



St. Joseph's Church Wilton

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We celebrate Palm Sunday on the 2nd of April, the ceremony of the Palms is an important ritual marking the beginning of Holy Week. As a gesture of identifying with the Palm branch we invite members to drop off Palm branches before the time.

Four positive examples of how we as a parish are reaching out in support of deserving causes in our world today. Well done to all.

1. 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 allows people to make a personal donation to the work of Trocaire. Or you can donate in the usual charity boxes in front by the altar.

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 year's Lenten Campaign.*

To date we have collected €1,345.

2. Last week we supported the Diocesan appeal to assist the plight of people affected by the recent earthquake in Turkey and Syria. Our collection last Sunday the total amount collected comes to €1,780. We have already forwarded €2,350 to Goal. Total amount collected for the Turkish and Syrian appeal €4,130

3. On the Notice Board at the back of the church is a letter of appreciation from the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem in gratitude for financial support they received from our parish recently.

4. **Message from Poland:** Thank you very much for your assistance and your prayers. Yesterday, on March 16th we received your € 1000 wire transfer, we are very grateful. We wish you happy Saint Patrick's Day. Sincere greetings,
Fr. Paweł Gabryś SMA PP Bursar

An old legend says that God first created birds without wings. Sometime later, God made wings and said to the birds, "Come, take up these burdens and bear them". The birds hesitated at first, but soon obeyed. They tried picking up their wings in their beaks but found them too heavy. Then they tried picking them up with their claws but found them too large. Finally, one of the birds managed to get the wings hoisted onto his shoulder where it was finally possible to carry them.

To the amazement of the birds before long the wings began to grow, and they soon had attached themselves to the bodies of the birds. One of the birds began to flap his wings and others followed his example. Before long, one of the birds took off and began to soar in the air above!

What had once been a heavy burden now became the very thing that enabled the birds to go where they could never go before and at the same time, truly fulfil the destiny of their creation.

The duties and responsibilities you count as burdens today may be part of God's destiny for your life, the means by which your soul is lifted up and prepared for eternity.

On Tuesday of Holy Week (4th April) we will have a parish Penance Service at 7 pm.

Easter dues envelopes and our Easter card with details of the times of services in our church over the Easter period will be delivered to known houses in the parish. If you live within the parish and your name and address is not known to the parish, we would appreciate it if you took time to drop your details into the Parish Office.

At the different entrances to the church Easter dues envelopes with our Easter card inside are available. We ask all active members to collect their envelopes.



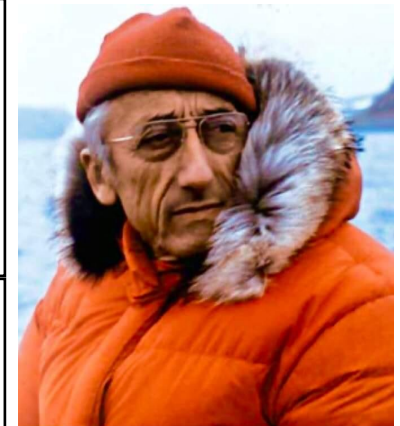
During Lent there will be Stations of the Cross in the church grounds every Friday after the 10 am Mass.

All are welcome to join, gather in the grounds behind the Parish Centre.

Bishopstown Library - Gramophone Recital

Presented by Margaret O Leary, Thursday 30th March at 3 pm. Admission Free.

The "Living Faith" for April, May, June is on sale in the Mass Office. Cost: €1.



For most of history, man has had to fight nature to survive; in this century he is beginning to realize that, in order to survive, he must protect it.
Jacques-Yves Cousteau

THINK ABOUT IT: Learn from others' mistakes. You do not have time to make them all yourself.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus, you came to reconcile us to one another and to the Father:

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

Lord Jesus, you heal the wounds of sin and division:

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

Lord Jesus, you intercede for us with your Father:

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

May almighty God have mercy on us..... Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

By your help, we beseech you, Lord our God, may we walk eagerly in that same charity with which, out of love for the world, your Son handed himself over to death.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ,

✠ LITURGY OF THE WORD ✠

FIRST READING Ezekiel 37: 12 -14

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall settle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this - it is the Lord who speaks.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 129

R. With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

1. Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord, Lord, hear my voice!

O let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleading. (R)

2. If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive?

But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you. (R)

3. My soul is waiting for the Lord,



FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

26th March 2023

The gospel of Jesus is one of hope. In raising someone from death he promises companionship, hope and eternal presence to all his people. This is the message of Christian hope.

I count on his word. My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak. (Let the watchman count on daybreak and Israel on the Lord.) (R)

4. Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption, Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity. (R)

SECOND READING Romans 8: 8 - 11

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

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glorify and praise to you, O Christ! I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; who ever believes in me will never die. Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

GOSPEL John 11:3-7.17.20-27.33-45 (Shorter Form)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

The sisters sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.'

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea'.

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. When Martha



heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that, even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said: 'I am the resurrection and the life. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.

Do you believe this?' 'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.'

Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart,

'Where have you put him?' They said, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus wept; and the Jews said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said:

'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer. I knew indeed that you always hear me, but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me.'

When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.'

Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.*

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth,



and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

All bow for following two lines:

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. 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

Hear us, almighty God, and, having instilled in your servants the teachings of the Christian faith, graciously purify them by the working of this sacrifice. Through Christ our Lord.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right and just

AFTER THE CONSECRATION

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

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word

and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Everyone who lives and believes in me will not die for ever, says the Lord.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We pray, almighty God, that we may always be counted among the members of Christ, in whose Body and Blood we have communion. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.