



St. Joseph's Church Wilton

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



The Gospel of Mark

Mark was a Jew from Jerusalem. He was a friend of Peter and a companion of St. Paul. He was not one of the 12 Apostles, but most likely a disciple. He wrote his Gospel for converts who were not Jews. That is why he explains Jewish words and customs. He is very honest when he speaks about the apostles. He makes no effort to hide their faults. This is especially true when he talks about his friend Peter. In Mark we see God with a human face, God with a human heart.

LENT IS JUST THREE WEEKS WAY

As usual, we are inviting people to bring withered palm branches to be burned to form the Ash for Ash Wednesday (**14th February**). The call to repentance is an individual call and an individual response. However, the invitation to **REPENT** is being done in the presence of the community and with the ash formed from the withered palms of our community. This being so, it might just challenge us to reflect a bit more seriously as a community this year. This year the parish is inviting members to join in a series of Lenten talks on the **Thursdays of Lent at 7.30pm** in the Parish Centre. Each session lasts less than 45 minutes. If we don't do the work of Lent, we come to Easter and nothing will have changed in our lives or in the life of our parish. The talks will revolve around the themes contained in the Lenten Prayer card prepared at the entrance to the church. Please take one as you come and go from the church. As Parish Priest, I am seriously extending this invitation to all parishioners. It's time for those who are concerned about the future of our parish to take ownership of that future and show the need to work and grow together this Lent.

Bishopstown Library Gramophone Circle

First presentation of the New Year
3 pm Thursday, 25th January
Presenter Denis O'Mullane
Admission is free

Wilton Justice Group
Presents
Eco Spirituality for Today
The Vision of Pope Francis
A Talk by
Fr. Diarmuid O'Murchu MSC.
At
Wilton Parish Centre
Wednesday 24th of Jan at 7pm
All Welcome

PARISH CHARITY FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

A request has been received from GROW, which is a community mental health organization. They provide a free support network for anyone who may be struggling with any aspect of their mental and emotional wellbeing. Weekly peer support meetings are held around Cork, including in our own Parish Centre. **To date we have collected €620.** We are forwarding a cheque for the amount of €1,500 to **AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED** as a contribution from the parish in support of the people of Gaza.

There is a new selection of books and religious items on sale in the Mass Office at reasonable prices. Included among them are items for children.

Fr. Michael presenting a cheque for €4,300 to Cork Arc Cancer Support House, the proceeds of our Christmas Charity appeal. Once again, thank you for the effort made by the parish and the children of the Gael Scoil. There is a letter of appreciation from Arc House on the Notice Board at the back of the church.

GUILTY AS CHARGED

"Prisoner at the bar", said the Grand Inquisitor, "you are charged with encouraging people to break the laws, traditions, and customs of our holy religion. How do you plead?"
"Guilty, your honor."
"And with frequenting the company of heretics, prostitutes, public sinners, extortionist tax- collectors, and the colonial conquerors of our nation – in short, the excommunicated. How do you plead?"
"Guilty, your honor."
"Also, with public criticizing and denouncing those who have been placed in authority within the church. How do you plead?"
"Guilty your honor".
"Finally, you are charged with revising, correcting, and calling into question the sacred tenets of our faith. How do you plead?"
"Guilty, your honor".
"What is your name, prisoner?"
"Jesus Christ, your honor."





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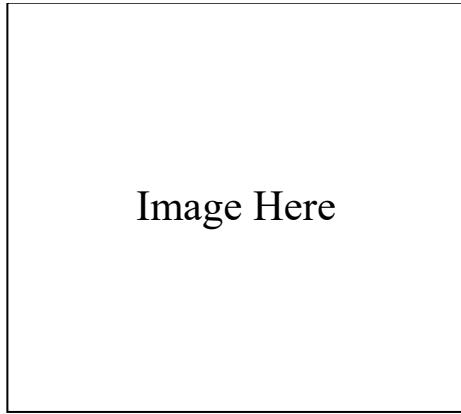
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People come to GROW for a variety of reasons. It can be depression, anxiety, stress, bereavement, relationship problems, isolation or any other mental or emotional challenges that we can encounter in our lives.

People wishing to support this charity can do so by using the boxes in both walls marked at the front of the church.

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A new initiative for the parish is the formation of a group who wish to promote the **First Saturday devotions to our Lady of Fatima**. It consists of the recitation of the rosary prior to the 10 am Mass on the First Saturday of each month and a short meditation on the mysteries after the Mass.

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