



# St. Joseph's Church Wilton

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Mass Times LIVE via the webcam  
Monday - 10am and 5.35 pm  
Saturday: 10 am Vigil Masses: 6 pm  
Sunday: 10.30 and 12 noon

## ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH, S.M.A. WILTON

You are welcome to join with us in all our Easter ceremonies via our Web Camera.

All you have to do to join us is to go to [www.smawilton.ie](http://www.smawilton.ie)

Choose website option and click on the icon "LIVE".

*The following are the times of our services over the Easter period.*

**PALM SUNDAY:** Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April: 6 pm

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April: 10.30 am & 12 noon

**HOLY THURSDAY:** 9<sup>th</sup> April: Mass of the Lord's Supper - 7.00 pm with adoration until 10pm

**GOOD FRIDAY:** 10th April: Tenebrae Service 12 noon, Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Passion 3.00 pm, Stations of the Cross: 7.30 pm. This will be a reflection on the current Coronavirus, followed by quiet reflection in front of the cross till 10 pm.

**HOLY SATURDAY:** 11th April: Easter Vigil 8.00 pm

**EASTER SUNDAY:** 12th April: Mass @ 10.30 am & 12 noon

**EASTER MONDAY:** 13th April: Mass @ 12 noon & 5.35 pm

Stations of the Cross can be viewed by going to the following site.

<https://youtu.be/sr-EjzDPzvQ>

## SUNDAY'S GOSPEL.

**INITIAL OBSERVATIONS** There is a core similarity between the four accounts of the death of Jesus in the New Testament. However, they differ in sequence and in details, allowing various understandings of the cross to unfold. Thus both Mark and Matthew treat the death as tragedy, the tragic outcome of the ministry of Jesus, rejected by his people and abandoned by his followers. Luke, in contrast, treats the death of Jesus as that of a martyr/prophet, on the model of OT prophets, who suffered for their preaching and in anticipation of the death of Stephen in the Acts (by Luke also). In the Fourth Gospel, the portrayal is that of a triumph, which brings together the lifting up, the hour and the glorification of Jesus. Because the death of Jesus was and is such a deeply mysterious and indeed perplexing event, different dimensions are explored and laid bare by different NT writers, the earliest being Paul.

**Thought for the day** Official memorial celebrations are familiar to us, marking wars or national events. Often, these are coloured by a mixture of sadness and gratitude. The Christian memorial of the last week of Jesus' life is entirely different. First of all, we tell the whole story again because he is risen from the dead. Secondly, this memorial is an effective one: as we do this in memory of him, the very same gifts of compassion, forgiveness, love and healing are offered again to all present, precisely because Jesus is risen from the dead. Our Christian memory is not a dead remembering but an effective bringing into the present of the great events that gave us new life in Christ.

## POINTERS FOR PRAYER

*The account of the Passion is a vivid story with a variety of characters and much action. To enter into the passage we can read the story slowly and see if we can identify with different characters in the story. Also any one scene within the story can provide us with much food for reflection and prayer. Keep in mind that one of the aims in reflecting on the passage is to discover the GOOD NEWS the story has for us. Here are just a few general pointers for prayer.*

1. The identity of Jesus is revealed as the Messiah and the Son of God, not with a display of human power, but as one who was prepared to suffer unto death to show us how our God loves us. How does the Passion story speak to you as a revelation of how God loves you?
2. Jesus gives us an example of patient endurance and faithfulness in suffering. Suffering is something we all encounter. It is not something that anyone likes but sometimes we cope with it better than others. What have you found helps you to cope better with suffering?
3. As you read through the narrative of the Passion where do you find yourself resonating with a character in the action? Is there any message there for you that is life-giving?