



St. Joseph's Church Wilton

Telephone: 021- 4341362 Website: www.smawilton.ie email: stjosephschurchwilton@sma.ie



The Gospel.

Fourth Sunday of Lent (Cycle A): Humans see and judge appearances, but God looks into the heart and there finds the real person.

The readings today offer us the opportunity to reflect on the criteria we use to judge others. Are we unwilling to change our minds? Does our parish look beyond the external appearances and perceive the inner reality? We must be ready to suffer for our choices in life. We might lose status in the community, we might be ostracised. We must choose. Will it be the standards of the world or the power of Christ in Jesus Christ?

The blind man's parents: trying to dodge the issue. Today there are those who decide for Jesus at a great cost to themselves, and those who for various reasons do not believe in him. Perhaps an even larger group would be those who have been baptised and nominally accept Jesus but are not willing to confess to him if it costs anything. In John's view, that is as serious as to deny him.

Supporting Cork Lions Club.

Cork Lions Club have come up with an interesting charity appeal which I think many of us can support at very little cost to ourselves. They are asking people to donate any reading glasses that are no longer needed. They will recycle them for use in Third World countries. If you have glasses which you no longer need, drop them at the Parish Centre, or put them in the basket at the back of the church.



The Train of Life.

Scan the QR code for a short but meaningful video clip presented by Paul O'Flynn on the journey we take through life. Very interesting and meaningful!



CONFESSION FOR LENT.

Priests in the community have offered to be available for confession during Lent.

There will be confession on:

MONDAY WEDNESDAY FRIDAY

4 TO 5 pm: Confession will be heard in the room opposite the Sacristy.

The Lenten confessions for the Family of Parishes will be in the Sacred Heart Parish on **Sun March 29th at 5 pm.**

Lenten Message.

Contemplation is not about going to church, though going to church ought certainly to nourish the contemplative life. Contemplation is about finding the God within, about making sacred space in a heart saturated with advertisements and promotions, and jealousies and ambitions, so that the God whose spirit we breathe can come fully to life in us.

Lent is a time we are encouraged to take stock of our lives. Do I have a prayer life and has it changed and developed over the years, or is it the same mindset I have since I was a child?

St. Joseph's SMA Parish Roof Fundraising.

"Playing the Music you Love".

Featuring the **Cork Light Orchestra:**

Free admission. Donation on the day for the Church Roof and Ceiling Renovation.

**Sunday 19th April 2026, 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm,
St Michael's Church, Blackrock.**

Follow us on social media



A Mother's Day Prayer

Dear Lord,

*Please watch over
and support all mothers
on earth and in heaven . . .*

*and help them to know how much
they are loved and appreciated
on Mother's Day and every day.*

RightQuotes4all.Com

Support For Trócaire.

During Lent, we are joining all churches in Ireland in supporting Trócaire. Our Trócaire contribution to date amounts to **€2,960.**

The method of support is for each family to take a Trócaire envelope which contains a Trócaire money box. People are asked to encourage family members and friends, or even take the Trócaire boxes to your place of work, and encourage work mates to support the cause of Trócaire. At the end of Lent, we ask that these boxes be returned. In addition to this, we will also be happy to receive donations in the regular charity boxes at the front of the church.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.
Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult
and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

PENITENTIAL ACT

Have mercy on us, O Lord.

For we have sinned against you.

Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

And grant us your salvation.

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

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

OPENING PRAYER

O God, who through your Word reconcile the
human race to yourself in a wonderful way,
grant, we pray, that with prompt devotion and
eager faith the Christian people may hasten
toward the solemn celebrations to come.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ,.....

✠ LITURGY OF THE WORD ✠

FIRST READING 1 Samuel 16: 1.6-7.10-13

A reading from the first book of Samuel

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with
oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of
Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king
among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he
caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely
the Lord's anointed one stands there before
him, 'but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no
notice of his appearance or his height for
I have rejected him; God does not see as a
man sees; man looks at appearances but the
Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his
seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to
Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He
then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you
have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the
youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.'
Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we
will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse
had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion,
with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord
said 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At
this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed
him where he stood with his brothers; and the
spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed
with him from that day on.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Psalm 22)



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

(Laetare Sunday)

Without faith we are blind to the ways of God. With the light of
faith we can see the path Jesus laid down for us so that we may
follow him and enjoy the glory of the resurrection when our time
comes.

15th March 2026



**R. The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.**

1. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I
shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. (R)

2. He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.

You are there with your crook and your
staff; with these you give me comfort. (R)

3. You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. (R)

4. Surely goodness and kindness shall
follow me all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. (R)

SECOND READING Ephesians 5: 8-14

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians

You were darkness once, but now you are light
in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects
of the light are seen in complete goodness and
right living and truth. Try to discover what the
Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the
futile works of darkness but exposing them by
contrast. The things which are done in secret
are things that people are ashamed even to
speak of; but anything exposed by the light will
be illuminated and anything illuminated turns
into light. That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of
God! I am the light of the world, says the
Lord; anyone who follows me will have the
light of life. Glory to you,
O Christ, you are the Word of God!

GOSPEL John 9:1.6-9.13-17.34-38 (Shorter form)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had

been blind from birth. He spat on the ground,
made a paste with the spittle, put this over the
eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and
wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means
'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed
himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier
had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man
who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is
the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks
like him'. The man himself said, 'I am the man.'

They brought the man who had been blind to
the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when
Jesus made the paste and opened the man's
eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he
had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on
my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then
some of the Pharisees said 'This man cannot
be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.'
Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs
like this?' And there was disagreement among
them. So they spoke to the blind man again,
'What have you to say about him yourself, now
that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet'
replied the man. 'Are you trying to teach us,' they
replied 'and you a sinner through and through,
since you were born! And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away,
and when he found him he said to him, 'Do
you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man
replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe
in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is
speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe',
and worshipped 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 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

We place before you with joy these offerings,
which bring eternal remedy, O Lord, praying
that we may both faithfully revere them and
present them to you, as is fitting, for the
salvation of all the world.

AFTER THE CONSECRATION.

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

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

**Lord, I am not worthy that you should
enter under my roof, but only say the
word and my soul shall be healed.**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I
washed, I saw and I believed in God.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God, who enlighten everyone who
comes into this world, illuminate our hearts,
we pray, with the splendour of your grace,
that we may always ponder what is worthy
and pleasing to your majesty and love you
in all sincerity. Through Christ our Lord.