



St. Joseph's Church Wilton

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

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

ADVENT FAMILY PRAYER

Dear God, thank you for giving us these four weeks to prepare to celebrate the birth of your Son.

We are so thankful for all the people that help us along this path we're traveling to welcome Jesus.

God, bless our family and prepare our home and hearts to welcome your Son Jesus Christ, into the world. Amen.



ADVENT AT ST. JOSEPH'S

During the weeks of Advent, we are offering various options to help people use the period of Advent as an opportunity to reflect upon and prepare for the Christmas season.

1. On Monday night 14th December at 7 pm, Ber Mulcahy will conclude her program on *Faith, Hope and Love* via the Web Cam - www.smawilton.ie/live
2. We will also conclude our program of "*Spirituality for the over 60S*" on Wednesday 16th at 7 pm via the Web Cam.
3. Our Christmas Charity is "*Aid the Church in Need*". This charity highlights the plight of persecuted Christians throughout the world. We have supported this cause with Red Wednesday in previous years, but this year we will now support persecuted Christians with our prayers but also with the proceeds of our Christmas collection.
4. **Christmas candles:** We are making available special Christmas candles which we hope each family would purchase and join with the parish in lighting their candle on a special service to be conducted by the parish on the Web Cam on Christmas Eve. We are asking for a donation of at least €5 for each candle, which goes to the Christmas charity.
5. During the Advent period we will have the **rosary at 5.10 pm** on weekdays as a prayer support for persecuted Christians.
6. During Advent it would be hoped that people would **read something** on the meaning of Advent & Christmas. There are a selection of books and pamphlets in the Mass Office for sale.

MASS TIMES IN OUR CHURCH ON CHRISTMAS EVE AND DAY.

It has been decided that the fairest way to accommodate people in compliance with the restricted numbers allowed in church is to ask people to register in advance.

Once the allocated spaces have been taken it will be made clear that no further names can be considered.

As of now all space for Christmas Eve Masses have been allocated. On Christmas Day there is still spaces left for 9 am and 12 noon Masses only.

CHURCH DUES.

The Church Dues envelope is being distributed to homes within the parish. It is hoped that people attending our church who might not have an envelope delivered to their house would take an envelope which can be found attached to our Parish 2021 Parish Calendar in the church.

Monthly Charity

During the month of December, we are supporting Aid to the church in Need. We have to date collected €952. Thank you, this is a great start to our Christmas charity.

A Diocesan Advent

Christmas Carol Service will be streamed from the Cathedral of St. Mary and St. Anne on Sunday 13th December at 7.30pm.

People from throughout the Diocese of Cork and Ross are invited to join in the Carol Service via the Cathedral webcam <https://www.corkcathedral.ie/live-stream/>

Fr. Luigi MACCALLI SMA was kidnapped for two years and was only recently released. The following is a portion of an interview given by Fr. Luigi, the complete interview is available on the Notice Board at the back of the church. It's a piece worth reading as we reflect as a parish on the plight of people being persecuted for their faith.

You were deprived of your loved ones for two years. The situation is, of course, not the same, but what would you say to those who suffer from isolation?

When I arrived in Rome, I was welcomed by my family. The most moving thing was to be able to have this physical contact that I had been deprived of for two years. These two years of "confinement" were an opportunity for me to understand the importance of family, fraternity, friendship and to be able to live it in a physical way, not just from a distance. To those who suffer from isolation, especially during lockdown, I would say that we must hold on, continue to resist in order to exist, not to close ourselves off. Perhaps this experience will allow us to discover other more essential values, such as the importance of personal contact, of meeting others.

We are a relationship, God is family and together we live -- either in this life or in the next.