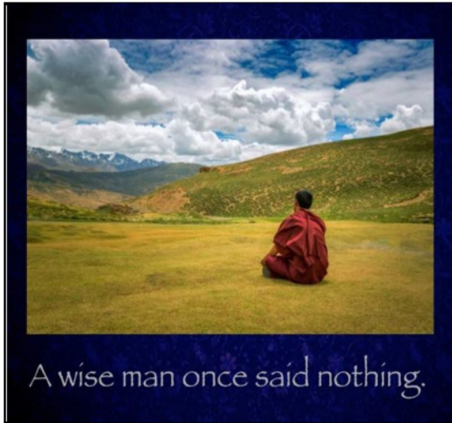




St. Joseph's Church Wilton

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



A wise man once said nothing.

THE STORY OF WILTON PARISH

Paul O 'Flynn has been working with the SMA for some time. Through the medium of the Webcam and video he has enabled us to put together various programs that we have shared on our Webcam. Paul has just completed a very interesting video of the story of Wilton parish.

It is a wonderful reminder of where we have come from as a parish, a reminder of how we coped with Covid, and more importantly a reminder of the many positive achievements that we are able to claim credit for, and be proud of ourselves as a parish. Check it out.

<https://youtu.be/CwG2mwNcPLw> This is also available to view on our website www.smawilton.ie then click on Wilton Parish Story. Enjoy!

The Season of Lent



INVITATION TO JOIN OUR LENTEN PROGRAM.

Lent is an opportunity to grow and to acknowledge our own personal shortcomings. We only recognise our need for God only when we come to accept that we are **not** who we think we are. It's only when we come to see our deficiencies and inadequacies that we kind of begin to feel the need for an extra help or strength to become who we feel we wish to become.



Our Lenten program is an opportunity to join with us and reflect on why we need to put the ash on our foreheads on Ash Wednesday.



On the table at the altar is a handout which is the beginning of the exercise for reflection.

We hope it is self-explanatory and if you take a copy and wish to join in continuing the program you will be asked to return a drawing of "a Boat" which arises out of the content of the material. Place your drawing in the box at the altar – **do not add your name to the drawing.**

TAX BACK 2023

If you are paying tax and are a member of our parish you are eligible to join our TAX BACK program for 2023.

If during a Tax Year your total contribution exceed €250 the church will benefit from your contributions by at least €100. This happens at no cost to yourself, **nor will it influence your tax situation.** **If you can join us, all you must do is take one of the numbered boxes at the back of the church, sign your name against the number of the box on the sheet and your phone number.**

You use the envelopes when making offerings during mass.

LENT AND TROCAIRE

Each Lent the church in Ireland invites all parishes to unite and support the work of Trocaire. Envelopes with money boxes included and an explanation of this year's appeal are available in the church. Also available are envelopes which allow people to make a personal donation to the work of Trocaire. Lent is a time of giving and renewing. Information on Trocaire can be obtained at www.Trocaire.org This year *Somalia* is the focus of their Lenten Campaign.

Fr. Marius O'Reilly will be the celebrant and preacher at the opening Mass of the 2023 Matt Talbot Novena which begins at 7.30 p.m. on Monday next, 27th February in the Way of the Cross Church, Toghther. We ask Matt's intercession to help us carry our crosses whatever they may be.

Donations in support of the people of Ukraine can still be deposited in the box in the wall at the back of the church.

THINK ABOUT IT - Much of what I am now was formed by decisions I made in the past.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

When he calls on me, I will answer him;
I will deliver him and give him glory,
I will grant him length of days.

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 on us..... **Amen.**

OPENING PRAYER

Grant, almighty God, through the yearly observances of holy Lent, that we may grow in understanding of the riches hidden in Christ and by worthy conduct pursue their effects. Through our Lord Jesus Christ,

✠ LITURGY OF THE WORD ✠

FIRST READING Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7

A reading from the Book of Genesis

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being.

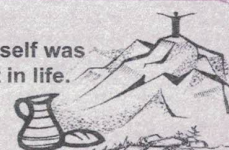
The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden.

The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death".' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



Each day has its own temptations towards evil. Christ himself was tempted away from good and from what he knew was best in life. As the angels looked after him in his temptation, so he and his saints look after us in ours. 26th February 2023



leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 50:3-6.12-14.17

R. Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. In your compassion blot out my offence. O wash me more and more from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin. **(R)**
2. My offences truly I know them; my sin is always before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned; what is evil in your sight I have done. **(R)**
3. A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, nor deprive me of your holy spirit. **(R)**
4. Give me again the joy of your help; with a spirit of fervour sustain me. O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall declare your praise. **(R)**

SECOND READING Romans 5:12-19 (or *5:12.17-19)

A reading from St. Paul's letter to the Romans

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift. The results of the gift also outweigh the results of one man's sin: for after one single fall came judgement with a verdict of condemnation, now after many falls comes grace with its verdict of acquittal. **If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of*

*being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.**
The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!**

GOSPEL Matthew 4:1 - 11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says:

He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these', he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.' Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

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,

Call 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.**

✠ LITURGY OF EUCHARIST ✠

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your
hands for the praise and glory of his
name, for our good and the good of all
his holy Church.**

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Give us the right dispositions, O Lord, we pray, to make these offerings, for with them we celebrate the beginning of this venerable and sacred time. 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

**One does not live on bread alone, but by every
word that comes forth from the mouth of God.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Renewed now with heavenly bread, by which faith is nourished, hope increased, and charity strengthened, we pray, O Lord, that we may learn to hunger for Christ, the true and living Bread, and strive to live by every word which proceeds from your mouth. Through Christ our Lord.