



# St. Joseph's Church Wilton

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## THE EASTER GOSPEL

Mary does not believe, Simon Peter does not believe, only the beloved unnamed disciple (hopefully meaning all of us) sees and believes. Mary is stuck in the past, wanting what was, who she thought Jesus was and content to get her hands on the body of Jesus. Simon Peter is caught in the present, in the grip of his betrayal, his disowning and cursing Jesus the night he was handed over to torture and death.

It is only the "other disciple" who can see, and is open to the impossibilities of who Jesus might be. Are we striving to be like the "other disciple" who sees and begins a new life of light and truth?

### WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

During Lent we extended an invitation to members to consider committing themselves to spending 15 minutes in quiet prayer for the duration of Lent. It was encouraging to see over 100 people indicate their willingness to join in the exercise. The aim of the exercise was a personal commitment but now that we have celebrated Easter it would be nice if people who committed themselves to this exercise could come together and share their experience. Also if enough people had a genuine experience we'd love it if we could benefit from the experience as a parish going forward.

If the exercise was a meaningful experience for people, it would be a shame if we did not reflect upon it and benefit from it as a parish. An initial meeting to reflect upon the exercise is being called for **Wednesday morning after our liturgy in the Parish Centre (3<sup>rd</sup> April)**

### Developing Church Grounds

As the weather improves, it is hoped to develop the grounds around the church. To help in this regard we are asking for people who might have garden tools they no longer use and are happy to part with to donate them to the church. We are looking for garden tools such as rakes, shovels, garden brooms, trowels, etc.

### I WILL NOT DIE AN UNLIVED LIFE

Dawna Markova wrote at the beginning of her book which contains this poem: "I wrote this poem the night my father died with a shrug. His heart was hollow and vacant of dreams. He was convinced he didn't matter."

This poem is a candle that my soul holds out to me, requesting I find a way to remember what it is to live a life with passion, on purpose. There is only enough light to take the journey step by step, but that is all any of us really needs.

I will not die an unlived life  
I will not live in fear  
of falling or catching fire.  
I choose to inhabit my days,  
to allow my living to open me,  
to make me less afraid,  
more accessible,  
to loosen my heart  
until it becomes a wing,  
a torch, a promise.

I choose to risk my significance;  
to live so that which came to me as seed  
goes to the next as blossom  
and that which came to me as blossom,  
goes on as fruit.

--Dawna Markova, From "I Will Not Die an Unlived Life"

### PARISH CHARITY FOR LENT

During Lent we will be supporting Trócaire. To date we have collected €3,685. As Lent comes to an end we ask people who have taken boxes to consider returning them.

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.

### Easter Items in our Mass Office

Easter time is a good time to consider buying a religious item or a spiritual book for a family member or friend. Children especially can be helped by sharing some material on the Easter story. Check out the Mass Office and see what might be helpful at this time of the year.

The Living Faith for April, May and June is now on sale. On sale at €1 per copy.

The Parish Centre will be closed Good Friday, Easter Saturday, Easter Sunday and Easter Monday.

However, the bingo will take place on Easter Monday, April 1st at 7.50pm.

Follow us on social media



## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia. You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia. Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia, alleluia.

## 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, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

## THE GLORIA

**Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.**

**We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**



## OPENING PRAYER

O God, who on this day, through your Only Begotten Son, have conquered death and unlocked for us the path to eternity, grant, we pray, that we who keep the solemnity of the Lord's Resurrection may, through the renewal brought by your Spirit, rise up in the light of life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ,.....

## ✠ LITURGY OF THE WORD ✠

### FIRST READING Acts 10:34. 37-43.

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.*

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God



## EASTER DAY OF THE LORD'S RESURRECTION

A day of hope: of flowers and candles, new colour and new light. A day of smiles and of friendship, new joy and new companionship in Christ. A day of hope for those who suffer and who are sad.  
31st March 2024



had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses - we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead - and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

*The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps.117:

**R. This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad.**

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.

Let the sons of Israel say:

'His love has no end.' (R)

2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed; his right hand raised me up.

I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds. (R)

3. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.

This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. (R)

## SECOND READING Colossians 3: 1-4

*A reading from St. Paul's letter to the Colossians*

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed - and he is your life - you too will be

revealed in all your glory with him.

*The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia! Christ, our passover, has been sacrificed; let us celebrate the feast then, in the Lord. Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL John 20: 1-9

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.*

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said, 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

## RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES

Dear brothers and sisters, through the Paschal Mystery we have been buried with Christ in Baptism, so that we may walk with him in newness of life.

And so, now that our Lenten observance is concluded, let us renew the promises of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and his works and promised to serve God in the holy Catholic Church.

And so I ask you:

P. Do you renounce Satan? **C. I do.**

P. And all his works? **C. I do.**

P. And all his empty show? **C. I do.**

P. Do you believe in God, the Father almighty,

Creator of heaven and earth? **C. I do.**

P. Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, Our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered death and was buried, rose again from the dead and is seated at the right hand of the Father? **C. I do**

P. Do you 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? **C. I do**

P. And may almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and bestowed on us forgiveness of our sins, keep us by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord, for eternal life. **C: Amen.**

*The Priest sprinkles the people with the blessed water, while all sing:*

**Antiphon: I saw water flowing from the Temple, from its right-hand side, alleluia; and all to whom this water came were saved and shall say: Alleluia, alleluia.**

## ✠ 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. Blessed be God for ever.**

## PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Exultant with paschal gladness, O Lord, we offer the sacrifice by which your Church is wondrously reborn and nourished.

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

**Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia; therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Look upon your Church, O God, with unflinching love and favour, so that, renewed by the paschal mysteries, she may come to the glory of the resurrection.

Through Christ our Lord.