



St. Joseph's Church Wilton

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ST JOSEPH'S SMA PARISH WILTON

Centering PRAYER

SAT 28TH JUNE

10.30AM TO 4.00PM

An opportunity for people to experience for themselves a method of prayer that is now becoming very important and popular in our world today

The day will include:

- Video presentations explaining the method of prayer
- Opportunities for silent prayer
- Periods of quiet adoration
- Sit down meal for participants
- Freedom to walk in the quiet of our grounds

Fee: €10 Please register in the Mass Office in advance of the event



TAX BACK PROGRAM

We are grateful to those members who are participating in the Tax Back program for 2025. **Any parishioner paying tax is eligible to participate in the program.** All that is required is a person eligible for tax can contact Fr. Michael and he will provide the person with a box of envelopes which will be used for weekly personal donations to the church. During the year once a person's total donations to church exceeds €250 it will enable the church to redeem from the Government €120, at no cost or embarrassment to the donor.

Anyone who wishes to know more about the program should speak with Fr. Michael.



Parish Charity for May Focus Ireland

This week we begin supporting a local charity – **FOCUS IRELAND**. Our support to date stands at €750. Donations in support of Focus Ireland can be placed in the walls at the front of the church.

Focus Ireland is a non-profit organisation based in Dublin, that provides services for people who are homeless and people at risk of homelessness in Ireland. It was founded by Sister Stanislaus Kennedy in 1985, and is one of the largest housing and homelessness organisations in Ireland. It provides services throughout Ireland. The QR code is a presentation on Focus Ireland Introduced by Cian on behalf of **Focus Ireland**. Click on the QR code to view.



SMA Church & Parish Centre, Wilton



[smawilton](https://www.smawilton.ie)

SUNDAY'S GOSPEL – THE ASCENSION

Forty days, a time of fullness, have elapsed since Easter Sunday. The human mind needed this length of days to allow the idea of the Lord's glorification to germinate like a seed in the ground.

Each of the synoptic gospels gave its own nuance to the Ascension story. Matthew emphasized the promise of the Lord to be with his disciples to the end of time.

Mark emphasized the messianic triumph of Christ when he was taken up to heaven. Luke harks back to the manner of the departure of Elijah who was taken up to heaven in a chariot but whose spirit came to rest on his disciple, Elisha.

Fr. Tim Cullinane SMA has produced another book containing over 200 inspirational short stories. It could be a nice present to give someone who might benefit from such inspirational promptings. The book is on sale for €10 in the Mass Office.

The following is a sample of the book:

Be yourself....

Smith and Jones approached the news vendor. Smith greeted him very courteously but got a most discourteous service in return. Accepting the newspaper, which was shoved rudely in his direction, Smith smiled and wished the newsman a nice day. As the two friends walked away, Jones asked, "Does he always treat you so rudely?"

"Yes, unfortunately, he does," Smith answered. "Are you always that friendly with him?" "I try to be." "Tell me, why, why are you so kind to him when he is rude to you?" "Because I don't want him to decide for me how I'm going to act."

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens? This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven will return as you saw him go, alleluia

PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations into the peace of God's kingdom:

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

You come in word and sacrament to strengthen us in holiness:

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

You will come in glory with salvation for your people:

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

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

THE GLORIA

Glorify 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

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that we, who believe that your Only Begotten Son, our Redeemer, ascended this day to the heavens, may in spirit dwell already in heavenly realms. Who lives and reigns

✠ LITURGY OF THE WORD ✠

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God.



ASCENSION OF THE LORD

(World Communications Day)

The Lord is absent: Even though he has returned to his Father, he is with us. Today's feast is the celebration that he is present both in heaven and on earth.

When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is ' he had said' what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps. 46)

**R. God goes up with shouts of joy;
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.**

1. All peoples, clap your hands,
cry to God with shouts of joy!
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,
great king over all the earth. (R)
2. God goes up with shouts of joy;
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.
Sing praise for God, sing praise,
sing praise to our king, sing praise. (R)
3. God is king of all the earth.
Sing praise with all your skill.
God is king over the nations;
God reigns on his holy throne. (R)

SECOND READING Ephesians 1: 17 - 23

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

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the

1st June 2025



Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia! Go, make
disciples of all the nations;
I am with you always; yes, to
the end of time. Alleluia!**



GOSPEL Luke 24: 46 - 53

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.

'And now I am sending down to you what the Father has promised. Stay in the city then, until you are clothed with the power from on high.'

Then he took them out as far as the outskirts of Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. Now as he blessed them, he withdrew from them and was carried up to heaven. They worshipped him and then went back to Jerusalem full of joy; and they were continually in the Temple praising God.

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,

All 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 THE EUCHARIST ✠

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

We offer sacrifice now in supplication, O Lord, to honour the wondrous Ascension of your Son: grant, we pray, that through this most holy exchange we, too, may rise up to the heavenly realms. 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

**Behold, I am with you always,
even to the end of the age, alleluia.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Almighty ever-living God, who allow those on earth to celebrate divine mysteries, grant, we pray, that Christian hope may draw us onward to where our nature is united with you. Through Christ our Lord.