



St. Joseph's Church Wilton

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The Gospel of Mark
 Few of us associate the time of Lent with Good News, particularly if that means facing the adversary within and around us. At the beginning of Lent, the Church always takes us into the wilderness with Jesus to face the power that is opposed to the Gospel. The Good News is that we do this with Jesus and in the company of his followers. None of us should have to face the wilderness alone; none of us should be thrown back on our own resources. We are all tempted; we all fail, we all sin. All of us need to hear like Jesus, the voice of the Father that recognizes us as his beloved children. This is the purpose of the call to commit to a pledge of a communal 15 minute pledge to pray silently as a community this Lent.

LET US BE SILENT THAT WE MAY HEAR THE WHISPER OF GOD THIS LENT

Join Fr. Michael in a 15 minute commitment to quiet prayer for the duration of Lent. It would be a nice gesture of communal participation for Lent if the 15 minutes were done in the church, however when not possible, just do it when and where you can. If you are happy to make this commitment just sign your name as a token of support. No need to specify a time when you will honour the commitment. **You can sign your name and pledge to commit yourself to 15 minutes of quiet prayer for Lent on tables in the church.**

DEVELOPING A PERSONAL PRAYER LIFE IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

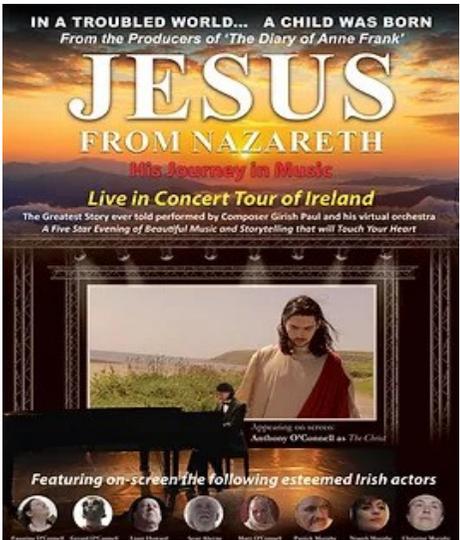
The habit of prayer needs to be developed and the parish offers various opportunities for one to join with others in nurturing their prayer life. There is the daily practice of Adoration, sitting quietly in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Opportunities for this practice are from Monday to Saturday 10.30- 12.30 am and Wednesday 6 to 7 pm. We offer an opportunity to sit in Silent Adoration on Wednesday in the sacristy at 7.30 pm for 30 minutes. On Thursdays after morning Mass a group meets in a room, adjacent to the sacristy to participate in "Lectio Divina" – this is the practice of a period of prayerful reflection of the Gospel for the coming Sunday. All these prayer opportunities are open to all, and all are welcome.

PARISH CHARITY FOR LENT

During Lent we will be supporting Trócaire. Each year our response is very generous. To date we have collected €120. A major source of income for Trócaire is the money box that they make available in their Lenten package. The packages are available in the church, it is an interesting way of encouraging family members or friends to join in the support of Trócaire. My mother had a great saying "if you mind the pennies, the pounds will mind themselves". The Trócaire collection boxes are a great reminder of this saying. Take one and try it out!!

Another way of supporting Trócaire is the sale of spiritual books. This has proved very successful for different charities. If people have any spiritual books they would like to donate for the cause drop them in at the Sacristy or the Mass Office. Don't just put them on the table for sale.

The next meeting and A.G.M. of Cork Regional Pioneer Council will take place on Wednesday 21st February at 8pm in the Wilton Parish Centre.



Composer Girish Paul brings his production of "Jesus from Nazareth" to the Parish Centre on Saturday 23rd March. For more information see www.girishpaul.com

The Mass and Novena Prayers in honour of Matt Talbot will begin on Monday 19th February at 7.30pm in the Way of the Cross Church, Togher and will continue each Monday in Lent.

In this Novena, we pray for individuals and families who are suffering because of addiction, but also for those who are dealing with crosses or challenges of any kind.

The Novena can be viewed online at www.churchservices.tv/togher



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

Lord Jesus, you have shown us the way to
the Father:

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you have given us the
consolation of the truth:

Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd,
leading us into everlasting life:

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive
us our sins and bring us to everlasting life.

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 9:8 - 15*

A reading from the Book of Genesis.

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I
establish my Covenant with you, and with your
descendants after you; also with every living
creature to be found with you, birds, cattle
and every wild beast with you: everything that
came out of the ark, everything that lives on
the earth. I establish my Covenant with you:
no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by
the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood
to destroy the earth again.' God said, 'Here
is the sign of the Covenant I make between
myself and you and every living creature with
you for all generations: I set my bow in the
clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant
between me and the earth. When I gather the
clouds over the earth and the bow appears in
the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between
myself and you and every living creature of
every kind.

And so the waters shall never again become
a flood to destroy all things of flesh".

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

As Jesus was ever faithful to his father's will and to his
vocation to bring the Good News, we too are promised the
strength to resist temptation and be true to our faith.

18th. February 2024

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps. 24)

**R. Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and
love for those who keep your covenant.**

1. Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach
me: for you are God my saviour. (R)
2. Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord. (R)
3. The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor. (R)

SECOND READING *1 Peter 3:18-22*

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died
once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to
God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit
he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went
to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long
ago, when Noah was still building that ark which
saved only a small group of eight people 'by
water', and when God was still waiting patiently,
that these spirits refused to believe. That water
is a type of the baptism which saves you now,
and which is not the washing off of physical
dirt but a pledge made to God from a good
conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus
Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's
right hand, now that he has made the angels of
the Dominations and Powers his subjects.

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 *Mark 1:12-15*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness

and he remained there for forty days, and
was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild
beasts, and the angels looked after him.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into
Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News
from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and
the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent,
and believe the Good News.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

NICENE CREEED

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 our men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
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 THE EUCHARIST ✠

Pray brothers and sisters,

**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

**Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your
Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.**

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.

PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

May bountiful blessing, O Lord, we pray,
come down upon your people,
that hope may grow in tribulation, virtue
be strengthened in temptation, and eternal
redemption be assured.
Through Christ our Lord.

CONCLUDING RITE

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

May the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy
Spirit, come down on you and
remain with you for ever.

Amen.

Go in peace.

Thanks be to God.

