



St. Joseph's Church Wilton

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It's Not Just in Gaza - Michael Kelly, ACN Ireland

 Church leaders denounced new violent attacks on the last all-Christian town in the West Bank. Extremist settlers entered the Palestinian town of Taybeh, to the east of Ramallah, on 28 July torching cars and spraying hostile graffiti. The Patriarchs and Heads of Churches put out a statement on July 29 expressing their “profound concern” over what they say are recurring incidents. They said: “Several vehicles were set ablaze, and hateful graffiti was sprayed – an unambiguous act of intimidation directed at a peaceful and faithful community rooted in the land of Christ”. Extremists torched the walls of the fifth-century Church of St George on the eastern outskirts of the town, which was also attacked on 7 July by extremist settlers.

They added: “This grievous incident is not an isolated occurrence. It forms part of an alarming pattern of settler violence against West Bank communities, including their homes, sacred spaces and ways of life. Masked individuals – some armed, others on horseback – roamed the streets, spreading terror and threatening the sanctity of daily life. Fire reached the very walls of the ancient church, a living testament to the Christian faith’s enduring presence in the Holy Land.” They added: “We are gravely troubled by the prevailing climate of impunity, which undermines the rule of law and jeopardises peaceful coexistence in the land of the Resurrection. The lack of accountability not only threatens Christian communities but also weakens the moral and legal foundations that uphold peace and justice for all.”

On Monday, 7 July 2025, 10 extremist settlers from nearby settlements intentionally set a fire near the town’s cemetery and the Church of St George. Taybeh’s Roman Catholic parish priest Father Bashar Fawadleh told Catholic charity Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) on 14 July: “We were very surprised when more than ten armed settlers attacked the very holy and important church of St George. They lit a fire beside the church, which dates back to the fifth century, and behind the cemetery. We were shocked, but more than 20 young people rushed with me to the site and managed to extinguish the fire, while they just stood by and watched.” He said there had been growing problems with the extremist settlers in the run up to recent violence and at least 10 Christian families have left since it started.

Sharing Inspirational Videos from Youtube and Social Media

Via a QR code, the parish folklore group will share a short video each week which they feel other people might appreciate. The second contribution can be viewed by scanning the QR code below. Enjoy! And if you wish to pass it on, please do so.



Parish Charity for July & August

We conclude our support for Make Your Mark on Cancer, a charity that raises funds to support the cancer program at the Mercy Hospital, Cork. We are grateful that our members have responded positively to our appeal in support of this charity. **Our support came to €2,150.** For August, we will concentrate our support for the people of Gaza. There is a growing awareness that something shocking has gone on in Gaza and that people are finally waking up to that reality. We should appreciate that we, as a church, have been highlighting this human atrocity. We also acknowledge the generous support for the sticker calling for the stopping of genocide in Gaza.

New Book by Fr Tim Cullinane

Fr. Tim Cullinane SMA has released another interesting book. It is entitled “*The Evening of Life*” and it seeks to address an issue facing most of us; that is to age gracefully. There is a story of a student who approached his master with the question, “Master, what does it mean to be enlightened?” “*It means knowing that you are going to die,*” said the master. “But master, everyone knows they are going to die”. “*Ah, yes, but not everybody lives with that knowledge.*” **The book is on sale in the Mass Office at €8. Other books by Fr. Tim are also on sale there: “STORIES WITH A MESSAGE” and “LISTEN TO MY STORIES”. Both on sale at €10.**

Couples for Christ

Couples for Christ (CFC) is a Catholic organization, recognised by the Vatican, with a mission of renewing and strengthening the Christian family life. This program offers a great opportunity and experience to listen and share God’s messages to everybody. We would appreciate your participation in the Christian Life Program on August 9, 16, 30 and September 13 from 1:00pm to 5:00pm at SMA Parish Community Centre, Wilton, Cork. T12 AX94. Team Couple: Bro. Jub & Sis Shine - 087 138 0322

The Gospel: My Master is Taking His Time Coming

While time and history lasts, the church (WE) has a responsibility for witnessing to the kingdom Jesus at the heart of the human community. This means that the church has to “**Keep watch**” for oppressive forces that stalk the human and Christian communities. We are doing just that with our witness of our support for the people of Gaza.



SMA Church &
Parish Centre, Wilton



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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Look to your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever. Arise, O God, and defend your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

PENITENTIAL ACT

You were sent to heal the contrite of heart: Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.** You came to call sinners: Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.** You are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us: Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.** May almighty God have mercy on us.....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

Almighty ever-living God, whom, taught by the Holy Spirit, we dare to call our Father, bring, we pray, to perfection in our hearts the spirit of adoption as your sons and daughters, that we may merit to enter into the inheritance which you have promised. Through our Lord Jesus Christ.....

✠ LITURGY OF THE WORD ✠

FIRST READING Wisdom 18:6-9

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

That night had been foretold to our ancestors, so that, once they saw what kind of oaths they had put their trust in they would joyfully take courage. This was the expectation of your people, the saving of the virtuous and the ruin of their enemies; for by the same act with which you took vengeance on our foes you made us glorious by calling us to you. The devout children of worthy men offered sacrifice in secret and this divine pact



NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

We are invited to be ready for God always in our lives: his love and his call are present at every moment.

10th August 2025

they struck with one accord: that the saints would share the same blessings and dangers alike; and forthwith they had begun to chant the hymns of the fathers.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 32:1.12.18-20.22

R. Happy are the people the Lord has chosen as his own.

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. They are happy, whose God is the Lord, the people he has chosen as his own. **(R)**
2. The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. **(R)**
3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord. The Lord is our help and our shield. May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you. **(R)**

SECOND READING Hebrews 11:1-2.8-19

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

(Shorter form 11:1-2.8-12)

Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen. It was for faith that our ancestors were commended.

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. By faith he arrived, as a foreigner, in the Promised Land, and lived there as if in a strange country, with Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. They lived there in tents while he looked forward to a city founded, designed and built by God.

It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Stay awake and stand ready, because you do not know the hour when the Son of Man is coming. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Luke 12. 32 - 48

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke. (Shorter form in italics 12:35-40)

**Jesus said to his disciples: * 'There is no need to be afraid, little flock, for it has pleased your Father to give you the kingdom.*

'Sell your possessions and give alms. Get yourselves purses that do not wear out, treasure that will not fail you, in heaven where no thief can reach it and no moth destroy it. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

*''See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy those servants if he finds them ready. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar would come, he would not have let anyone break through the wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'**

Peter said, 'Lord, do you mean this parable for us, or for everyone?' The Lord replied, 'What sort of steward, then, is faithful and wise enough for the master to place him over his household to give them their allowance of food at the proper time? Happy that servant if his master's arrival finds him at this employment. I tell you truly, he will place him over everything he owns.

But as for the servant who says to himself,

'My master is taking his time coming', and sets about beating the menservants and the maids, and eating and drinking and getting drunk, his master will come on a day he does not expect and at an hour he does not know. The master will cut him off and send him to the same fate as the unfaithful.

'The servant who knows what his master wants, but has not even started to carry out those wishes, will receive very many strokes of the lash. The one who did not know, but deserves to be beaten for what he has done, will receive fewer strokes. When a man has had a great deal given him, a

great deal will be demanded of him, when a man has had a great deal given him on trust, even more will be expected of him.'

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

Be pleased, O Lord, to accept the offerings of your Church, for in your mercy you have given them to be offered and by your power you transform them into the mystery of our salvation. Through Christ our Lord.

AFTER THE CONSECRATION

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The bread that I will give, says the Lord, is my flesh for the life of the world.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

May the communion in your Sacrament that we have consumed, save us, O Lord, and confirm us in the light of your truth. Through Christ our Lord.

