

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.

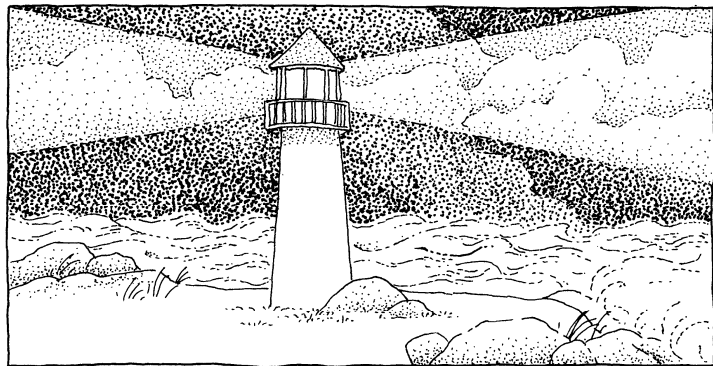
PARISH REGISTRATION: All families or individuals who have moved into the parish should register by filling out the registration card available at the church doors.

Rectory
762-3928
www.olfwilton.org

Church Fax
834-1261

Religious Education
762-9080
www.olfreligioused.org

School
762-8100
www.olfcatholic.org



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FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 25, 2010

"I have made you a light to the Gentiles, that you may be an instrument of salvation to the ends of the earth."

— Acts 13:47b

MASSes for the WEEK

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Sat. 24 th 5:30 p.m.	Elizabeth Clarke	Thu. 29 th 7:45 a.m.	John David McMahon, Jr.
Sun. 25 th 7:30 a.m.	Kathryn Sprole & Robert Wheeler	Fri. 30 th 9:00 a.m.	Collective Intentions
Sun. 25 th 9:00 a.m.	All Parishioners Living & Deceased	Sat. 1 st 8:00 a.m.	Wells Jarboe
Sun. 25 th 10:30 a.m.	John Maggio	Sat. 1 st 5:30 p.m.	Jack & Maureen Callahan
Sun. 25 th Noon	Frank D'Amico	Sun. 2 nd 7:30 a.m.	All Parishioners Living & Deceased
Mon. 26 th 9:00 a.m.	Joseph Vassallo	Sun. 2 nd 9:00 a.m.	Diamantino Batista
Tue. 27 th 7:45 a.m.	All Souls in Purgatory	Sun. 2 nd 10:30 a.m.	Cecilia Parker
Wed. 28 th 9:00 a.m.	Donald Hoffman	Sun. 2 nd Noon	Donald Patrick Moriarty

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday

9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

PLEASE PRAY for the happy repose of the soul of **William Alexander**, father of former parishioner Molly Mahoney and **Joseph Perna**, father of Betsy Smith and Patty Lane of our parish. May Jesus, our Lord and Savior, grant them eternal rest and joy.

WE ARE HAPPY TO WELCOME Patrick Legarda Flynn 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 \$9,630. Last year's comparable weekend was \$11,273. Thank you again for your generosity.

THIS 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" Since there is no update from the Diocese this week we remain at 251 parishioners who 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 **this 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—NEXT SATURDAY, MAY 1 If you have ever painted a room in your house, the OLF 2010 HomeFront team could really use your help. There are many varied projects to take on for this year's one day Home Improvement assignment in Weston. No matter what your skill

level, please consider participating for all or part of the day. To volunteer, please contact Pat Helbach at 834.9905 to volunteer. (e-mail Patrick.c.helbach@gmail.com)

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.

M.O.M.'s—MEETING OTHER MOMS: Please join us this **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 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

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.

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.

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.

REGISTRATION FOR FALL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES will be held in Our Lady of Fatima School Gym after the 5:30 Mass on Saturday, June 5, and after all the Masses on Sunday, June 6. We encourage families to sign up at this time, especially if you want a certain day. Your registration will also help in planning for catechists and ordering materials and books. We look forward to greeting all families---those who have been with us as well as those new to the program. Please note that, because of the large number of families, we are not able to take registration by phone.

"THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME" is a familiar saying, and it certainly applies to church. If you know of any adult who has been away from "home," please warmly encourage him or her to call Father Palmer or Father James to talk about returning to the church "family." The call will be most welcome and confidential.

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.

YOUTH MINISTRY

THE FINAL BLAST NIGHT (**B**ig **L**oud **A**wesome **S**piritual **T**hing) 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.

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. We need high school seniors to help serve at this liturgy by reading, singing, playing a musical instrument, or presenting the gifts. Call the Religious Ed. office at 762-9080 for details. Plan to attend this memorable occasion!

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.

Lost & Found

DO ANY OF THESE ITEMS BELONG TO YOU?

High School Musical Bag, Columbia (sz. 7/8) brown & blue jacket, Buzz Lightyear lunchbag, Wilton Soccer shirt (#23), Adidas navy hooded sweatshirt, many pairs of winter gloves, various sunglasses and reading glasses, winter hats, etc., etc., etc.!!

Please see the Parish Center after all Masses this weekend to claim lost items. After **May 15th**, all clothing items will be donated to the Norwalk Emergency Shelter. Thank you.

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PAUL, A JEW, CALLED TO BE APOSTLE TO THE GENTILES

Saint Paul was transformed from a persecutor of Jesus' followers to the foremost preacher of the Good News of Jesus Christ. Today's first reading directs our attention to his dedication to preaching about Christ in the synagogues first, before turning to the Gentiles, and the Gospel reveals Jesus' commitment to all his followers.

INSIDE THE READINGS

The Gospel passage today is the culmination of Jesus' discourse on the good shepherd in John's Gospel. In it, we hear that our salvation is grounded in the degree of commitment that Jesus has to us. Jesus claims that his sheep follow him and that he gives them eternal life (John 10:27-28a). Then he says three times that no one can take the sheep from him or from the Father, who is one with him (10:28b-30). This emphasis on the security of Jesus' followers is the result of the danger in which they find themselves. Earlier in John 10 Jesus describes this danger with the image of a wolf coming upon the flock (10:12). Jesus' response is to meet the danger even to the extent of laying down his life for his sheep (10:11, 13, 17, 18). Jesus presents security in terms of the love that will not run away when trouble comes. The instinct for self-preservation when the group is under attack is not present in Jesus, as it would be in the hired shepherd, because Jesus identifies us as his own (10:12-14). The sheep imagery shows the dangerous conditions in which people can find themselves. But it is the family imagery, found elsewhere in John's Gospel, that shows how close we are to Jesus and to the Father. Confidence in God's salvation should be the result of the Johannine notion that God's love will go to any extent to save a family member. What Jesus did for his disciples is what God always does through Jesus for us because of the unity of the Father and Son. Chaos theorists often talk about how turbulence introduced into a stable physical system can result in chaos, undermining the stability of the whole system. John's Jesus introduces lasting stability into the always potentially chaotic situations that we experience. Ultimate stability is rooted in the greatest love that is always present to us when the wolf lurks nearby.

THOUGHTS FOR ACTION

We pray that all peoples will find their unity through faith in God, the Creator of all. We pray for our brothers and sisters in the Jewish faith. With them we share belief in one God, the Creator of heaven and earth; with them we acknowledge Abraham as our father in faith.

Excerpted and edited from LIVING THE WORD for the Fourth Sunday of Easter commentary by Dennis D. Sylva and Rev. James A. Wallace, C.Ss.R., © 2010 by J. S. Paluch Co., Inc. 4/25/10