



St. Joseph's Church Wilton

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The Gospel.

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle A)

"The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light".

In today's Gospel, Our Lord called Peter, Andrew, James, and John. He was saying He can't do all the work on His own. I need help, I'm asking you! The four mentioned in today's Gospel weren't the only ones who were asked! He's asking us too. When I went into the seminary over 50 years ago, things were different. In the Ireland, of the time, there was no great antagonism to Christian values or to the Church. At the present time in Ireland the social challenge is more acute. To stand up for our faith today, we need courage but we also need conviction.

In former times, because Christianity was so dominant in Ireland, conviction was likely as a "given". Many of us were committed to the one thing, in the absence of anything else. At an intellectual level, for the broad mass of public anyway, there was "no contest". Because so many ideas are competing for attention in modern society, there is a furious contest now. Scepticism, agnosticism or even confusion are more likely to take its place. We need to know our faith if we're going to sustain it. We need to know it in depth, in understanding, in learning. It's no longer good enough to just hold on, but to dig deep, of being prepared to search, explore and equip ourselves for the challenges and opportunities to come.

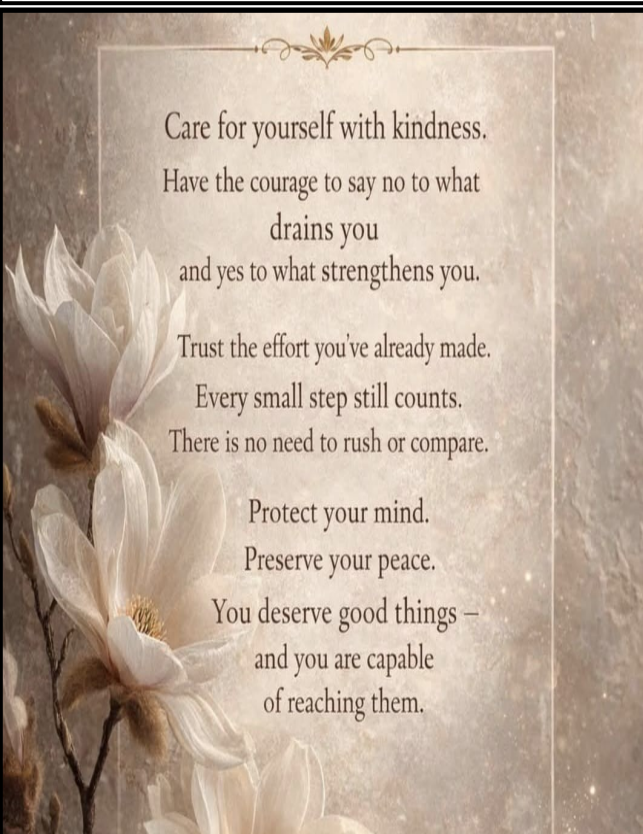
SMA Journal January 2026.

Check out the latest news and stories in the first SMA Journal of 2026. In this edition, we hear from Father Patsy Lynch SMA, about stained glass windows in Ballinskelligs, County Kerry, important SMA and OLA anniversaries occurring this year, the Tanga project from Tanzania and about a new book from Father Deeney SMA. Scan the QR code to view the Journal.



New Parish Initiative for Prayer.

As we are located near to CUH and Bru Columbanus, many people come to our church, in their time of need they come among us and would like to feel that we identify with their prayers. As a way of responding to their need and also to our members who would like to feel that their prayer is also our prayer, a book has been placed in the middle of the church. People are invited to write their particular intention in the book. All intentions included will be remembered at each Mass in the Parish. Also, people are welcome to read the prayer intentions. Taking time to do so just might help to put our own prayer petitions into perspective.



ST JOSEPH'S SMA PARISH WILTON

GOING DEEPER DURING LENT TO BETTER PREPARE FOR EASTER

SAT 7TH FEB

11.00AM TO 4.00PM



Wilton Parish is hosting a day of reflection with Fr. Tom McNamara SMA, who has been hearing confessions in Knock Shrine for the past 6 years.

What has Fr. Tom learnt? What insights, as a priest, has he come upon after listening to all those confessions? Could he help us to go deeper, and better prepare ourselves to experience the coming of the Spirit at Easter?

Join us for a quiet, reflective day, to better prepare us to know what the Ash of Ash Wednesday will mean to us as individuals, and as a community, as we prepare for the Season of Lent.

Please register in the Mass Office in advance of the event

Fee: €20



Parish Charities.

We are inviting people to assist a local charity "Self-help Africa", located on North Main Street. There are clothes bags around the church and in the Parish Centre and we ask people to take one and use them for clothes in good condition, and other nominated items, for resale in their charity shop in the city. Returned bags can be deposited at the back of the church or in the Parish Centre.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O sing a new song to the Lord;
sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his
presence are majesty and splendour,
strength and honour in his holy place.

GREETING

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**

PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus, you raise us to new life:

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

Lord Jesus, you forgive us our sins:

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

Lord Jesus, you feed us with your body and
blood: Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy on us. Amen.

THE GLORIA

Glorify 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,
direct our actions according to your good
pleasure, that in the name of your beloved
Son, we may abound in good works.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ,

✠ LITURGY OF THE WORD ✠

FIRST READING *Isaiah 8: 23 – 9:3*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

In days past the Lord humbled the land of
Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the
days to come he will confer glory on the Way
of the Sea on the far side of Jordan, province
of the nations.

The people that walked in darkness
has seen a great light;

on those who live in a land of deep



THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday of the Word of God 25th January 2026

"The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light".

Christian life is a calling that this may continue to happen in every
age, every place and in every society.



shadow a light has shone.

You have made their gladness greater,

you have made their joy increase;

they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at
harvest time, as men are happy when they are
dividing the spoils.

For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar
across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor,
these you break as on the day of Midian.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps. 26:1.4.13-14*

R. The Lord is my light and my help.

1. The Lord is my light and my help;

whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life;

before whom shall I shrink? **(R)**

2. There is one thing I ask of the Lord,

for this I long, to live in the house of the Lord,
all the days of my life,

to savour the sweetness of the Lord,

to behold his temple. **(R)**

3. I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness

in the land of the living.

Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.

Hope in the Lord! **(R)**

SECOND READING *Corinthians 1:10-13.17*

A reading from 1st letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

I appeal to you, brothers, for the sake of our
Lord Jesus Christ, to make up the differences
between you, and instead of disagreeing
among yourselves, to be united again in your
belief and practice. From what Chloe's people
have been telling me, my dear brothers, it is
clear that there are serious differences among
you. What I mean are all these slogans that you
have, like: 'I am for Paul', 'I am for Apollos', 'I am
for Cephas', 'I am for Christ'. Has Christ been
parcelled out? Was it Paul that was crucified for
you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul?
For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to
preach the Good News, and not to preach that in
the terms of philosophy in which the crucifixion
of Christ cannot be expressed.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus proclaimed the Good
News of the kingdom and cured all kinds of
sickness among the people.**

Alleluia!

GOSPEL *Matthew 4:12-23 (or) <4:12-17*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

► *Hearing that John had been arrested Jesus
went back to Galilee, and leaving Nazareth he
went and settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town
on the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali. In this
way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled:*

Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali!

*Way of the sea on the far side of Jordan, Galilee
of the nations!*

*The people that lived in darkness has seen a
great light; on those who dwell in the land and
shadow of death a light has dawned.*

*From that moment Jesus began his preaching
with the message, 'Repent, for the kingdom of
heaven is close at hand.'* ◀

As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee he saw
two brothers, Simon, who was called Peter, and
his brother Andrew; they were making a cast in
the lake with their net, for they were fishermen.
And he said to them, 'Follow me and I will make
you fishers of men.' And they left their nets at
once and followed him.

Going on from there he saw another pair of
brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother
John; they were in their boat with their father
Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called
them. At once, leaving the boat and their father,
they followed him.

He went round the whole of Galilee
teaching in their synagogues,
proclaiming the Good News of the
kingdom and curing all kinds of
diseases and sickness among the
people.

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

Accept our offerings, O Lord, we pray, and
in sanctifying them grant that they may profit
us for 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

**Look toward the Lord and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that, receiving
the grace by which you bring us to new life,
we may always glory in your gift.

Through Christ our Lord.