



St. Joseph's Church Wilton

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Mass Times LIVE via the webcam
Monday - Friday 10am and 5.35 pm
Saturday: 10 am Vigil Mass: 6 pm
Sunday: 9 am, 10.30 am and 12 noon

Let's be kind

Working parents want kids to go back to school because school closures directly impacts them.
Teachers don't want schools to open because covid spreading round their school directly impact them.
Healthcare staff want a full lockdown because sick covid patients directly impacts them.
Business owners want to carry on as normal because lockdown directly impacts them.
People with physical health problems want everyone to stay socially distant because catching covid could kill them.
People with mental health problems want people to spend time with them because isolation could kill them.
Some can't wait for a vaccine because they believe it will bring back some normality.
Some are terrified of a vaccine because they believe it could harm them.
We are all going through this but none of us are going through the same thing.
Some face crippling financial challenges, others face heart break.
We don't all have to agree with what is best because what's best for us won't be best for everyone.
We don't have to understand what others are going through. But we do need to stick together and keep loving each other no matter what the differences.
We need to be mindful that when some thing goes the way we want it to, it could be terrible news to another person.
We need to be kind.

Author unknown

TAX BACK 2021

The Tax Back Scheme has been a great benefit to the parish during these difficult financial times. Parishioners should be grateful to people who sustained their contributions during 2020. Unless people reach the figure of €250 by the end of the year their names cannot be submitted for tax relief. So far this year we have received €11,500 from the scheme.

A number of participants have done well but are shy of the magic figure of €250. If you are a participant and would like to check on your status you can contact the Parish Office or Fr. Michael.

New participants are welcome to join the tax back scheme. All that is required is that a person is paying tax and that they take a box from the back of the church and indicate their name and address against the number on the sheet on the table.

What is the purpose of Ordinary Time? Most Catholics understand the meaning of Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter, but it is easy for Ordinary Time to be misunderstood.

These are the Sundays with numbers for names: Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time, Twenty-seventh Sunday, etc.

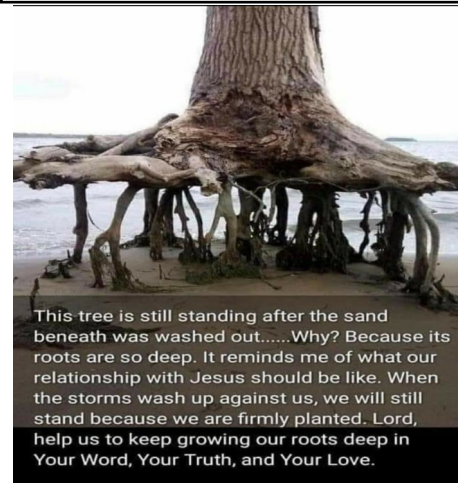
There are **two blocks of Ordinary Time** in the liturgical calendar.

One follows the Christmas cycle (basically from the Baptism of the Lord, which takes the place of the First Sunday of Ordinary Time, until Ash Wednesday).

The other follows the Easter cycle (basically from Pentecost all the way up to Advent of the next year). You can recognise them by their liturgical colour of green worn by the priest in particular.

The readings for these Sundays tend to be semi-continuous readings through certain sections of Scripture, especially through Matthew, **Mark (this year)** and Luke. Large portions of each Gospel are read and you can watch the chapters go by from one Sunday to the next.

Ordinary Time is an opportunity to put the teaching of Jesus in context and follow the thought through to the end. The Old Testament lesson is selected to have the same theme as the gospel reading.



This tree is still standing after the sand beneath was washed out.....Why? Because its roots are so deep. It reminds me of what our relationship with Jesus should be like. When the storms wash up against us, we will still stand because we are firmly planted. Lord, help us to keep growing our roots deep in Your Word, Your Truth, and Your Love.

Christmas Charity

We concluded our Christmas charity in support of- Aid to the church in Need.

We collected €7,000. This is a deserving charity; we support people who do not have the freedom we have to practice their faith as we do.

I would like to thank everyone who supported our effort. What we have achieved is a strong statement by our church. Well done and thank you.

For the period of the lockdown we will support **Bishopstown Meals on Wheels.**
It's a local and deserving charity and an expression that we are part of this local community.

On our website www.smawilton.ie we have a varied selection of material for your use. Mainly, all our Masses/services are livestreamed. Our weekly newsletter is uploaded every Thursday. There is an uploaded video tab located over the live/play button with a wide selection of video clips. These include videos in relation to the work of the SMA Fathers, climate change, mindfulness and lots of other topics. This material can be accessed after clicking on live and then clicking on featured videos.

Another feature which you might appreciate is a piece on reflections and questions in relation to the Sunday Gospel. This can be accessed on the website under the Gospel Readings Tab.

CHURCH DUES.

Thanks to all those who have returned their Christmas Dues.
We thank you for your generosity. Please return envelopes to the Mass Office or Sacristy.