

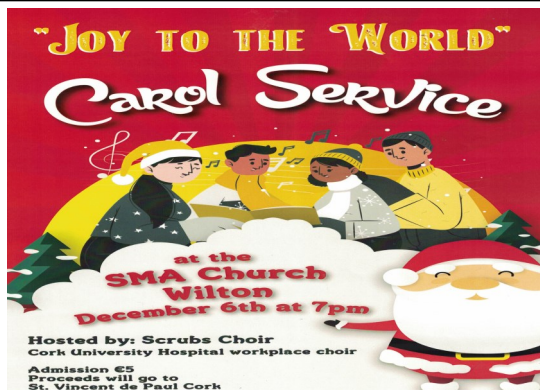


St. Joseph's Church Wilton

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Carol Service - hosted by Scrubs Choir
SMA Church Wilton - Tuesday 6th December 7 pm



THE ADVENT SEASON.

May you find time to slow down this Christmas season, say "no" to the things that distract you from Jesus and say "yes" to the gift that God wants you to experience. Advent is the antithesis of Black Friday.

A new initiative in our parish; we are offering people an alternative to TV! Starting this week on our website (www.smawilton.ie) we will be putting out a one-hour selection of interesting material from 4pm – 5pm and 8pm – 9pm daily. The material will vary from meditations, spiritual music, SMA news, climate programs, material prepared by the parish and other varieties of interesting material. Check it out.

Christmas gifts for children, or grandchildren. When considering gifts for younger people this Christmas why not include a book which might contain the Christmas story. There are a variety of such books for sale in the Mass Office. It is a help in passing on the story of Christmas.

We will never
change the world
by going to church.
We will only
change the world
by being the church.

TAX BACK 2023

Before we begin soliciting names to participate in our Tax Back program for 2023, I would like to thank those who participated in 2022. I would remind all who participated that your names can only be submitted if during the year your contributions exceeded €250. Some members have done well but are falling short of that amount, and they might not be aware of it. It would be a pity if all the effort does not bear fruit, if you are in doubt of your contributions contact the parish office and ask for Theresa, she is the only person who has access to such information. To date we are hoping that the efforts of our members during 2022 will result in the parish receiving the amount of about €14,000.

This money will be greatly appreciated. Our latest Gas bill records a 100% increase on what it was last year, and the winter is not yet upon us. It would be great if our income reflected a similar increase, but it hasn't. The money we get from the Tax Back program is a blessing in these difficult times for our parish. We hope that when we begin soliciting for names for 2023 that all those who are paying Tax could join the program.

A Memorial Mass to remember Fr. Tom Kearney. will take place on Monday, December 5th in the Parish Church at 10 am. His brother and family are attending and would love to meet with you all.

St. Vincent de Paul: The Christmas church door collection will take place on the 10th and 11th December. We are grateful to all who were so generous during the year, and a special thank you to our collectors.

PARISH MONTHLY CHARITY. SPECIAL APPEAL:

Following the recent visit by a group of parishioners to the Holy Land a genuine cause for support came to our attention. Sisters of the Presentation from Zimbabwe work with refugees and asylum seekers.

The plight of the Palestinian people, the Bedouin people, asylum seekers in Israel is a harrowing story.

To date we have collected **€1,1241**. Well done.

You are warmly invited to be part of a 24 hour Rosary Relay on December 8th to celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Our Blessed Lady. Please tick Sheet a the back of Church. .Rosary can be said anywhere that's suitable to you.

Our Parish Calendar for 2023 is now available and can be collected from the back of the church or the Parish Office. A limited number have been printed and paid for out of the Parish Pastoral collections taken up during Weekend Masses. All calendars have a Christmas Dues envelope and Parish Christmas card attached. Please avail of the envelope and use it as your personal Christmas donation to the parish.

Friends of The South Infirmary Victoria University Hospital presents "A Christmas Celebration" which will take place on Sunday, December 11th at 8 pm in St. Finbarr's South Church, Dunbar St. Featuring - The Cork Garda Choir, Cork Prison Officers Choir, The Wilcollane Singers and The Bravura Quartet. Admission free. (Donations on night).

Bishopstown Probus Male Group would welcome new members of retired age. Probus is a combination of professional and business retired members. Meetings are held in Wilton Library at 11 am on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. Please contact **Neil White 085 8202692** or **Dan Murphy 087 7793791** if interested in joining.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O people of Sion, behold,
the Lord will come to save the nations,
and the Lord will make the glory of his
voice heard in the joy of your heart.

GREETING

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**

PENITENTIAL ACT

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit:

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

You bring pardon and peace to the sinner:

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

You bring light to those in darkness:

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy..... **Amen.**

(The Gloria is omitted during Advent)

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty and merciful God, may no earthly
undertaking hinder those who set out in
haste to meet your Son, but may our learning
of heavenly wisdom gain us admittance to his
company. Who lives and reigns with you in
the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever
and ever.

✠ LITURGY OF THE WORD ✠

FIRST READING Isaiah 11: 1 - 10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse,
a scion thrusts from his roots:
on him the spirit of the Lord rests,
a spirit of wisdom and insight,
a spirit of counsel and power,
a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.
(The fear of the Lord is his breath.)
He does not judge by appearances,
he gives no verdict on hearsay,
but judges the wretched with integrity,
and with equity gives a verdict for the poor
of the land.

His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless,
his sentences bring death to the wicked.
Integrity is the loincloth round his waist,
faithfulness the belt about his hips.

The wolf lives with the lamb,
the panther lies down with the kid,
calf and lion cub feed together
with a little boy to lead them.

The cow and the bear make friends their young
lie down together.

The lion eats straw like the ox.

The infant plays over the cobra's hole;



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The message of repentance during this season of
Advent is a call to each one of us to look deeply into
our lives, to renew and deepen our relationship with
God.



into the viper's lair the young child puts his hand.
They do no hurt, no harm, on all my holy
mountain, for the country is filled with the
knowledge of the Lord as the waters swell the
sea.

That day, the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal
to the peoples. It will be sought out by the nations
and its home will be glorious.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps.71:1-2.7-8.12-13.17

**R. In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails.**

1. O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement. **(R)**
2. In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to earth's bounds. **(R)**
3. For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor. **(R)**
4. May his name be blessed for ever
and endure like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,
all nations bless his name. **(R)**

SECOND READING Romans 15:4-9

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans

Everything that was written long ago in the
scriptures was meant to teach us something
about hope from the examples scripture gives of
how people who did not give up were helped by
God. And may he who helps us when we refuse
to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each
other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so
that united in mind and voice you may give glory to
the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to
treat each other in the same friendly way as
Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the
servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that
God could faithfully carry out the promises made to
the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give

glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one
place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans
and sing to your name.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare a way
for the Lord, make his paths
straight, and all mankind shall
see the salvation of God.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL Matthew 3: 1 - 12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he
preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was
his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven
is close at hand'. This was the man the prophet
Isaiah spoke of when he said:

A voice cries in the wilderness:
Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight.

This man John wore a garment made of camel-
hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his
food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem
and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made
their way to him, and as they were baptised by
him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins.
But when he saw a number of Pharisees and
Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them,
'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the
retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant,
produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume
to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our
father," because, I tell you, God can raise children
for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe
is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree
which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down
and, thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for
repentance, but the one who follows me is more
powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his
sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit
and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will
clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into
the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will
never go out."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with
the Father; through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,

All bow for following three lines:
and by the Holy Spirit

was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and
was buried, and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated
at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of
life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and
glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy,
catholic and apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen



PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Be pleased, O Lord, with our humble
prayers and offerings, and, since we have
no merits to plead our cause, come, we
pray, to our rescue with the protection of
your mercy. Through Christ our Lord.

AFTER THE CONSECRATION

The mystery of faith.

**We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and
profess your Resurrection until you
come again.**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the
heights, and behold the joy which comes
to you from God.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Replenished by the food of spiritual
nourishment, we humbly beseech you, O
Lord, that, through our partaking in this
mystery, you may teach us to judge wisely
the things of earth and hold firm to the
things of heaven. Through Christ our Lord.