



# St. Joseph's Church Wilton

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## Copy of Responsorial Psalm for the 5th Sunday of Lent 02/04/17

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 129 (R. With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption).**

1. Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord, Lord, hear my voice! O let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleading. (R)
2. If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive? But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you. (R)
3. My soul is waiting for the Lord, I count on his word. My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak. (Let the watchman count on daybreak and Israel on the Lord.) (R)
4. Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption, Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity. (R)

### **THE PRODIGAL MOTHER – she must have been there!!!**

You must know by now I like the story of the Prodigal Son, and I can't help wondering where the mother was in this story. There is no mention of her in the Bible. And yet the story doesn't make complete sense without her. I understand about sons who leave home with great plans, who return when their money is gone. It is easy to understand about a father who welcomes them back, especially sons.

But where was the mother when all this was going on? Was there no womanly influence at all on the home? There mustn't have been, because without her it would explain why the three men had much trouble communicating.

I suspect if the mother had been there, she would have waited for the right moment to talk to her husband. She would have smoothed things out. Then she would have said something like, "I'm very worried about Prodigal. He looks restless lately, and to be quite honest, he is very bored with farm work. If we are not careful, that young man is going to pack up and leave us. Maybe you should have a talk with him and straighten him out."

Another time she would have taken the son aside and told him: "I know he doesn't show it, but father really does love you. He's teaching you everything he can so that you'll be able to stand on your own two feet when he's dead. I know there's more exciting things happening in other places in the world but it's natural that you'd want to get out and go to dances and parties, but if you stick in there, don't leave, and stay closely by, things will work out."

And the other son, the resentful one. The mother would have told him how much she appreciated his good work; she'd have told him how proud both she and her husband were of him. She would have made sure to tell he was getting the farm. She would have made a fuss of him. He'd have loved it and claimed to have hated it.

To every beautiful woman ♥



*Fantastic Lines by Mother Teresa: "If your Eyes are Positive, You will Love the World. But if Your Tongue is Positive, The World will Love you." A woman's love is in action. She looks with her heart and feels with her eyes. A woman is the bank where her family deposits all anger, worries and hurt. A woman is the cement that keeps her family together and her love lasts a lifetime. Send this to every beautiful woman you know.*

### **Parish Sacrament of Reconciliation Tuesday 11th April at 7.30pm**

### **Palm Sunday and Easter**

**Palm Sunday is on Sun 9<sup>th</sup> April and marks the beginning of Holy Week. The ceremony of the blessing and distribution of Palm branches is an important event. This ritual has more meaning if the Palm branches are *our palm branches*. In this regard we ask that people who are in a position to supply the church with palm branches to bring them during the coming weeks.**

The ceremonies of Easter Week involve a lot of rituals and in order to have some understanding of them, and better participate in them, there is on sale in the Mass of Office a pamphlet "**Holy Week & Easter**" (.50c).

**Easter Dues:** Christmas and Easter are opportunities when members are invited to make personal offerings to the church as a gesture of support during these special moments for the church. At the church entrances are Easter envelopes which allow people to make their personal donation. If you have not had an envelope dropped to your house please take one and return it to the Mass Office or place it in the collection basket on Sunday.

**Easter Dues envelopes** are now available for collection in the Sacristy after all weekend Masses and in the Mass Card Office, Monday - Friday. Thanks in advance for all contributions and thanks to the collectors.