



St. Joseph's Church Wilton

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The Gospel.

Fourth Sunday of Easter:

The Gospel for today is about Christ as the Good Shepherd. The idea of the shepherd calling his flock is the basis for choosing this Sunday as Vocations Sunday. Vocations Sunday renews the challenge of Christ to every Christian. Am I following the voice of Christ the shepherd and the values of the gospel? Or is my life a denial of the gospel, or a smug compromise which picks and chooses from any source? A Sunday Christian and a six-day-pagan?

Am I concerned for the future of the Church? Am I prepared to serve?

Support For Trócaire.

During Lent, we joined with all churches in Ireland in supporting Trócaire. Our Trócaire contribution to date amounts to **€11,000**. This is the highest amount we have collected for Trócaire. As priest of our parish, I am proud that we can make such a contribution to a deserving cause. We can talk about decline in church attendance and all, but this really is an important statement by our community. Well done and thanks!

Bargain Books for Charity.

The donation of spiritual books for sale at the back of the church has been a wonderful initiative and various charities have benefited. Our current stock of books has now gone low. We appeal for people who might be happy to recycle some of the books they have purchased. Let's keep the practice going. It's great to see the amount of reading that is going on.

SMA Pilgrimage to Knock.

Our annual pilgrimage to Knock takes place on Saturday 23rd May. Bus departs outside the front door of the church at 8.00am, returning at 10.00pm approx. Bus will stop at Tracy's Hotel, Ennis on outward and return journeys.

COST: €30 (BUS ONLY). Payable at times of booking. Book in the Mass Office.

SMA Journal for April.

Scan the QR code below to access the latest SMA news stories. The April chapter of the SMA Journal opens with a report on repair work in St Joseph's Church, Blackrock Road. Remaining in Blackrock Road Parish, we then see how Parishioners there are helping and supporting an SMA mission far away in the Republic of Benin. Then, from Fr Lee Cahill we hear memories of the SMA presence in Liberia during 14 years of Civil War.



Confession

Going forward, members of the SMA community are willing to be available for confession on Tuesday and Thursday, 4 to 5 pm in the room opposite the sacristy.

Tax Back 2026.

We thank our parishioners who are participating in our Tax Back 2026 program. Reports from the Parish Finance Office are that so far this year, **€10,000 plus** has been received from Revenue based on 2025 contributions, into our parish funds at no expense to anyone, only at the "inconvenience of members" participating in the program. This is only the beginning and there is more to come from 2025. We thank those members who participated.

Cork Slang Exhibition.

In the Parish Centre is a display by the SMA Folklore Project of the many, taken for granted expressions, we Cork people use without thinking. Now I appreciate why Fr. Thierry can so often look bemused by conversations he has to listen to!!



St Finbarr's College, Lagos, Nigeria 70th Anniversary

St Finbarr's College, Lagos, Nigeria are celebrating their 70th Anniversary (1956-2026).

We welcome members of the Alumni Association of St Finbarr's College to Wilton on Sunday 26th April, 2026.

At 11am, they will visit the graveside of their mentor and founder, Rev. Fr Denis J. Slattery SMA, in the adjoining SMA cemetery.

At 12 noon, they will attend the Parish Mass here to pray in thanksgiving for God's blessings and graces throughout the past 70 years.

We offer them a warm Céad Míle Fáilte Romhaibh to the SMA Wilton Parish this weekend.



SMA Church & Parish Centre



smawilton

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus, you have shown us the way to the Father:

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

Lord Jesus, you have given us the consolation of the truth:

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

Lord Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd, leading us into everlasting life:

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, lead us to a share in the joys of heaven, so that the humble flock may reach where the brave Shepherd has gone before. Who lives and reigns with you ...

✠ LITURGY OF THE WORD ✠

FIRST READING Acts 2:14.36-41

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.'

Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

World Day of Prayer for Vocations

26th April 2026

Today we pray for all people who have given their life to serving God and living his Gospel. We pray that many others may follow the Lord in this way.

forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Psalm 22: 1-6)

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



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 1 Peter 2: 20 - 25

A reading from the first letter of St. Peter

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty.

This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was



tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my own sheep and my own know me. Alleluia!

GOSPEL John 10: 1 - 10

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

So Jesus spoke to them again:

'I tell you most solemnly, I am the gate of the sheepfold. All others who have come are thieves and brigands; but the sheep took no notice of them. I am the gate. Anyone who enters through me will be safe: he will go freely in and out and be sure of finding pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.'

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

Grant, we pray, O Lord, that we may always find delight in these paschal mysteries, so that the renewal constantly at work within us may be the cause of our unending joy. Through Christ our Lord.

AFTER THE CONSECRATION

The mystery of faith.

**We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and
profess your Resurrection until you
come again.**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**The Good Shepherd has risen,
who laid down his life for his sheep
and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Look upon your flock, kind Shepherd, and be pleased to settle in eternal pastures the sheep you have redeemed by the Precious Blood of your Son. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.