

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

Ministry to the Elderly
Sister Julie Horvath 276-8908
Sister Mary Jane Card 203-750-8777

Mrs. Kathleen Rooney
Director of Religious Education

Ms. Dina Monti
Principal, Our Lady of Fatima School

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.

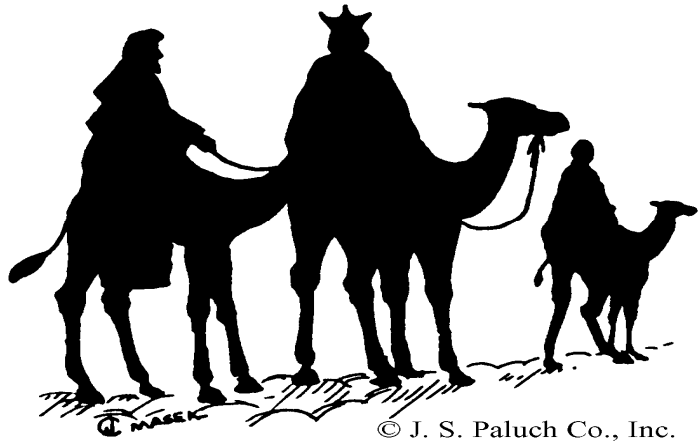
PARISH REGISTRATION: All families or individuals who have moved into the parish should register by filling out the registration card available at the church doors.

Rectory Office
762-3928
www.olfwilton.org

Church Fax
834-1261
e-mail: ourlady229@aol.com

Religious Education
762-9080
www.olfwilton.org

School
762-8100
www.olfcatholic.org



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD JANUARY 8, 2012

*All kings shall pay him homage,
all nations shall serve him.*

— Psalm 72:11

Masses for the Week

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Sat. 7 th	5:30 p.m.	Jean Lord Bartek	Thur. 12 th	7:45 a.m.	Dave Liddell
Sun. 8 th	7:30 a.m.	All Parishioners Living & Deceased	Fri. 13 th	9:00 a.m.	George Pullis
Sun. 8 th	9:00 a.m.	Eileen Colihan	Sat. 14 th	8:00 a.m.	Roger DiCostanzo
Sun. 8 th	10:30 a.m.	Mark Nickel	Sat. 14 th	5:30 p.m.	Michael Sullivan
Sun. 8 th	Noon	Stephen Forster	Sun. 15 th	7:30 a.m.	All Parishioners Living & Deceased
Mon. 9 th	9:00 a.m.	Paul Dinto	Sun. 15 th	9:00 a.m.	Nick Zinicola
Tue. 10 th	7:45 a.m.	Ellen Conlon	Sun. 15 th	10:30 a.m.	Nick Scalia
Wed. 11 th	9:00 a.m.	Angelo Cappelli	Sun. 15 th	Noon	Mary Gifford

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

PLEASE PRAY for the happy repose of the souls of **Jeannie Roohan**, aunt of parishioner Jack Wallace and for **Diane May**, mother of parishioner John May. May Jesus, our Lord and Savior, grant them eternal rest and joy.



THE OFFERTORY COLLECTION totals from Christmas and New Year's weekends will be reported in next weekend's bulletin. The totals were not ready at bulletin press time.

ELECTRONIC OFFERTORY Thank you to the more than 50 parishioners who have become Electronic Donors. Donating electronically has given a big boost to our weekly income. We also want to thank the many parishioners who so generously support the needs of the parish

If you wish to consider becoming an electronic donor, you may pick up the forms at the Parish Office during regular business hours, or download the forms online at our parish website: www.olfwilton.org. Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

PARISH NEWS

CAREGIVERS GATHERING If you are caring for a loved one and would like the support of other caregivers, come to the next gathering. It will be held on **Monday, January 9 at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Center**. For more information call Sister Julie Horvath at 203-276-8908.

DEFIBRILLATOR Our Lady of Fatima recently purchased a defibrillator. It is located next to the statue of Mary at the center church entrance (in front of the altar). Anyone wishing to be trained in CPR or use of a defibrillator may attend a free class offered periodically at the Wilton Library; please contact the library for schedule at 203-762-3950 or visit them online at wiltonlibrary.org.

PLEASE PRAY for all our service men and women who are protecting our freedom, and especially **Matthew Smarrella, Andrew Avallone, Michael Chiappone, Stephen Acosta, Marshall A. Paul, Thomas Correll, Thomas Thresher, Lt. John Steward Winslow, Rocco D'Amato, Adam Walsh, Joseph Somerdyk and Kyle Ward**. If you have a loved one serving overseas, or know of someone who is, call the Parish Office with their names.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

REMINDER TO SECOND GRADE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STUDENTS: Books will be checked for completion and we will listen to your prayers on January 9, 10, and 11 during class time. At 4:30 we will go to church to practice going to confession with Father Palmer.

FIRST RECONCILIATION WILL BE HELD on **Saturday, January 21, at two ceremonies---9:30 and 11:00**. Children receiving First Communion on May 5 will attend the 9:30 Reconciliation ceremony and those re-

ceiving on May 12 will attend the 11:00 Reconciliation ceremony.

SUNDAY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES resume **today, January 8**. *For ninth graders, service hour reports are due.*

THERE ARE NO SUNDAY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES next **Sunday, January 15**, due to the holiday weekend.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is a process through which non-Catholic adult inquirers meet with a few parishioners to talk about the truths of our faith, reflect on Scripture, and pray together. Over the past twenty-six years, many men and women of other faiths have joined our family of faith through RCIA. All non-Catholic adults who have an interest in learning more about the Catholic religion are invited to call Kathleen Rooney (203-762-9080) or one of our priests (203-762-3928).

EACH OF US PROBABLY KNOWS A CATHOLIC MAN OR WOMAN who has not attended Mass and received the sacraments for a period of time. Please encourage this person to call one of our priests in confidence to talk about the reasons that have kept him/her away from our Church. It is never too late to come "home" again.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

OLF HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP! We will resume our mentoring program with the second grade class at Blessed Sacrament **in Bridgeport today Sunday, January 8th**. This program is open to high school students in grades 9-12. As usual, we will attend their 11:30am Mass and then help out during their religious education classes. A signed permission slip is required to participate in this program and can be emailed to you if interested. All teens must arrange transportation both to and from Blessed Sacrament Parish. There are limited spots available, so please email Mrs. Martinelli and Mrs. Deluca at OLFY-

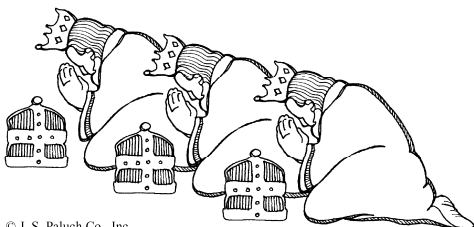
ouGroup2@aol.com if you would like to join us for this special program and we will email you a permission slip.

OLF HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP TEENS: Please join us on **Thursday, January 19, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Office Conference Room** for an informative meeting with an experienced leader from the Convivio High School Student Retreat program who will explain the retreat weekend taking place at Sacred Heart University the second weekend of March, 2012. She will answer questions and is really looking forward to meeting our wonderful OLF High School Youth Group members! Parents/guardians are welcome to attend. **Please RSVP to Mrs. Martinelli and Mrs. Deluca at OLFYouthGroup2@aol.com if you plan to join this discussion.** Don't miss this exciting chance to learn about Convivio 2012!

ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS: Mark your calendars and get ready for our next BLAST (Big Loud Awesome Spiritual Thing!) All students in grades 9-12 are invited to attend this event on **Sunday, January 22nd in the OLF Parish Center from 7:30-8:45 p.m.** We look forward to seeing you for an evening of faith and fun. Please email Mrs. Deluca and Mrs. Martinelli at OLFYouthGroup2@aol.com with any questions.

SAINTS & SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

SUNDAY:	The Epiphany of the Lord
MONDAY:	The Baptism of the Lord
TUESDAY:	First Week in Ordinary Time begins
FRIDAY:	St. Hilary
SATURDAY:	Blessed Virgin Mary



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SCHOOL NEWS

OUR LADY OF FATIMA SCHOOL will be holding their Open House on **Sunday, January 29, from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.** Please join faculty, students and parents to find out what makes our Blue Ribbon Award-winning school a great place to receive a faith-filled education from PreK3 through 8th grade. For more information, please call 762-8100.

DIOCESAN NEWS

PROJECT RACHEL DAY OF TRAINING: Tuesday, March 6, 2012 - 9:00a.m.-3:30p.m. *Become a vessel of God's Mercy and Love!* The Office of Respect Life Ministry will be hosting a Project Rachel Training Program on **Tuesday, March 6, 2012 at the Catholic Center from 9:00a.m.-3:30p.m.** Registration will begin January 15, 2012. Project Rachel is a confidential ministry of hope and healing for women, men, and adolescents who have been touched by abortion loss. Entrusted in a special way with the mission to share the compassionate love and mercy of Jesus Christ for all people, a network of specially trained caregivers provide direct care to those who have suffered abortion, enabling them to grieve and develop a personal relationship with the Lord. The ministry's founder, Vicki Thorn, will be directing this day of training which is designed to assist you in serving those touched by abortion. *Is the Lord calling you to be a part of this network of healing?* For more information, please call the Office of Respect Life Ministry at (203) 416-1444 or email respectlife@diobpt.org.

SHARE FOR THE DIOCESE OF BRIDGEPORT: SHARE (Sacred Heart Adult Religious Education) for the Diocese of Bridgeport is a theology program for adults which will help Catholics understand our faith and empower them to put it into action. High level instruction included courses in Scripture, theology, Church history and pastoral theology. A pastoral certificate is awarded after the 20

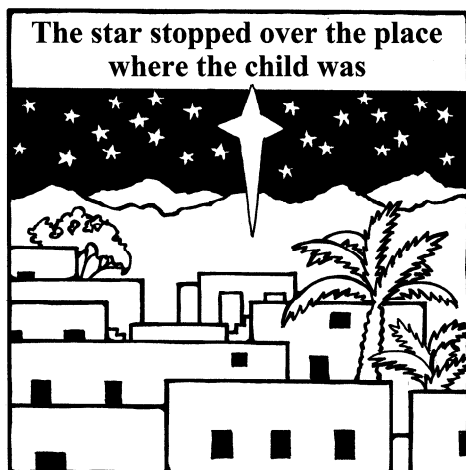
courses are completed. For more information contact Gina Donnarummo at SHARE@diobpt.org or (203) 416-1446 or visit www.sacredheart.edu/share.cfm. Classes in the Winter-Spring are: Sacraments of Initiation; Mary, the Perfect Disciple; Church History: From Pentecost to the 21st Century!; Church Law; and Reading the Old Testament.

IMPORTANT SAFE ENVIRONMENT REMINDER FOR ADULTS 18 and older: All Priests, Seminarians, Religious Sisters and Brothers, Deacons, Lay Employees, Volunteers and Independent Contractors (full time, part-time, per-diem and substitutes) - **even if they are not working with children**, must have the following safeguards in place.

Register online to attend VIRTUS Protecting God's Children for Adults by logging onto the website www.virtusonline.org. Select the word REGISTRATION & BRIDGEPORT DIOCESE

1. Attend a live VIRTUS Protecting God's Children for Adults class (Approximately 3 hours) and return a copy of your training certificate to the location where you work or volunteer. Complete a criminal background check. Additional information about background checks may be found at www.bridgeportdiocese.com under Human Resources.

Read the Diocese of Bridgeport Code of Conduct and Sexual Misconduct Policy and return the signed acknowledgement of policy receipts to the location where you are working or volunteering.



The star stopped over the place where the child was

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A FEAST FOR SEARCHERS

Christ came for all, to save all. Many today have set out searching for something, sometimes unnameable, yet recognized as important, even essential, for a full life. Today's feast encourages all searchers, whether in church or not, that there is One waiting for them to arrive. Look for signals being sent out.

INSIDE THE READINGS

Isaiah speaks of enlightenment. He cries out to Jerusalem, "Arise!" "Shine!" Jerusalem is not only delivered from its mis-fortune by God, but also it is reestablished as a thriving city. Its dispersed inhabitants return, its destroyed reputation is restored, and its despoiled prosperity is reconstituted. This is not a promise to be fulfilled in the future; Jerusalem's salvation is an accomplished fact. It is happening before the city's very eyes. Such good fortune is evidence of God's favor. This good favor is another reason why the city is summoned, "Arise and shine forth!" The Letter to the Ephesians declares that in Christ the Gentiles are co-heirs, co-members and co-partners with the Jews. According to the author, the status of the Gentiles had to be revealed because it had been secret until now. The apostles and prophets constituted the foundation of the church. Now, it is through this appointed messenger that the Spirit reveals a new revelation to that established church. This new revelation contains a startling message. It claims that in Christ the Gentiles are co-heirs, co-members, and co-partners with the Jews. This is a radical insight for a church with Jewish roots and traditions. The story of the Three Kings or Three Wise Men was probably a kind of haggadah or popular Jewish story fashioned from diverse biblical material intended to make a spiritual rather than historical point. This does not mean that the story is not true. It means that the truth of it is more in the total story and its meaning than in any or all of its details. The point of the story is that these men were not Israelite, but they were nonetheless open to and in search of God's plan. The story illustrates that people of good will, regardless of their ethnic or religious background, can be responsive to the revelation of God. These men searched for and found the child, and they did not go away disappointed.

THOUGHTS FOR ACTION

Jesus, send the guiding light we all need to find you. Sometimes there is only darkness and we grow tired, frightened, even hopeless. Be with us then and bring us to that place where you can be found. We pray with Saint John Henry Newman: "Lead, kindly Light, amidst th'encircling gloom. Lead thou me on!" Amen.

Excerpted and edited from LIVING THE WORD for the Epiphany of the Lord commentary by Dianne Bergant, C.S.A., and Rev. James A. Wallace, C.Ss.R. © 2012 by J. S. Paluch Co., Inc. 1/8/12