



St. Joseph's Church Wilton

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Ascension of the Lord.

The image, the light of God, is in the place where we rarely look: in our heart. We are called to believe that God's presence is within us – not as a hiding place. When the light of the Paschal candle goes out, do we find that light nearer home, in our own heart?

Support For SERVE.

During this month, we are soliciting funds on behalf of SERVE. We have supported this organisation before. They are young people who give time to work in Third World countries. There are leaflets around the church explaining the nature of the group and their work. Our support to date for SERVE comes to €2,071. Some of this money is from the sale of books at the back of the church. Scan the QR code and it will give you an understanding of the work of SERVE.



OLA 150 Year Anniversary.

This year is a special year for the SMA Fathers and the Sisters of Apostles (OLA). 2026 is the 150th year anniversary of the foundation of the OLA in 1876, the 170th anniversary of the SMA Foundation in 1856, and linking these two is the 200th anniversary of the birth of Fr. Augustine Planque SMA 1826. The SMA are also acknowledging the fact that our major seminary in Dromantine, is this year celebrating 100 years of its foundation. The current issue of the "African Missionary" recalls all these events and copies are available at the back of the church. Please take a copy, the SMA story is a good story and one that we are proud of!

What is inside you

One day a wealthy man gave a basket of rotten fruit to a poor man.

The poor man left the palace with the basket, emptied its contents, cleaned it, put beautiful flowers in it & returned it to the wealthy man.

The wealthy man asked the poor man why? I gave you a basket of rotten fruit, you brought it back with beautiful flowers?

The man replied:
"Each man gives what's in his heart..."

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, 021 - 4341362.

The Annual Novena to our Lady will be conducted in our church starting Friday 15th May and on following days during the 10am Mass. The Novena will conclude in Knock shrine on the 23rd May.

DID YOU KNOW?

An Post offers **FREE** postage to Care Homes! Until 31 Dec 2026, all cards and letters sent to and from residents of nursing and care homes will be delivered free of charge. To use this service, simply write "FREEPOST" in place of a stamp. An Post will deliver cards, letters and parcels up to 1kg at no cost. Items can be posted at any post office or in mailboxes nationwide.

BISHOPSTOWN LIONS CLUB

Family Fun Evening

Murphy's Farm Playground Area

EIRCODE T12 YV10
May 22nd 4pm-8pm

FREE Admission ALL WELCOME!

ALL DONATIONS WILL BE IN SUPPORT OF
FIELD OF DREAMS
Down Syndrome Cork

City Council Playground
Vex Robots, Lego,
Vintage Car Display, Guided Tours
& biodiversity, Face Painting,
Food Stalls Available.

BY KIND PERMISSION
OF CORK CITY COUNCIL

Roscrea Monastery Retreat.

A group of parishioners will visit Roscrea Monastery, 15th to 18th June, for what could be a final opportunity to visit before it closes. This cost, full board and keep, is €255. There are a few vacancies for people wishing to join. If interested, contact Fr. Michael or Sheila McCarthy.

CHILDREN'S
MARIAN CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, MAY 23RD 2026

10:00 MASS | 10:30-12:30 PARTY | 12:30 MAY CROWNING

St. Joseph's Church & SMA Parish Centre, Wilton, Cork, T12 AX94

JOIN US FOR: GAMES, TRIVIA,
SCAVENGER HUNTS, CRAFTS,
FOOD & MORE!

PLEASE RSVP BY
SCANNING THE QR CODE

*CHILDREN MUST BE SUPERVISED BY A PARENT OR GUARDIAN AT ALL TIMES

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

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

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:



ASCENSION OF THE LORD

(World Communications Day)

17th May 2026

The Lord is absent: that was the first experience of Jesus' followers after his death. But even though he has returned to his Father, he is with us.

for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. 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: 2-3, 6-9)

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

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 2nd letter to the Ephesians

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the 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 Matthew 28:16-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

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 ✠

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

The mystery of faith.

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

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Behold the Lamb of God.....

**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

**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.

