

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@metliffe.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.

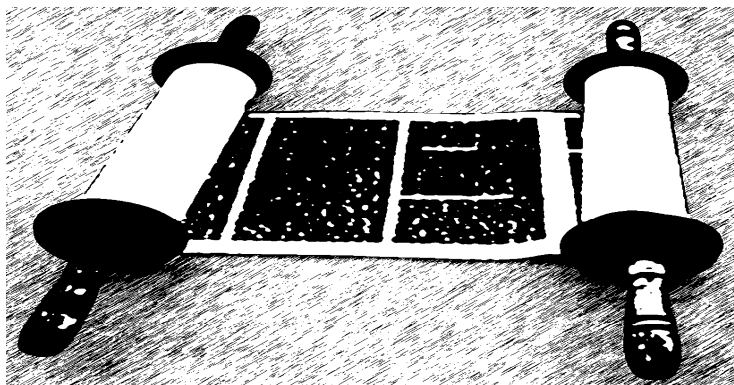
PARISH REGISTRATION: All families or individuals who have moved into the parish should register by filling out the registration card available at the church doors.

Rectory
762-3928
www.olfwilton.org

Church Fax
834-1261

Religious Education
762-9080
www.olfreligioused.org

School
762-8100
www.olfcatholic.org



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THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 24, 2010

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring glad tidings to the poor.*

— Luke 4:18a

MASSes for the Week

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Sat. 23 rd 5:30 p.m.	Cynthia Timmons	Thu. 28 th 7:45 a.m.	Catherine McStocker
Sun. 24 th 7:30 a.m.	John Maggio	Fri. 29 th 9:00 a.m.	Fred Curtin (9 th Anniversary)
Sun. 24 th 9:00 a.m.	Maria Signore & Madelena Paniccia	Sat. 30 th 8:00 a.m.	Collective Intentions
Sun. 24 th 10:30 a.m.	Ken Kelly	Sat. 30 th 5:30 p.m.	Gertrude Thomas & Joseph Kinney
Sun. 24 th Noon	All Parishioners Living & Deceased	Sun. 31 st 7:30 a.m.	All Parishioners Living & Deceased
Mon. 25 th 9:00 a.m.	Jim Dunn	Sun. 31 st 9:00 a.m.	Jim Dunn
Tue. 26 th 7:45 a.m.	Ryan Barrett	Sun. 31 st 10:30 a.m.	Grace & Ed Zambo
Wed. 27 th 9:00 a.m.	Pat Lawless	Sun. 31 st Noon	Frank D'Amico

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

PLEASE PRAY for the happy repose of the soul of **Irene Nugent**, wife of Gordon Nugent of our parish. May Jesus, our Lord and Savior, grant her eternal rest and joy.

THE OFFERTORY COLLECTION last weekend was \$10,817. Last year's comparable weekend was \$10,643. Thank you.

THIS WEEKEND'S SECOND COLLECTION is the Collection for the Church in Latin America: Forming Disciples and Missionaries of Jesus Christ. For more than 45 years, proceeds from the Collection for the Church in Latin America have been distributed to dioceses, parishes, religious congregations, seminaries, and other Catholic institutions in 23 coun-

tries throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. It assists in the formation of priests, religious, lay ministers, missionaries, pastoral workers, catechists, and youth ministers. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

HAITI RELIEF:

If you were not able to make a donation for the very needy victims of the Haiti earthquake last weekend, please know that we will be happy to receive your donation in one of this weekend's collections. Please note there were no special envelopes designated for the Haiti collection so please mark whatever kind of envelope you use clearly as 'For Haiti Relief'. If you are not ready to give

today, please know that you can drop off your donation designated to 'Haiti Relief' to the Parish Office during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. All Haiti donations will be sent to and distributed by Catholic Relief Services to the neediest. **YOUR CHECK SHOULD BE MADE OUT TO 'OUR LADY OF FATIMA' WITH A NOTATION 'FOR HAITI RELIEF'.** Thank you for whatever you are able to give to this important collection.

THANK YOU from the Parish Respect Life Ministry to the many parishioners who contributed a total of \$800 last weekend in the Church-door collection. Proceeds will be distributed to "respect life" organizations to assist them in their special work.

IF YOU ARE AN ELECTRONIC DONOR, 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. Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

TIMELY NEWS

THIS WEEK IS "FATIMA LEARNS ABOUT FATIMA" WEEK: Come and join with other parishioners in deepening our understanding of the message and miracles brought to the world by OUR LADY OF FATIMA at Fatima, Portugal, in 1917. Since that time, many popes have confirmed the truth of Mary's appearances to the original three children and the world.

The schedule of events is as follows:

- * **This weekend (January 23 & 24):** A Fatima display with Fatima information, photos & copies of original documents from 1917 will be on display in the Parish Center. Also, every parish family will receive a Fatima Information Packet with Rosary & Prayer Cards after each weekend Mass.
- * **Today, Sunday, January 24:** A celebratory 9 a.m. Mass will begin with a procession of the Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima. Also, "The 13th Day" movie will be shown, followed by discussion, for all High School stu-

dents beginning at 11:30 a.m. in the Parish Center.

- * **Monday, January 25-Wednesday, January 27:** All CCD classes (including classes on 1/24/10) will learn about the story of Fatima and receive a special Prayer of Fatima bookmark.
- * **Wednesday, January 27:** Parish Rosary & Benediction in the Church, beginning at 7:30 p.m.
- * **Friday, January 29 — Parish Movie & Panel Discussion: "The 13th Day"**, a powerful and beautiful new movie about the story of Fatima, will be shown at 8:00 p.m. in the Parish Center; doors will open at 7:30 p.m. (Prophetic images contained in the movie may be difficult for young children.)

Sponsored by Our Lady's Association. For more information, please contact Sheila Beck (762-8727) or Laura Cody (761-9183).

M.O.M.'s—MEETING OTHER MOMS: Please join us this **Thursday, January 28, 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 and Matthew Smarella. 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!

CONGRATULATIONS to this year's winners of the Knights of Columbus Free Throw contest held here at OLF:

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Winner</u>
14—Boy	Will Coupe
13—Girl	Kaitlyn Prackup
12—Girl	Alyssa Rubsam
12—Boy	Grant Sweeny
11—Boy	Peter Koziolkowsky
10—Girl	Meaghan Downey
10—Boy	Will Heffernan

The district event is tentatively scheduled for early February ... good luck to our winners as they ad-

vance to the next round. Thank you to all participants!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

REMINDER TO SUNDAY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STUDENTS: There are no Sunday Religious Education classes next week, January 31. On Sunday, February 7, morning classes meet, but there are no evening classes. On February 14, there are no morning or evening classes.

SERVICE HOUR REPORTS FROM NINTH GRADE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STUDENTS were due on January 10. If you have not yet handed in your report, please bring it to the Religious Education Office this week.

REMINDER TO PARENTS OF FIRST EUCHARIST STUDENTS: Parents and First Eucharist students will meet on Sunday, February 21, in OLF School Gym, at 9:45 A.M. Please make every effort to attend.

NOW THAT THE NEW YEAR IS HERE, if you have not been attending Mass and receiving the sacraments regularly, please consider starting off 2010 renewed by the graces of Reconciliation. A simple call to one of our priests (762-3928) will be welcome and confidential. Join your fellow parishioners at the Eucharist this year. We miss you!

RCIA is a process through which non-Catholic adults prepare to join the Catholic faith community. They meet each week with a small group of parishioners and reflect on the Sunday Mass readings, discuss the teachings of our Church, and share their stories of faith. If you know a person who might wish to learn more about Catholicism, please invite him/her to call Kathleen Rooney (762-9080) or one of our priests (762-3928).

YOUTH MINISTRY

2010 SUMMER MISSION OUTREACH TRIP to the St. Patrick's Foundation in Kingston, Jamaica. From Sunday, June 20th to Sunday, June 27th, 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.)

ARE YOU GAME? All 6th, 7th & 8th graders are invited to a Junior Youth Group celebration on Saturday, February 20th 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 19th. Bring your friends!

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

HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT — SAVE THE DATE: The Mackenzie Trec (Teens Really Encountering Christ) is coming for OLF High School Teens the weekend of March 6th & 7th. 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 Sattarelli.

SCHOOL NEWS

OLF OPEN HOUSE Beginning Sunday, January 31st, please join us for our celebration of Catholic Schools Week. This year's theme is ***"Catholic Schools: Dividends for Life,"*** which focuses on our school's commitment to infuse students with the faith, knowledge, morals and discipline that will help them lead fulfilling lives. We've planned a variety of events throughout the week that focus on and celebrate different aspects of Catholic education. **Please visit the school during our annual Open House on Sunday, January 31st from 10am - 1pm. Come see how Our Lady of Fatima School provides dividends for life.**

*Our Lady of Fatima School
Lifetime Value ... Lifelong Values.*

A PRAYER FOR HAITI

God Our Father,
We come before you in trust
and confidence.
You are our strength in adversity.
Our health in weakness;
Our comfort in sorrow;
Be merciful to your people.

*Hear the cries of your people in Haiti
at this time of distress.*

*In Your kindness watch over the
people whose lives have been
devastated by the recent earthquake.
Bring them safely to the place they
long to be and strengthen them
to begin their lives anew.*

*May those whose lives have been lost
share eternal life with you.*

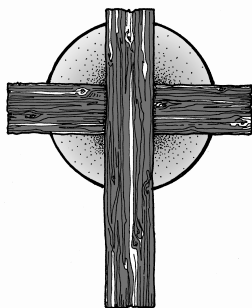
*Comfort those who mourn the death
of loved ones.*

*Protect the volunteers and workers
and help each one of us show your
compassion to those in need in Haiti.*

*Grant this through your Son Jesus
Christ, who lives and reigns with
your Holy Spirit, one God forever
and ever.*

Amen.

*Our Lady of Perpetual Help,
Pray for Us!*



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GOD'S WORD, A LAMP FOR OUR FEET

Both today's Gospel and the reading from Nehemiah remind us that the word of God found in the Torah, the proph-ets, and the writings of the Old Testament has been an ongo-ing source of conversion, wisdom, encouragement, and self-understanding for Israel. Jesus, too, came to understand his mission through the words of Isaiah. This same word speaks to us in our day.

INSIDE THE READINGS

The mission of Jesus in Luke's Gospel is to provide the peace that the suffering need and that only God can give. The Roman Emperor Augustus had initiated a period of time that was hailed as the *Pax Romana* or "Roman peace." He took upon himself the titles "Son of God," "God," "Redeemer," "Lord," and "Savior of the World," among others. Augustus also took care to promote through monuments the peace he had brought. Despite the relative infrequency of wars, the Augustan peace did not deliver the needy from many of their needs nor did it fulfill the deepest yearnings of people. According to Luke, God comes in Jesus to address these primal needs and desires. The angels who announce Jesus' birth to the shep-herds sing, "Glory to God in the highest / and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests" (Luke 2:14). This peace appears to draw upon the Hebrew concept of *shalom*, which is not simply the absence of strife but also includes a fullness of life. Today's Gospel presents the first words that the Lukan Jesus speaks at the beginning of his ministry. Unlike the Gospels of Matthew and Mark, this message is not expressed in terms of the coming of the reign of God (Matthew 4:17; Mark 1:15). Rather, Luke adopts words from the prophet Isaiah "to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord" (Luke 4:18-19). In other words, the time that is truly significant is not the epoch initiated by Augustus Caesar but that initiated by God in Jesus. There are always many proclamations about the goods that come to us. Only one good from one Source, however, fulfills our most basic and important needs.

THOUGHTS FOR ACTION

When Ezra read from the book of the law of God, explain-ing it so the people could understand, they wept, but he said to them: "Go, eat rich foods and drink sweet drinks, and allot portions to those who had nothing prepared; for today is holy to our Lord. Do not be saddened this day, for rejoicing in the Lord must be your strength!" (Nehemiah 8:10). Ask God to let the divine word bring joy to your heart.

*Excerpted and edited from LIVING THE WORD
or the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
commentary by Dennis D. Sylva and Rev. James A. Wallace, C.Ss.R.,
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