



St. Joseph's Church Wilton

Telephone: 021- 4341362 Website: www.smawilton.ie email: stjosephschurchwilton@sma.ie



UPDATE ON TWO PARISH CHARITIES.

This is the first time we have had two charity appeals running at the same time. Liberia came upon us following the inspiring visit of Fr. Luigi. We have responded to a wish to support his brother working in Liberia, a fellow SMA priest. To date we have raised **€2,320**.

Our second charity arose out of the donation by a member of a decorative Quilt. We decided to conduct a raffle in support of the people of Gaza. What we have witnessed on our TV's is shocking and credit to our members we have responded generously. From the raffle and from individual donations we have collected so far **€1,915**.

The raffle for the Quilt will take place during our Family Day on Sept. 8th

OUR INTERNATIONAL DAY—*Sunday 8th September*

It is not necessary to extend an invitation to members to attend our International Day (8th Dec from 2.30 to 5.30pm). It takes place in the SMA Grounds behind the church building. Access to the grounds is between the church and the Parish Center.

While there will be plenty of opportunities to taste different food items we are grateful to people who donate cakes for the tea/coffee stand. These can be dropped off at the Parish Centre in the days leading up to the event.

We thank those members who have volunteered to assist on the day. If anyone is uncertain of how they can help please go to the information desk which will be located by the Parish Centre.

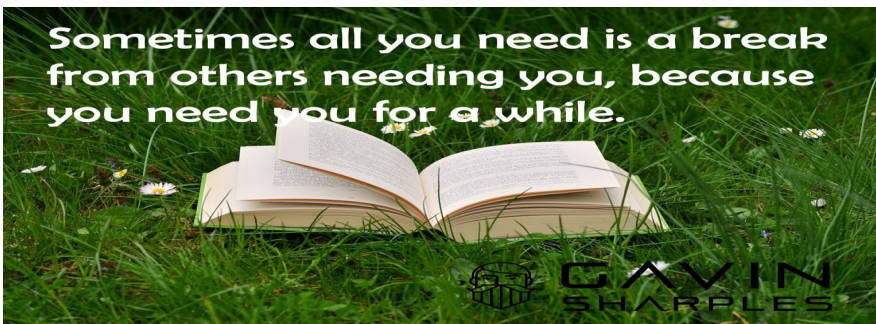


What keeps the soul healthy?

Allowing ourselves to be open to - wonder, mystery, love, nature, beauty, music and the arts, service for others, and awareness of the spirit within.

We have installed a new television in the Room 9, beside the sacristy, which enables parents with young children to view the Mass on weekends. If parents feel their children might be causing a disturbance in the church, we encourage them to make use of this facility.

Sometimes all you need is a break from others needing you, because you need you for a while.



SPIRITUAL BOOKS. We thank those people who are providing us with various spiritual books which we can offer for sale at **€2 per book**. While it provides a good source of income for our Parish Charity it also offers members an opportunity to acquire, at very little cost, material to enrich their spiritual lives. Check them out on the table at the back of the church.

WHO AM I?

In response to the question, "Who am I?" Pope Benedict said on one occasion:

"Each of us is the result of a thought of God. Each of us is willed by God.

Each of us is loved by God. Each of us is necessary to God"

Sometimes we are controlled too much by what other people think about us, say about us, or what we say about ourselves, but what people say about is none of our business. What is important is how God sees you and what he says about you as in the following words of scripture:

"I made you in my own image, and likeness and when I made you, I saw that you were good" (Gen 1:27, 31). *"You are precious in my eyes and I love you"* (Isaiah 43). If you could live out of these two biblical phrases it would make a big difference to your life.

Keep repeating them at odd times until they become part of you.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations into the peace of God's kingdom: Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

You come in word and sacrament to strengthen us in holiness: Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

You will come in glory with salvation for your people: 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, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.



OPENING PRAYER

O God, who cause the minds of the faithful to unite in a single purpose, grant your people to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, amid the uncertainties of this world, our hearts may be fixed on that place where true gladness is found. Through our Lord Jesus Christ.....

✠ LITURGY OF THE WORD ✠

FIRST READING Joshua 24:1-2; 15-18

A reading from the book of Joshua

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God.

Then Joshua said to all the people: 'If you



TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

God gives us the freedom of choice. He forces no one to obey him. He leaves us free. Our world is full of contradictory voices and false prophets. May we not be led astray. Only Jesus can give us eternal life. 25th August 2024

will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord.'

The people answered, 'We have no intention of deserting the Lord and serving other gods! Was it not the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all the peoples through whom we journeyed? We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM P.S. 33:2-3.16-23

R. Taste and see that the Lord is good.

- I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips; in the Lord my soul shall make its boast. The humble shall hear and be glad. (R)
- The Lord turns his face against the wicked to destroy their remembrance from the earth. The Lord turns his eyes to the just and his ears to their appeal. (R)
- They call and the Lord hears and rescues them in all their distress. The Lord is close to the broken-hearted; those whose spirit is crushed he will save. (R)
- Many are the trials of the just man but from them all the Lord will rescue him. He will keep guard over all his bones, not one of his bones shall be broken. (R)
- Evil brings death to the wicked; those who hate the good are doomed. The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants. Those who hide in him shall not be condemned. (R)

SECOND READING Ephesians 5:21-32

(Shorter version only)

A reading from St. Paul's letter to the Ephesians

Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for

her to make her holy. He made her clean by washing her in water with a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies; for a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church, because it is his body - and we are its living parts. For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one body. This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applies to Christ and the Church.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life: you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!

GOSPEL John 6:60-69

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before?'

'It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh has nothing to offer. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.'

'But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, 'This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him.' After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him.

Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we

know that you are the Holy One of God. *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 ✠

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

O Lord, who gained for yourself a people by adoption through the one sacrifice offered once for all, bestow graciously on us, we pray, the gifts of unity and peace in your Church. Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, says the Lord, and I will raise him up on the last day.

