



St. Joseph's Church Wilton

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Ash Wednesday – 5th March

Once again we invite members to be responsible to provide the palms that will be used for the Ash of Ash Wednesday. It is preferable if people have palm branches which were blessed last Palm Sunday, if these could be returned it would help in putting more meaning in the ritual of Ash Wednesday. If not, we would appreciate palm branches which have been withered being brought for the ceremony.

Living with Grief and Loss

The parish is happy to announce that SHEP is hosting a program to provide adults with the opportunity to examine how loss, change or grief has impacted on their lives and provide knowledge, skills, and attitudes to understand and manage these experiences.

The program will commence on **Wednesday 26th February at 7pm to 9.30pm** in the Parish Centre. The program will run until the **23rd April**. There is no charge involved in participating in the program.

Contact on 021-4666180

<https://www.socialandhealth.com/short-courses-in-the-community/>

Post Easter Parish Retreat

Members of the parish are planning a 3 day retreat at Ballyvaloo Retreat Centre, Co Wexford on April 22nd to 25th April. We need to guarantee at least 10 people to attend at the price quoted of €345 for 3 nights, full board and keep. We need to confirm if we are attending pretty soon. Anyone who wishes to join the group should give their name to Sheila or Pauline as soon as possible.

Today's Gospel

Many people have commented on our Gospel today saying that the preaching of Jesus to bless those who curse you and pray for those who mistreat you is very difficult. They also suggest that it would be impossible to run a society on the principle of turning the other cheek or giving your shirt to someone who robbed you of your coat, but that very impossibility tells us that the kingdom of God has not yet been realized in our world.

But the passage concludes with the sobering words: ***“Give and there will be gifts for you ... because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back”.***

Parish Charity for February Irish Pilgrimage Trust

Until the start of Lent (5th March) we will again support the Irish Pilgrimage Trust. The group takes 126 children with additional needs to Lourdes. Nurses and carers pay their own way but an amount of €19,000 needs to be raised to fund the children. **Collection to date €1,033.**

Donations can be placed in the wall boxes at the front of the church.

We are happy to announce that we have sent another €1,000 to Trócaire as another contribution from our parish in support of the people of Gaza. This is the result of the contributions people are making over the past few weeks. Another display of our generosity to people who really need our help.

The Lough Flower and Garden Club

The Lough Flower and Garden Club are happy to welcome folklorist Shane Lehane on Tuesday next **February 25th**, to give a talk on **The Irish Folk Year**. Shane's talk will tell us of customs, traditions, and beliefs in Irish folklore.

Time: **7.30pm**, Venue: SMA Parish Centre, Wilton
Everyone welcome. Visitors €10.



Second-hand Spiritual Books

For a number of months we were blessed as a parish with the sale of second-hand spiritual books at the back of the church. A number of people parted with so many books that allowed the practice to continue for a number of months and from the sale of these books we realized good income for our Parish Charities and I also hope that our parishioners benefited from purchasing some of these books.

The source of these books is drying up and it would be nice if the practice could continue. If people who bought these books, when finished with them, could return them for resale, we could resell these books for other people to benefit from them, and also continue to make funds for our charities. I think this effort was very much in keeping with a priority for our parish. We wish to encourage **Adult Formation** of our members.



SMA Church & Parish Centre, Wilton



smawilton

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O Lord, I trust in your merciful love.
My heart will rejoice in your salvation.
I will sing to the Lord who has been
bountiful with me.

PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus, you raise us to new life:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you forgive us our sins:
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you feed us with your body and
blood: Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
May almighty God have mercy on us.....**Amen.**

THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;

you are seated at the right hand of the
Father, have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,



OPENING PRAYER

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that, always pondering spiritual things,
we may carry out in both word and deed
that which is pleasing to you.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ,.....

✠ LITURGY OF THE WORD ✠

FIRST READING 1 Samuel 26:2 7-9.12-13. 22-23

A reading from the first book of Samuel.

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness
of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men
chosen from Israel to search for David in the
wilderness of Ziph.

So in the dark David and Abishai made their
way towards the force, where they found Saul
asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the
ground beside his head, with Abner and the
troops lying around him.

Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has



SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

It is natural to stand up to people and 'get even' with them. The
message of the gospels runs differently: we must learn to be as
compassionate and forgiving as God our Father is when we turn to
Him for forgiveness.

23rd February 2025



put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin
him to the ground with his own spear. Just one
stroke! I will not need to strike him twice.' David
answered Abishai, 'Do not kill him, for who can
lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and
be without guilt?' David took the spear and the
pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and
they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no
one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep
sleep from the Lord had fallen on them.

David crossed to the other side and halted on
the top of the mountain a long way off; there
was a wide space between them. David then
called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of
the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord
repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty.
Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would
not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.
The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 102:1-4.8.10.12-13

R. The Lord is compassion and love.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. **(R)**
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills, who redeems
your life from the grave, who crowns you with
love and compassion. **(R)**
3. The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our faults. **(R)**
4. As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.
As a father has compassion on his sons,
the Lord has pity on those who fear him. **(R)**

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 15:45-49.

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians.

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became
a living soul; but the last Adam has become a
life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the
soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with
the spirit. The first man, being from the earth,

is earthly by nature; the second man is from
heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on
earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we
in heaven. And we, who have been modelled
on the earthly man, will be modelled on the
heavenly man.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Open our heart, O Lord, to
accept the words of your Son. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Luke 6:27- 38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you
who are listening: Love your enemies, do good
to those who hate you, bless those who curse
you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the
man who slaps you on one cheek, present the
other cheek too; to the man who takes your
cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give
to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for
your property back from the man who robs you.
Treat others as you would like them to treat you.
If you love those who love you, what thanks can
you expect? Even sinners love those who love
them. And if you do good to those who do good
to you, what thanks can you expect? For even
sinners do that much. And if you lend to those
from whom you hope to receive, what thanks
can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to
get back the same amount. Instead, love your
enemies and do good, and lend without any
hope of return. You will have a great reward,
and you will be sons of the Most High, for he
himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.
'Be compassionate as your Father is com-
passionate. Do not judge, and you will not
be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and
you will not be condemned yourselves; grant
pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and
there will be gifts for you: a full measure,
pressed down, shaken together, and running
over, will be poured into your lap; because the
amount you measure out is the amount you will
be given back.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with
the Father; through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,

All bow for following three lines:

and by the Holy Spirit
was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death
and was buried, and rose again on
the third day in accordance with the
Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the
right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver
of life, who proceeds from the Father and the
Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored
and glorified, who has spoken through the
prophets.

I believe in one, holy,
catholic and apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness
of sins and I look forward to the resurrection
of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.



✠ LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST ✠

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

As we celebrate your mysteries, O Lord,
with the observance that is your due, we
humbly ask you, that what we offer to the
honour of your majesty may profit us for
salvation. Through Christ our Lord.

AFTER THE CONSECRATION

Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your
Cross and Resurrection you have set us
free.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

I will recount all your wonders, I will
rejoice in you and be glad, and sing
psalms to your name, O Most High.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that we may
experience the effects of the salvation
which is pledged to us by these mysteries.
Through Christ our Lord.