



St. Joseph's Church Wilton

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



ASH WEDNESDAY PALM LEAF



During our ceremony of Ash Wednesday people were given a palm leaf and a note. The note invited people to take time and reflect on **ONE** personal habit or behavior that they are willing to acknowledge as an obstacle to their spiritual growth. When they have identified a habit that they feel blocks God's grace in their lives they are asked to simply write it on the palm leaf and return it to the church. Palm leaves returned will be burned in the Easter fire at our Easter Vigil.

During Lent one should hold that habit or behavior in prayer. With prayer and personal commitment we might come to Easter to find that we have personally grown spiritually.

God wants you to change, but do you really want to change?

(The Lenten palms were sponsored from funds collected during our second collection – Parish Pastoral needs)

Post Easter Parish Retreat

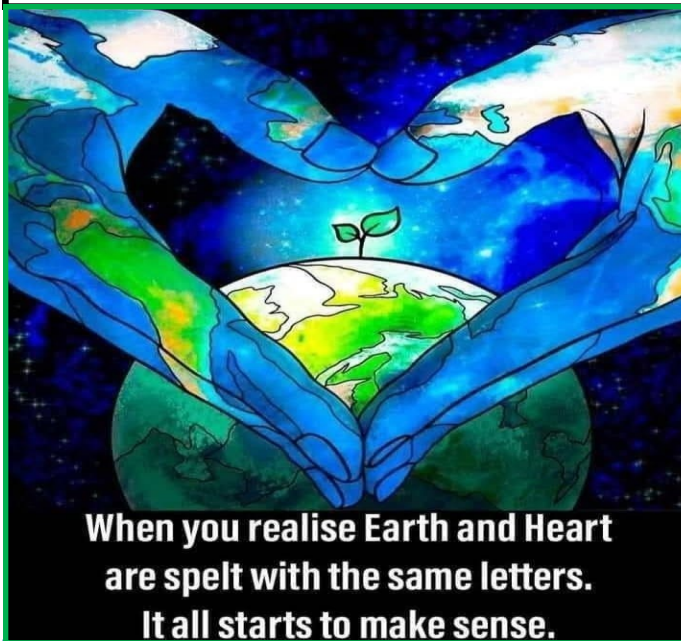
Members of the parish are planning a 3-day retreat at Ballyvaloo Retreat Centre, Co Wexford on **April 22nd to 25th April**. We need to guarantee at least 10 people to attend at the price quoted of €345 for 3 nights, full board and keep. We need to confirm if we are attending pretty soon.

Anyone who wishes to join the group should give their name to Sheila or Pauline as soon as possible. There is still space for at least two people.



Today's Gospel – Our testing!

Jesus lives his life facing real temptations and that is the measure of his humanity. As we enter Lent we ask ourselves how we face those temptations too. When times get rough and we feel hungry and alone, do we still trust in God? When our life seems a vast vacancy, do we still believe in the Father who loves us? Are we willing to risk our necks for the sake of the Gospel, or do we settle for guarding our own security? Do we make our authority felt so that people are degraded, or is it a real service to others?



**When you realise Earth and Heart
are spelt with the same letters.
It all starts to make sense.**

The Matt Talbot Novena begins on Tuesday March 11th at 7.30 pm in the Church of the Way of the Cross, Toghher



SMA Church & Parish Centre, Wilton



smawilton

Our Lenten Family of Churches Pilgrimage

Every year members of the Syro Malabar community undertake a short pilgrimage walk up Corrin Hill near Fermoy. It's a trail marked by the Stations of the Cross and it offers a panoramic view over East Cork. It is not an arduous climb and there will be refreshments at the end. It's an opportunity for the Syro Malabar, Eritrean and our community to connect as we prepare to celebrate Easter. We will solicit names from among our members nearer the date so that we can pool cars. **The date scheduled is Saturday afternoon before Holy Week.**



A recent Donation of €1,000 was presented to Gorta by Father Micheal O' Leary.

Parish Charity for Lent –Trocaire

We have concluded our support for the **Irish Pilgrimage Trust**. An amount of **€1,600** has been collected and a cheque for this amount will be presented to a representative of the group. Again we thank members of the parish for their generous support for a deserving charity.

During the period of Lent we join with all the parishes in Ireland and rally in support of the work of Trocaire. This year funds collected will be used to support projects that address climate issues. People are asked to take a Trocaire envelope which contains a money box which allows for families and friends to join in contributing to our parish support of Trocaire for Lent. Please take one from the back of the church.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

When he calls on me, I will answer him;
I will deliver him and give him glory,
I will grant him length of days.

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.**

OPENING PRAYER

Grant, almighty God, through the yearly observances of holy Lent, that we may grow in understanding of the riches hidden in Christ and by worthy conduct pursue their effects.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son.....

✠ LITURGY OF THE WORD ✠

FIRST READING Deuteronomy 26:4-10

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

Moses said to the people: "The priest shall take the panner from your hand and lay it before the altar of the Lord your God. Then, in the sight of the Lord your God, you must make this pronouncement:

'My father was a wandering Aramaean. He went down into Egypt to find refuge there, few in numbers; but there he became a nation, great, mighty, and strong. The Egyptians ill-treated us, they gave us no peace and inflicted harsh slavery on us. But we called on the Lord, the God of our fathers. The Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, our toil and our oppression; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with mighty hand and out-stretched arm, with great terror, and with signs and wonders. He brought us here and gave us this land, a land where milk and honey flow. Here then I bring the first-fruits of the produce of the soil that you, Lord, have given me.' You must then lay them before the Lord your God, and bow down in the sight of the Lord your God".

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 90:1-2.10-15

R. Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.

1. He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High and abides in the shade of the



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Although we are strongly drawn to follow Jesus, we will experience strong conflicts and temptations to follow "other gospels". If we stay with Jesus in prayer and friendship we can overcome such conflicts.
9th March 2025



Almighty says to the Lord: 'My refuge, my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!' (R)

2. Upon you no evil shall fall no plague approach where you dwell.
For you has he commanded his angels, to keep you in all your ways. (R)
3. They shall bear you upon their hands lest you strike your foot against a stone.
On the lion and the viper you will tread and trample the young lion and the dragon. (R)
4. His love he set on me, so I will rescue him; protect him for he knows my name.
When he calls I shall answer: 'I am with you.'
I will save him in distress and give him glory. (R)

SECOND READING Romans 10: 8-13

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Scripture says: The word, that is the faith we proclaim, is very near to you, it is on your lips and in your heart. If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous; by confessing with your lips you are saved. When scripture says: those who believe in him will have no cause for shame, it makes no distinction between Jew and Greek: all belong to the same Lord who is rich enough, however many ask for his help, for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!**

GOSPEL Luke 4.1-13

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil for forty days.

During that time he ate nothing and at the end he was hungry.

Then the devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf." But Jesus replied, "Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone."

Then leading him to a height, the devil showed him in a moment of time all the kingdoms of the world and said to him, "I will give you all this power and the glory of these kingdoms, for it has been committed to me and I give it to anyone I choose. Worship me, then, and it shall all be yours." But Jesus answered him, "Scripture says:

You must worship the Lord your God and serve him alone."

Then he led him to Jerusalem and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. "If you are the Son of God", he said to him "throw yourself down from here, for scripture says:

He will put his angels in charge of you to guard you, and again: They will hold you up on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone."

But Jesus answered him, "It has been said: You must not put the Lord your God to the test." Having exhausted all these ways of tempting him, the devil left him, to return at the appointed time.

The Gospel of the Lord.

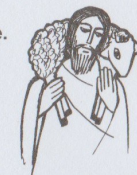
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

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 ✠

Pray brothers and sisters,.....

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

Give us the right dispositions, O Lord, we pray, to make these offerings, for with them we celebrate the beginning of this venerable and sacred time. Through Christ our Lord.

AFTER THE CONSECRATION

The mystery of faith

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Renewed now with heavenly bread, by which faith is nourished, hope increased, and charity strengthened, we pray, O Lord, that we may learn to hunger for Christ, the true and living Bread, and strive to live by every word which proceeds from your mouth. Through Christ our Lord.

