

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

Church Fax
834-1261

Religious Education
762-9080
www.olfreligioused.org

School
762-8100
www.olfcatholic.org



THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 18, 2010

*"Worthy is the Lamb that was slain
to receive power and riches,
wisdom and strength,
honor and glory and blessing."*

— Revelation 5:12

MASSSES for the WEEK

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Sat. 17 th 5:30 p.m.	William Hauck	Thu. 22 nd 7:45 a.m.	Deceased Members of the Dorion Family
Sun. 18 th 7:30 a.m.	Bud Riesenber	Fri. 23 rd 9:00 a.m.	Margaret Clements
Sun. 18 th 9:00 a.m.	John Maggio	Sat. 24 th 8:00 a.m.	Anthony Squillace
Sun. 18 th 10:30 a.m.	Helen Hojnacki	Sat. 24 th 5:30 p.m.	Elizabeth Clarke
Sun. 18 th Noon	All Parishioners Living & Deceased	Sun. 25 th 7:30 a.m.	Kathryn Sprole & Robert Wheeler
Mon. 19 th 9:00 a.m.	Vincenzo Ligato	Sun. 25 th 9:00 a.m.	All Parishioners Living & Deceased
Tue. 20 th 7:45 a.m.	Domenico Zoccali & Maria Leuzzi	Sun. 25 th 10:30 a.m.	John Maggio
Wed. 21 st 9:00 a.m.	Catherine & Albert DeVito	Sun. 25 th Noon	Frank D'Amico

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday

9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

PLEASE PRAY for the happy repose of the souls of **Mathilde Leclerc**, grandmother of Jeannie Rubsam of our parish, for **AnMari Montalbano** of Wilton, **Julius Kalmer**, husband of Marie Kalmer of Weston and **Nick Zinicola**, son of parishioners John & Sue Zinicola. May Jesus, our Lord and Savior, grant them eternal rest and joy.

WE ARE HAPPY TO WELCOME Kerry Ann Sullivan, Jonathan Michael Case & Jacqueline Elizabeth Merkle baptized into the new community of the church and to a new loving relationship with Our Lord, Jesus Christ.

THE HOLY LAND COLLECTION taken on Good Friday was \$2,079 as compared to last year's Holy Land collection of \$2,545.

THE COMBINED TOTAL OF THIS YEAR'S REGULAR SUNDAY AND EASTER COLLECTIONS WAS \$47,407 versus last year's combined collections of \$42,019.

THE MONTHLY COLLECTION taken on Easter Sunday for the needs of the Parish totaled \$4,810 compared to last year's April monthly collection of \$6,325.

Thank you for your generosity toward all of these important collections.

THE OFFERTORY COLLECTION last weekend was \$13,115. Last year's comparable weekend was \$13,328. Thank you again for your generosity.

NEXT WEEKEND'S SECOND COLLECTION is the collection for Catholic Home Missions Appeal. This appeal strengthens the presence of the Church by helping to provide basic pastoral services to isolated churches and helps fund diocesan evangelization efforts, parish religious education programs, seminarian education, lay ministry training and the pastoral care of growing ethnic and migrant communities on both diocesan and national levels. The CHMA will guarantee continued funding for local communities where Catholics are few and the Church is fragile. Please be generous.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BECOMING 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.

PARISH NEWS

THE 2010 ANNUAL BISHOP'S APPEAL: "LIVING OUR FAITH" So far, 251 parishioners have donated \$90,185 (not including in-pew weekend). This represents 39% of our parish goal of \$230,000. Please support this important appeal which serves so many needy people through Catholic Charities, and also helps to support our Catholic Schools, Parish Life & Ministries, vocations & seminarians and many other organizations and ministries. Envelopes have been mailed to our registered parishioners within the letters from Bishop Lori & Father Palmer. ***Envelopes are also available at the Church doors.*** For more information, please visit www.bridgeportdiocese.com/aba. Thank you for your support.

MEN'S MINISTRY - Come experience our new and improved format. For the next several weeks, we will be discussing the topic *Masculinity - Will the Real Jesus Please Stand up?* Please join us on Saturday from 6:30 to 8:00 am in the Parish Center — bagels and coffee will be served. If any questions, call Denis Riney at 646-491-1861.

SPIRITUAL BREAK GROUP "Truly this was God's Son!" (Mark 14:10-15:45) 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, April 27th 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) or Gale Roeder @ 762-3784 (galeroe33@aol.com). All are welcome!

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.americareshomefront.org. Contact Patrick Helbach (834-9905) to volunteer.

M.O.M.'s—MEETING OTHER MOMS: Please join us next on **Thursday, April 29, 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 Smarrella, 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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES HAVE CONCLUDED FOR THIS SCHOOL YEAR. Thank you to our catechists, parents, and especially our wonderful children for a great year. Registration for fall classes will be held in OLF School Gym on June 5 after the 5:30 P.M. Mass and on June 6 after all the Masses.

THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE will be open Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday (April 19-21) but will be **closed on Thursday and Friday (April 22-23) of vacation week.**

THERE ARE STILL SOME STUDENTS who need to take final exams and/or complete make-up work. Please call the Religious Education Office (203-762-9080) as soon as possible to take care of these requirements in order to register for fall classes.

REHEARSAL FOR THE 9:30 FIRST COMMUNION CEREMONY ON MAY 1 will be held on Thursday, April 29, from 4:00 to 5:00 in the church. Students in the 12:00 ceremony on May 1 will practice from 5:15 to 6:15 in the church on April 29.

FIRST COMMUNICANTS IN THE 9:30 CEREMONY ON MAY 8 will rehearse in church from 4:00 to 5:00 on Thursday, May 6. Students in the 12:00 ceremony on May 8 will practice from 5:15 to 6:15 on Thursday, May 6, in the church.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL will be held the week of June 21, at Our Lady of Fatima School, Monday through Friday, 9:00 A.M. to Noon. Children from three (no diapers) to ten years of age are welcome. Our theme this year is "Miracles of Jesus." There will be music, lessons, recreation and arts and crafts for all. Join us for a fun week! Please call the Religious Education Office (203-762-9080) for a registration form or more information.

HOME SCHOOL REMINDERS: 1st - 8th 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. 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.

THANK YOU TO THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STUDENTS who participated in the Lenten "Prayer & Action" program. The Sunday students collected \$290 to sponsor a child at De Paul Krupa Bhavan, a home which takes care of physically handicapped girls in India. This home is run by the Vincentian

Congregation to which our own Fr. James belongs. The Weekday students collected over \$275 to help the earthquake victims in Haiti, through Catholic Relief Services, as well as the Inter-Faith Fund which supports the Food Pantry in Wilton.

MANY OF US HAVE NON-CATHOLIC RELATIVES OR FRIENDS who may attend Mass with us or simply ask questions about the Catholic faith. Why not suggest to that person that he or she call Kathleen Rooney (762-9080) or one of our priests (762-3928) to learn about the RCIA process? Many adults have joined our parish family through this process and would be also happy to talk to anyone who is interested.

IF YOU KNOW A NON-CATHOLIC ADULT who is interested in knowing more about our religion, please encourage him or her to call Kathleen Rooney (203-762-9080) to learn about the RCIA process through which adults from other religious traditions---or no religious experiences--- explore the teachings and traditions of the Catholic faith, reflect on Scripture, and pray with a few men and women from our parish.

YOUTH MINISTRY

THE FINAL BLAST NIGHT (Big Loud Awesome Spiritual Thing) for this school year will be held on Sunday, May 2nd from 6:00 – 7:30 pm (*note earlier time*) at OLF Church. Come grow in your own spiritual faith journey at these amazing meetings. We'll end the season with a fun BBQ dinner & games outdoors (weather permitting). RSVP to Sharon Lynn at OLFYouthGroup@aol.com or at 762-9080.

A LOBSTERBAKE FUNDRAISER (for adults), sponsored by our High School Youth Ministry, will be held on Saturday, May 22nd starting at 6:30 pm in the OLF School Gym. Tickets are \$60/person (\$55 if purchased by Monday, May 3rd). 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 16th 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.

PENNIES FROM HEAVEN: High School Students will be collecting spare change from parishioners after weekend Masses on May 8th - 9th to support their mission outreach trip to the St. Patrick's Foundation & St. Joseph's Catholic Hospital in Kingston, Jamaica. We hope parishioners will fill the jars located at the entrances to the Church with loose change. We thank you for your support and appreciate your generosity!

HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS — SAVE THE DATE: You and your families are invited to attend a special "graduation" Mass in your honor on Sunday, May 23rd 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.

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.

YET MORE EASTER GIFTS

As we said last week, the risen Lord brought gracious gifts to his followers, beginning with the gift of the Holy Spirit and the power of forgiveness. Today we look to the Acts of the Apostles for an account of other gifts the apostles received.

INSIDE THE READINGS

Last Sunday we saw the apostles' courage and the numerous conversions that resulted from it. Today we hear about the sustaining strength of their witness. The authorities decide to put into practice their threat against the apostles, should they continue to witness to the resurrected Lord. They put the proverbial thumbscrews to them. First, they claim that they had given the apostles "strict orders" to stop teaching about Jesus, orders that the apostles completely disobeyed (5:28). In response, the apostles not only deny the right of the leaders to tell them to do so, they even start teaching the leaders themselves about Jesus (5:29-32). The reaction of the leaders is predictable. They want to kill the apostles (5:33). It is only the intervention of Rabbi Gamaliel that dissuades them from this plan (5:32-39). They do beat the apostles, however, before repeating their order and dismissing them (5:40). Notice how the apostles meet the increase in pressure not to witness with an increase in witness. We have just seen that the leaders' claim that they had ordered the apostles not to teach anymore only caused the apostles to teach the leaders themselves. Now, after the apostles are beaten and ordered again not to teach, they return home and teach both there and in the temple "all day long" (5:42, not included in this Sunday's reading). Verse 42 tells us that they even increased their witness, adding that "they did not stop teaching and proclaiming the Messiah, Jesus." Rather than break the apostles, the sufferings that they experienced were only goads for greater determination on their part. Supporting the commitment of the apostles is their knowledge that Jesus himself had been rejected and had suffered before he was raised (4:10-11). Courageous witness to Jesus is thus on the same trajectory from suffering to new life.

THOUGHTS FOR ACTION

The apostles performed "many signs and wonders" (Acts 5:12), healing the sick and casting out unclean spirits. They were arrested and taken to prison and beaten, only to return to the temple and do it all again. We pray that we may grow in courage so that we can willingly and joyfully witness to the Lord, that we may be like Peter and the other apostles who followed Christ through suffering to glory, who were able to respond more than once to his call, "Follow me."

Excerpted and edited from LIVING THE WORD for the Third Sunday of Easter commentary by Dennis D. Sylva and Rev. James A. Wallace, C.Ss.R., © 2010 by J. S. Paluch Co., Inc 4/18/10