

## St. Joseph's Church Wilton

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#### **Presence**

Connecting with God happens in the present moment. When we're caught up in past regrets or future worries, we're distracted from that connection. Just knowing the importance of presence isn't enough to experience its power—we need to practice it every day.

Treating presence as a spiritual practice means taking action, not just thinking about it. Like prayer or meditation, presence is something you engage in daily. It's about grounding yourself in reality and bringing God into each moment through simple acts (like focusing your breath). Daily practice quiets negative thoughts and builds a deeper spiritual foundation that anchors you through life's ups and downs.

#### **Pleased to Meet You Exhibition**

A new exhibition is on display in Bishopstown Library. "Pleased To Meet You" is an exhibition by artist Marie Bryan of 12 portraits of residents of Cork Simon Community. 2nd - 20th December.

## **Join The Oasis Study**

UCC are looking for volunteers aged 65 and over to join their study on the benefits of vitamin D fortified foods in adults aged 65+. For more information contact Dr Collette O'Neill. Email: oasis@ucc.ie or Phone: 086 811 0792.

## **Wilton Through The Years Exhibition**

Wilton Through The Years is on display now in the SMA Parish Centre. An exhibition by SMA Folklore Project showcasing old photos and memories from Wilton through the years. On display in the coffee dock, December 2nd - 20th.

## Advent Week 2

## "Prepare the way of the Lord"

We all need help and encouragement to leave behind familiar ways which have become destructive. We need help in imagining ourselves differently, and imagining the good effects that will have on others. We have to take time to reflect what kind of person God wants us to be, what God's plan is for us.

In all this we need each other's help and encouragement. To change we need another prodding us on: "Go on you can do it!" We need to call out the best in each other like Paul does with his converts. Paul had to make big changes in his life, and it was the Philippians who gave him encouragement in his big change by accepting him as an apostle of the Lord.

## **Christmas Mass Arrangements 2024**

**Tuesday 24th December: Christmas Eve** 

Mass: 10.30 am and 12 noon Vigil Mass for Christmas: 8.00 pm

Wednesday 25th December: Christmas Day

Masses at 10.30 am and 12 noon No evening Mass on Christmas Day

**Thursday 26th December** 

Mass at 12 noon

## **Volunteers Needed For Bingo**

Looking for a fun, social way to spend your time? Volunteers are needed to assist for 2 hours with bingo on Monday nights in the SMA Parish Centre. If you're interested in volunteering, contact the Mass Office at 021-4341362.

## **Parish Calendar 2025**

Our parish calendar for 2025 is available at the church entrance. The cost of printing is covered from the proceeds from our Pastoral Fund collections taken up in church. Feel free to take a copy.

## **South Parish Christmas Concert**

St Finbarr's South Church are holding a Christmas concert on Sunday 8th September. Featuring: The Cork Garda Choir, Cork Prison Officers Choir, The Wilcollane Singers, The Bravura Quartet. All welcome!

# **Blackrock Road Parish Christmas Concert**

St Joseph's SMA Parish, Blackrock Rd are holding a Christmas concert on Sunday December 8th at 5pm. Admission is free but there will be a collection for Pieta House. The Cork City Male Voice Choir and Passage West Church Choir will be in attendance.



Our monthly charity, Cork City Missing Persons Search and Rescue would like to thank the SMA Knitting for Africa Group for their generous donation to their cause. Well done ladies!

The total amount raised by the parish for CCMPSAR is €2,577.





smawilton

#### **ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

#### GREETING

In the name of the Father ...... Amen. The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

#### PENITENTIAL ACT

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

You bring pardon and peace to the sinner: Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

You bring light to those in darkness: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. May almighty God have mercy...... Amen.

(The Gloria is omitted awaiting its Christmas Proclamation.)

### **OPENING PRAYER**

Almighty and merciful God, may no earthly undertaking hinder those who set out in haste to meet your Son, but may our learning of heavenly wisdom gain us admittance to his company. Who lives and reigns......

#### **★ LITURGY OF THE WORD** ★

## FIRST READING Baruch 5:1-9 A reading from the prophet Baruch.

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head: since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be,

'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness'. Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east: see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them.

Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory. For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the





integrity for escort.

God's coming at Christmas is a time for forgiveness for his people. This is also a call to reconciliation among his people.

> Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

8th December 2024

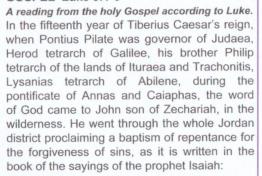
A WAY

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and all mankind shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!





A voice cries in the wilderness:

Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.

Every valley will be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, winding ways will be straightened and rough roads made smooth.

And all mankind shall see the salvation 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

Be pleased, O Lord, with our humble prayers and offerings, and, since we have no merits to plead our cause, come, we pray, to our rescue with the protection of your mercy. Through Christ our Lord.

AFTER THE CONSECRATION When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

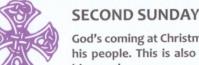
**COMMUNION ANTIPHON** 

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Replenished by the food of spiritual nourishment, we humbly beseech you, O Lord, that, through our partaking in this mystery, you may teach us to judge wisely the things of earth and hold firm to the things of heaven.

Through Christ our Lord.



filling of the valleys to make the ground level

fragrant tree will provide shade for Israel at the

command of God; for God will guide Israel in

joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

R. What marvels the Lord worked for us!

Then was our mouth filled with laughter,

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 125** 

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from

bondage, it seemed like a dream.

2. The heathens themselves said: 'What

marvels the Lord worked for them!'

3. Deliver us. O Lord, from our bondage

4. They go out, they go out, full of tears,

they come back, they come back,

full of song, carrying their sheaves. (R)

SECOND READING Philippians 1:3-6.8-11

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Philippians.

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with

joy, remembering how you have helped

to spread the Good News from the day you

first heard it right up to the present. I am quite

certain that the One who began this good work

in you will see that it is finished when the Day

of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how much

I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves

you. My prayer is that your love for each other

may increase more and more and never stop

improving your knowledge and deepening you

perception so that you can always recognise

what is best. This will help you to become

pure and blameless, and prepare you for the

Those who are sowing in tears

carrying seed for the sowing:

What marvels the Lord worked for us!

on our lips there were songs.

Indeed we were glad.

Indeed we were glad.

as streams in dry land.

will sing when they reap.

so that Israel can walk in safety under the

glory of God. And the forests and every

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