



St. Joseph's Church Wilton

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



The Gospel of Luke

The Gospel of Luke was probably written about AD 85, give or take five or ten years. By traditional attribute, the author was Luke a physician, the fellow worker and travelling companion of Paul. The Gospel begins in Jerusalem and the book of Acts ends in Rome which suggests a sweeping view of the destiny of Christianity. The Gospel indicates that it was written to assure fellow Christians, not as an apologetic. **“So that you may realize what certainty you have of the instruction you have received”**

Let's hope that when we, as a parish, journey with Luke over these next few months, we may become more confident in our faith.

Missionaries and Pastoral Workers Killed in 2024

In 2024, according to data verified by Fides, 13 Catholic “missionaries” were killed worldwide, including eight priests and five lay people. As in recent years, Africa and America are again at the top of this tragic ranking. In detail, in Africa a total of 6 people were killed (2 in Burkina Faso, 1 in Cameroon, 1 in the Democratic Republic of Congo and 2 in South Africa), 5 in the Americas (1 in Colombia, 1 in Ecuador, 1 in Mexico and 1 in Brazil) and 2 in Europe (1 in Poland and 1 in Spain).

The missionaries and pastoral workers killed were not in the public spotlight, but worked to bear witness to their faith in everyday life.

The available information on the lives and circumstances in which these people died violently, gives us a picture of daily life, in contexts often marked by violence, poverty and lack of justice. They were often witnesses and missionaries who selflessly sacrificed their lives to Christ until the end.

Where Can I Find Jesus Today?

“Your holy hearsay is not evidence.

Give me the good news in the present tense.

What happened nineteen hundred years ago

May not have happened.

How am I to know?

So shut your Bibles up and show me how

The Christ you talk about

Is living now.

(Sydney Carter) - A good challenge for us Christians today. How would you answer?

A New Request For Support:

A parishioner has nominated a charity dear to their heart that they have asked the parish to support. The charity is “Self Help AFRICA”. This is a charity under the guidance of **Gorta**. It’s a charity that seeks to help various projects throughout Africa. The SMA is happy to support any initiative that helps the people of Africa.


On the table at the back of the church are leaflets outlining some of these projects.

How you can help: On the table at the back of the Church and in the Parish Centre are plastic bags and on them they indicate the variety of items that you can enclose in the bag and return to the church or Parish Centre. We will see that **Gorta** volunteers come to collect.

Financial donations can be placed in the charity boxes at the front of the church by the altar.

People who wish to continue supporting Gaza can do so in the wall box at the back of the church marked ‘GAZA’. This money will be forwarded to Trócaire in due course.

Advice from a Tree



Stand tall and be proud.	Get rid of dead wood.
Go out on a limb.	Be confident.
Reach for the sky.	Never stop growing.
Adapt to change.	Bend before you break.
Branch out.	Turn over a new leaf.
Stay grounded.	Enjoy the view.
Remember your roots.	
Drink plenty of water.	

Parish Notices

1: BINGO

Bingo takes place every Monday evening in the Parish Centre at 7.50pm. Why not try your luck?

2: ACTIVITIES AND CLASSES IN THE SMA PARISH CENTRE

Classes have resumed in the Parish Centre again for the New Year. A brochure is available with the full list of activities in the reception of the SMA Parish Centre. You may find something of interest.

3: BOOKKEEPER POSITION

We are a very busy centre and we are looking for assistance for a number of hours per week with the preparation of accounts, VAT, income tax, and other statutory tax returns, payroll etc. All work to be done on Excel and Thesaurus. Please email: info@wiltonparishcentre.ie for further details.



SMA Church & Parish Centre, Wilton



smawilton

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour, strength and honour in his holy place.

GREETING

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**

PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus, you healed the sick:

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you forgave sinners:

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you give yourself to heal us and bring us strength:

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy on us...

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

Almighty ever-living God,

direct our actions according to your good
pleasure, that in the name of your beloved
Son, we may abound in good works.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ,.....

✠ LITURGY OF THE WORD ✠

FIRST READING Nehemiah 8: 2-6. 8-10

A reading from the book of Nehemiah

Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, consisting of men, women, and children old enough to understand. This was the first day of the seventh month. On the square before the Water Gate, in the



THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday of the Word of God

26th January 2025

Jesus preached with power that the kingdom of God has come. This kingdom is seen, not in prestige and wealth, but in justice, peace, reconciliation and love. The gospel invites us to share in working for that kingdom.

presence of the men and women, and children old enough to understand, he read from the book from early morning till noon; all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden dais erected for the purpose. In full view of all the people - since he stood higher than all the people - Ezra opened the book; and when he opened it all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people raised their hands and answered 'Amen! Amen!'; then they bowed down and, face to the ground, prostrated themselves before the Lord. And Ezra read from the Law of God, translating and giving the sense, so that the people understood what was read.

Then Nehemiah - His Excellency - and Ezra, priest and scribe (and the Levites who were instructing the people) said to all the people, 'This day is sacred to the Lord your God. Do not be mournful, do not weep.' For the people were all in tears as they listened to the words of the Law.

He then said, 'Go, eat the fat, drink the sweet wine, and send a portion to the man who has nothing prepared ready. For this day is sacred to our Lord. Do not be sad: the joy of the Lord is your stronghold.'

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 18:8-10.15

**R. Your words are spirit, Lord,
and they are life.**

1. The law of the Lord is perfect,
it revives the soul.

The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,
it gives wisdom to the simple. (R)

2. The precepts of the Lord are right,
they gladden the heart.

The command of the Lord is clear,
it gives light to the eyes. (R)

3. The fear of the Lord is holy, abiding for ever.

The decrees of the Lord are truth
and all of them just. (R)

4. May the spoken words of my mouth,

the thoughts of my heart,
win favour in your sight, O Lord,
my rescuer, my rock! (R)

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 12:12-14.27

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians (Shorter form only given.)

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

Nor is the body to be identified with any one of its many parts. Now you together are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! The Lord has sent me to bring the Good News to the poor, to proclaim liberty to the captives. Alleluia!



GOSPEL Luke 1:1-4;4:14-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke Seeing that many others have undertaken to draw up accounts of the events that have taken place among us, exactly as these were handed down to us by those who from the outset were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word, I in my turn, after carefully going over the whole story from the beginning, have decided to write an ordered account for you, Theophilus, so that your Excellency may learn how well founded the teaching is that you have received.

Jesus, with the power of the Spirit in him, returned to Galilee; and his reputation spread throughout the countryside. He taught in their synagogues and everyone praised him.

He came to Nazara, where he had been brought up, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up to read, and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written: The spirit of the Lord has been given

to me, for he has anointed me. He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and to the blind new sight, to set the downtrodden free, to proclaim the Lord's year of favour.

He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to speak to them, 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,**

All bow for following two lines:

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;**

**on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,**

**and is seated at the right hand of God,
the Father almighty;**

**from there he will come to judge
the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic
Church, the communion of saints, the
forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of
the body, and life everlasting. Amen.**

✠ LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST ✠

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept our offerings, O Lord, we pray,
and in sanctifying them grant that they may
profit us for salvation.

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

**Look toward the Lord and be
radiant; let your faces not be abashed.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that, receiving
the grace by which you bring us to new life,
we may always glory in your gift.

Through Christ our Lord.