



# Our Lady of the Lakes

3 Old Town Park Road  
New Milford, CT 06776  
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## Welcome To Our Lady of the Lakes

### Our Mission Statement

“We the people of Our Lady of the Lakes are called to live and proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ through Eucharistic celebration and adoration. We strive to build a community of faith by the recognition of the God-given dignity of the human person and the sacred value of human life from its very beginning until its end, and to be disciples committed to carrying out the mission of Jesus in our own time and place. We collaborate freely through the use of time, talent and treasure to be a parish of true stewardship and human development.”

### Pastor

Rev. Gerald H. Dziedzic

### Parochial Vicar

Rev. Chacko Kumplam

### Parish Staff

Kim G. Buser, Secretary,

[ourladyofthelakes@aohct.org](mailto:ourladyofthelakes@aohct.org)

Beryl Gribbin, Bookkeeper

Karen O'Donnell, Director of Religious Ed.,

[ourladyofthelakes@aohct.org](mailto:ourladyofthelakes@aohct.org)

Margaret Fitzgerald, Music Ministry Leader

Anne Flynn, Youth Minister

Robert Rella, Youth Minister

### Parish Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

### Telephone

Office (860) 354-5239 Fax (860) 354-2968

Religious Education (860) 355-5365

Rectory (860)799-7449

### Masses

Saturday Vigil 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 8:30 & 10:00 a.m.

Monday, Thursday & Friday 9:00 a.m.

### Morning Prayer

Monday, Wednesday & Friday 8:30 a.m.

### Sacrament of Penance

Saturday 4:00 - 4:30 p.m.

and by appointment

### Sacrament of Baptism

Please call the Parish Office for information.

### Sacrament of Marriage

Arrangements for marriage are made at least six months before the marriage date.

### Sacrament of Holy Orders

Is the priesthood for you?

Call: Office of Vocations (860) 242-5573

or visit: [www.vocationshartford.org](http://www.vocationshartford.org)

*Mass Intentions*

**Saturday, December 15**

5:00 p.m. Patrick Maguire  
Req. by Victor & Catherine Consaga

**Sunday, December 16**

8:30 a.m. Geoffrey Burns  
Req. by Victor & Catherine Consaga  
10:00 a.m. Heather Marie Bogues  
30th Anniversary  
Req. by her family

**Monday, December 17**

9:00 a.m. Robert Pielli Sr.  
Req. by Kim & Karen

**Thursday, December 13**

9:00 a.m. William P. Bocaccio  
Req. by Victory & Catherine Consaga

**Friday, December 21**

9:00 a.m. Marie Armeny

**Saturday, December 22**

5:00 p.m. Roger Ploof  
Req. by Mary Ann Ploof

**Sunday, December 23**

8:30 a.m. Theresa Critelli  
Req. by her son  
10:00 a.m. Jenny Temple  
Req. by Eileen & Rich Portelance &  
Portelance family

*Ministries*

December 22 & 23

**Saturday 5:00 p.m.**

E.M.'s N. Zimmerman, B. LaPoint,  
R. Toscano  
Greeters Mahon family  
Lector R. Quinn  
Servers: J. & K. Bishop  
Usher J. O'Donnell

**Sunday 8:30 a.m.**

E.M.'s C. Bellagamba, K. Roche, B. Urso  
Greeters family  
Lector C. Brandorff  
Servers Olivia McQueen  
Usher J. Klous/T. Sweeney

**Sunday 10:00 a.m.**

E.M.'s E. Portelance, J. & E. Buchheit  
Greeter Portelance family  
Lector L. Ross  
Servers A McBride  
Usher R. Flynn



**Our Lady of the Lakes:**

December 24—4 p.m. Children's Mass  
6 p.m.

December 25—8:30 a.m.  
10:00 a.m.

**St. Francis Xavier:**

December 24—4 p.m.  
6 p.m.  
12 Midnight Mass

December 25—10 a.m.

**Aging Religious Give Thanks!**

"This money is pure gift," writes a religious sister of the support made possible by the Retirement Fund for Religious. "It enables us to continue providing care for our elderly sisters." Your gift to last week's collection helps hundreds of religious communities meet pressing retirement needs while continuing to serve the people of God. Thank you for your generosity!

**Parish Council Meeting**

Sunday, January 13, 2019 at 11:00 a.m.

**Your Help Is Needed!**

All Parish Members are Welcome

Topics for discussion include but are not limited to:

- Where do we see our Parish in the future?
- How do we encourage more participation in our ministries such as: Altar Servers, Greeters, Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers.
- Faith based functions and service at Our Lady of the Lakes and a visible presence in our community.
- Encouraging the youth of our parish to participate in our Parish Council.
- Make our Parish more fun, welcoming and engaging to continue to grow our Stewardship way of life.

## ***Oplatek—Christmas Wafers***

For centuries on Christmas Eve, families in Poland, Lithuania, the Czech and Slav Republics have practiced a beautiful tradition. It is the breaking and sharing of the Oplatek—Christmas Wafer. Oplatek, taken from the Latin word *oblatum* meaning Sacred Bread, has been the symbol of Christianity and Jesus Christ, our Bread of Life.

On the Holiest Night of the year, a festive 12 course meatless meal is prepared for the gathered family and friends. An extra setting is prepared for a beggar (our Lord) who may come to the door, or a poor family (the Holy Family) looking for a place to stay. The host or hostess leads in a special prayer and distributes the oplatek to the participants. Each person breaks off a piece of the other's oplatek and continues until they have exchanged good wishes and blessings with everyone.

Traditionally at midnight, the head of the household takes a pink oplatek and shares it with the animals on his farm or at his home. This custom brings us back to the Holy Night when even animals were able to speak, and remind us that we are all God's creatures.

**A supply of wafers will be available in the atrium of the Church the weekend of December 15/16 & 22/23.**

The Oplatek are being provided this year by the



Next Regular meeting is **tonight, December 16, 2018. Payment for Lock-in is due. Christmas family donations due.**



Thank you to Mike and Margaret Fitzgerald for the gift of their abundant musical talent for our Christmas pageant. Thank you also to Susie Carlone and Nanci Zimmerman for the many ways they helped make the pageant such a wonderful success.

And, of course, thank you to all the children who participated so joyfully in bringing the true spirit of Christmas to life with their singing, acting, narrating and glorious instrumental performances.

May all of you have a blessed Christmas!

## **4 P.M. Christmas Eve Family Mass**

**All children** who attend the 4:00 p.m. Mass are invited to gather at the altar to sing **Silent Night** after Communion along with the choir. The children will sit with their families during the Mass and will be called up to the Altar after Communion.

All musicians who participated in the pageant (and alumni) are invited to join in the instrumental ensemble at the 4:00 p.m. Mass. Musicians please be at the Church at 3:00 p.m. on December 24, and bring your music stands.

## ***Straw for the Crib***



The crib at the Church is ready and waiting for our children (and adults) to fill it with pieces of straw, one piece for every act of kindness we do during the weeks of Advent. The figure of the Christ Child is not placed in the crib until Christmas Eve. By that time, the crib will be full of soft straw as a bed for the Christ Child.



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Acts 16: 30-31  
Ephesians 4: 3-5  
Matthew 7: 7-8  
James 4: 17-18

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