5:30 p.m.	William Hauck
Sun. 11 <sup>th</sup> Noon	Donald Patrick Moriarty	Sun. 18 <sup>th</sup> 7:30 a.m.	Bud Reisenberg
Mon. 12 <sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m.	Antoinette DiBuono	Sun. 18 <sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m.	John Maggio
Tue. 13 <sup>th</sup> 7:45 a.m.	Madeline Palmer	Sun. 18 <sup>th</sup> 10:30 a.m.	Helen Hojnacki
Wed. 14 <sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m.	Collective Intentions	Sun. 18 <sup>th</sup> 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 **Esta Smith**, mother of Peter Smith and mother-in-law of Betsy Smith of our parish, for **Cecilia Suarez**, mother of Cecilia Hatton of our parish and for parishioner **Maureen Maguire**, wife of Frank Maguire. May Jesus, our Lord and Savior, grant them eternal rest and joy.

**THE COLLECTION FOR THE WEEKEND OF 3/27-28 (PALM SUNDAY) TOTALED \$19,073** versus prior year of \$18,466. Thank you for your generosity. The Easter Sunday collection will be reported in next weekend's bulletin.

### PARISH NEWS



**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY:** Join us **TODAY, April 11th, at 3 p.m.** beginning with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, recitation of the Chaplet of Mercy, and Veneration of the Divine Mercy Image. We encourage you to receive the Sacrament of

Reconciliation before this special Feast Day and Holy Communion at Mass this day. Jesus has promised His graces to those who trust in his mercy.

**THIS WEEKEND — MAY 16TH AND 17TH — AT ALL THE MASSES — IS IN-PEW SUNDAY FOR THE 2010 ANNUAL BISHOP'S APPEAL (ABA)**

ABA envelopes are in the pews to enable you to indicate: 1) whether you have already pledged your donation; or 2) what level you will be able to pledge as your donation to the ABA for this year. We would appreciate it if you could put these envelopes in the collection basket today. However, if you prefer, you may mail them directly to the Diocese (238 Jewett Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06606) or mail them to the OLF Parish Office at 229 Danbury Road, Wilton, CT 06897, or drop off at the Parish Office during regular business hours, M-F, 9-5.

Thank you to the **222** parishioners who have contributed **\$84,470** to the ABA in cash or pledges thus far. This represents **37%** of our parish goal of **\$230,000**. If you have not already made your gift or pledge to this year's Appeal, your help is very much needed and we encourage you to participate to the best of your ability.

**HOMEFRONT PROJECT—SATURDAY, MAY 1**

Help! If you have ever painted a room, the OLF HomeFront team needs your help. This year's house assignment in Weston could use professional skills for wood siding, plumbing, electrical & excavating; but in particular, interior painting in most all rooms of the house is needed. Please consider participating for all or part of the day. For ore info., refer to [www.americashomefront.org](http://www.americashomefront.org). Contact Patrick Helbach (834-9905) to volunteer.

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★ **SAVE THE DATES** for Our Lady's Association's ★  
★ upcoming spring events: Mary Ronan will return ★  
★ to OLF on **Tuesday, April 13th**. Mary will be ★  
★ speaking in the Parish Center from 9:30-11:30 ★  
★ a.m. — come find out why everyone feels so en- ★  
★ ergized and empowered after hearing Mary ★  
★ speak ... Also, the OLA Spring Luncheon will be ★  
★ held on **Thursday, May 13th**. Come & view ★  
★ the Fatima movie, "The 13th Day" shown in the ★  
★ Parish Center beginning at 10:30 a.m., followed ★  
★ by a lovely luncheon. More information to fol- ★  
★ low ... ★  
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**PLEASE PRAY** for all our service men and women who are protecting our freedom, and especially **Jake Hutchings, Matthew Smarella, Nate Snaric** and **Andrew Avallone**. If you have a loved one serving overseas, or know of someone

who is, call the Parish Office with their names.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**SUNDAY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES**

conclude today, April 11. On that date, seventh and eighth graders will take their final exam and dismissal will be at 9:30 A.M. for the morning students and 6:15 P.M. for the evening students. Please note that sixth graders will also be dismissed at these times.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES FOR GRADES ONE THROUGH FIVE**

conclude on April 14.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

will be held from June 21 to June 25. Registration forms are available in the Parish Office, in the Religious Education Office, or by e-mailing us at [angels225@aol.com](mailto:angels225@aol.com). Sign up now! Cost for the week is \$100 for one child, \$150 for two, and \$225 for three or more children in the same family. This is a fun week which includes music, lessons, arts and crafts and recreation/snacks. Our theme for the week is "The Miracles of Jesus." Children will learn one miracle each day and see how Jesus helped others through his kindness. For more information, please call the Religious Education Office at 203-762-9080.

**ADULT AND TEEN VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED**

for Vacation Bible School. If you can help us Monday through Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon, during the week of June 21, please call Kathleen Rooney or Tracy O'Dea in the Religious Education office (203-7562-9080). Confirmation candidates may use this for service hours!

**HOME SCHOOL REMINDERS:** 1<sup>st</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Home School Students should have already taken their final tests. If you were sick or unable to take the test, please call the Religious Education office at 762-9080 to schedule an appointment to make up the test. **Also, 7th & 8th home school students will be taking Test 2 today, Sunday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at either 8:45 am or 5:30 pm.** If you are unable to take the test at the scheduled time, please contact the Religious Education office to make alternate arrangements asap. Students will not be able to register for Religious Education next year until all home school tests are taken & passed.

**FIRST COMMUNION GIFT SALE:** The Religious Education office will be selling various products & gifts for First Communions including veils, rosaries, jewelry, photo frames, holy books, & more. To view the display table, please stop by the Religious Education office in the basement of OLF School Monday-Friday between 8:30 am – 5:00 pm or call us at 762-9080 for additional information.

**ANY OF YOUR SPOUSES, FRIENDS OR RELATIVES** who are not Catholic but would like to know more about the Catholic faith are invited to call Kathleen Rooney ( 203-762-9080 ) or one of our priests ( 203-762-3928 ) 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.

**IF THERE IS AN EMPTY SPOT IN YOUR HEART OR SOUL** because of being away from Mass and the sacraments, why not come back to the Table of the Lord with fellow members of your family of faith? Be renewed and filled with the hope, joy, and peace of our Easter faith! It only takes a call to Father Palmer or Father James to get you---or someone you know---on the road to active participation in the Catholic church once again. We want you to come "home."

## YOUTH MINISTRY

**BLAST NIGHTS** (**B**ig **L**oud **A**wesome **S**piritual **T**hing) are coming back for high school teens. The next BLAST will be held **today, Sunday, April 11<sup>th</sup>** from 7:00 – 8:15 pm (*note earlier time*) in the OLF Parish Center. Come grow in your own spiritual faith journey at these amazing meetings.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO EMILY MACINTYRE AND JACK SANTOMERO** who found the Golden Eggs at the Annual OLF Easter Egg Hunt! Special thank yous go out to Cindy & Todd Watson for their generous donation, Katie Wilbur for her delicious Easter cakes, and to Terry Lynn, Georgette Martinnelli, Mary McCue, Nancy O'Connell, Sean O'Dea, Tracy O'Dea, & Kathleen Rooney for their help with the event. The Junior Youth Group is appreciative to all who supported and came to this fun program. We hope to see all the families back for next year's

Egg Hunt!

**A LOBSTERBAKE FUNDRAISER** (for adults), sponsored by our High School Youth Ministry, will be held **on Saturday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> starting at 6:30 pm** in the OLF School Gym. Tickets are \$60/person (\$55 if purchased by Monday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>). Dinner, catered by Capt'n John's, includes lobster or grilled chicken, steamers, mussels, new potatoes, corn-on-the-cob, salad, along with tasty appetizers and scrumptious desserts - BYOB. Come for delicious food, dancing, & great fun. All tickets must be purchased by Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup> with your name(s) and payment (cash or check made payable to OLF) to Sharon Lynn in the OLF Religious Ed office. For questions, contact Sharon at OLFYouth-Group@aol.com or 762-9080.

**HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS — SAVE THE DATE:** You and your families are invited to attend a special "graduation" Mass in your honor on Sunday, **May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 12:00 noon**. A reception in the parish center will immediately follow the Mass. Plan to attend this memorable occasion! Details will be forthcoming.

**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

**DIOCESAN CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARIES:** Bishop William Edward Lori, S.T.D., will celebrate a Mass, in which the commemoration of significant marriage anniversaries will occur, at Saint Theresa Church, Trumbull, on **Sunday, April 25, at 3:00 p.m.** Bishop Lori will be the homilist and will administer both the renewal of marriage vows and the presentation of commemorative certificates. Couples who have or will be celebrating (during the months of January - June) one of the following wedding anniversaries: 15TH, 20TH, 25TH, 30TH, 35TH, 40TH,

45TH, 50TH, AND 50 PLUS YEARS, are invited to participate with family and friends. Interested couples should register with one's own parish office as soon as possible. The deadline for registration is **tomorrow, Monday, April 12.**

**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 [vocations@HearTheCall.org](mailto:vocations@HearTheCall.org).

**RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT FOR HEALING AFTER ABORTION** If there is an abortion in your past that you need to make peace with, The Respect Life Office of the Diocese of Bridgeport offers *Rachel's Vineyard Retreats*. The next retreat weekend is **April 16-18, 2010** in Fairfield County. For more information call the retreat director at **203-218-0291** or e-mail her at [Jeremiah31v17@aol.com](mailto:Jeremiah31v17@aol.com). Visit our website at [www.rachelsvineyardbpt.com](http://www.rachelsvineyardbpt.com). All inquiries are kept in the strictest of confidence.

## SCHOOL NEWS

**SAVE THE DATE** for the **OLF GOLF CLASSIC & TENNIS OPEN** to be held on **Monday, May 24, 2010** at **Shorehaven Golf Club** in **East Norwalk**. \$275 per golfer which includes lunch, cocktail reception and beverages on the course; \$125 per tennis player which includes 4 hours of play time with a pro, lunch and beverages (cocktail reception additional). Driving range opens at 11 a.m., shot gun start at 1 p.m. Lunch at noon. For additional information, to reserve your spot, or to find out more about sponsorship opportunities, please call Julie Murray at (203)831-0088 or email at [jmurra11@mac.com](mailto:jmurra11@mac.com).

## EASTER GIFTS

*Easter has always had a different "feel" from Christmas. Few Easter parties, practically no Easter "songs" on the radio, no Easter gifts to shop for and obsess over. This is not to say that there are no Easter gifts, just the ones brought by the risen Lord. Today's Gospel names them.*

## INSIDE THE READINGS

The second reading this Sunday provides an example of the courageous witness of the apostles to the resurrected Lord. The reading is initially a bit ambiguous, and it is important to clarify who is involved and where they are located in order to appreciate the significance of the passage. Readers are told that the apostles did many miracles, and that "they were all together in Solomon's Portico" (Acts 5:12). Who was in Solomon's Portico? The prior verse speaks about the whole church. But it is unlikely that the whole church was in Solomon's Portico because as a result of the activity there we find out in verse 17 that the religious leaders arrest the apostles. Solomon's Portico was in the temple in Jerusalem. It was in the temple that two of the apostles, Peter and John, had recently been arrested and sternly warned not to preach about Jesus again (Acts 3-4). The authorities do not want Christianity to spread among the people (4:17). Yet here are the apostles once more in the very spot that attracted this hostile reaction, doing the same thing that occasioned the leaders to threaten them: making many converts (5:14). This explains the sentence that immediately follows the claim that "they were all together in Solomon's Portico" (5:12): "None of the others dared to join them, but the people esteemed them" (5:13). To be precise, none of the other Christians joined the apostles in the temple. For them, the place was simply too hot a spot to enter, given the current climate of intimidation. By returning and witnessing despite the threats, the apostles provide the means for Resurrection faith to grow exponentially. They model for subsequent Christians the valor through which the Christian message reaches others.

## THOUGHTS FOR ACTION

The Holy Spirit is the great gift of the risen Lord, given to us at baptism and confirmation and whenever we gather to celebrate the Eucharist. This Spirit brings the power to forgive, enabling the community of the risen Lord both to receive and to give forgiveness. The risen Christ is the head of his body, the church. We pray that we will be the instrument of Christ's peace in the world. We pray that we will be open to the Spirit working in our own lives, especially by our willingness to forgive others.

Excerpted and edited from LIVING THE WORD for the Second Sunday of Easter commentary by Dennis D. Sylva and Rev. James A. Wallace, C.Ss.R., © 2010 by J. S. Paluch Co., Inc. 4/11/10