



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: 10.30 am and 12 noon

T'was a month before Christmas, and all through the town,

People wore masks, that covered their frown.
The frown had begun way back in the Spring,
When a global pandemic changed everything.
They called it corona, but unlike the beer,
It didn't bring good times, it didn't bring cheer.

Contagious and deadly, this virus spread fast,
Like a wildfire that starts when fueled by gas.
Airplanes were grounded, travel was banned.
Borders were closed across air, sea and land.
As the world entered lockdown to flatten the curve,

The economy halted, and folks lost their nerve.
From March to July we rode the first wave,
People stayed home, they tried to behave.
When summer emerged the lockdown was lifted.
But away from caution, many folks drifted.
Now it's November and cases are spiking,
Wave two has arrived, much to our disliking.
Frontline workers, doctors and nurses,
Try to save people, from riding in hearses.

This virus is awful, this COVID-19.
There isn't a cure. There is no vaccine.
It's true that this year has had sadness a plenty,
We'll never forget the year 2020.
And just 'round the corner - the holiday season,
But why be merry? Is there even one reason?
To decorate the house and put up the tree,
When no one will see it, no-one but me.
But outside my window the snow gently falls,
And I think to myself, let's deck the halls!
So, I gather the ribbon, the garland and bows,
As I play those old carols, my happiness grows.
Christmas ain't cancelled and neither is hope.

If we lean on each other

Christmas Mass Schedule

Due to the restrictions of people attending Mass for the Christmas we will have Mass at the following times.

Christmas Eve - Mass at 6 pm and 9 pm

Christmas Day - Mass at 9 am, 10.30 am and 12 noon

Christmas is a time when a lot of people like to attend Mass. Unfortunately, because of the virus we have to be seen to be complying with current restrictions. No one likes to be responsible to implementing these decisions and it's not nice to be turned away from church. So to be fair to all, the best way is to ask people to register in advance so that people can be assured of being admitted to the church at Christmas.

A book is available at the back of the Church so that people can register their names.

If and when the quota is filled, it will be announced in advance at the Masses and in the weekly bulletin.

Christmas Charity and Christmas Eve program

Our Christmas charity is "*Aid to the Church in Need*". It is a charity that aids Christians throughout the world who are being persecuted for their faith.

We will hold a parish program **via the Web Cam at 7.30 pm on Christmas Eve** to show our concern with a ceremony of the lighting our special Aid to the Church in Need Candles.

Family candles are available in the church and we ask for at least a €5 donation to the charity. Families can join with us in the lighting of their own candles in solidarity with the cause. We hope as many people can join with us as a parish display of solidarity.

When you take a candle feel free to place a Red Ribbon on our Christmas Tree.

It's also a nice opportunity to join with other members of your family members who might not be connecting due to social distancing reasons.

Mass at 9 am on Sunday mornings is being reintroduced for the Christmas period, beginning this Sunday 6th December. This is usually one of the quieter Masses.

Covid-19 Support Line for Older People ALONE manage a national support line which is open seven days a week. Tel:0818 222 024 . Time: 8 am - 8 pm.

Christmas Dues

Christmas Dues envelopes are being distributed to homes in the parish. For the many people who attend our church and who do not reside in the parish an envelope can be collected at the back of the church. Our parish calendar for 2021 is attached. The cost of the calendar is paid from income generated from our Parish Pastoral collections on Sundays.