



St. Joseph's Church Wilton

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The Gospel.

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle A).

From this week (the 18th Sunday) until the 24th Sunday, a span of seven weeks, our readings will be from the fourth section of Matthew. Jesus has left the crowds, and his attention is focused on the smaller group of disciples. The more intensive formation which the disciples receive prepares them to be the foundation of the church. And it is the church which will be the powerhouse of the kingdom in the world.

We might use these weeks to reflect on the qualities of being a disciple of Jesus Christ today.

There is wisdom in the Gospel. It could recall a story of the man who prayed in anger to God. "Why do you allow all this hunger, Lord, if you are kind and full of compassion?" When are you going to do something about it? And because his anger in prayer was sincere and full of concern, God answered him: "But I am doing something. Didn't I send you?"

Parish Participation.

The summer months, with people going on holidays etc., highlights the shortage of people who maintain the various ministers for our parish. Readers, Eucharistic ministers and collectors are always in short supply. This time of the year is an opportune time for members to appreciate that the invitation is extended to all parishioners to participate in these ministries for the good of the parish.

BECOMING THE FATHER.

The Parish has produced and made a prayer card available from the proceeds of our PPN Sunday collections. Please take one.

The Prodigal Son Returns.

Why pay so much attention to the sons when it is the father who is in the center of the picture and when it is the father with whom I am to identify? Why talk so much about being like the sons when the real question is: Are you interested in being like the father?

It feels somehow good to be able to say: "The sons are like me." It gives a sense of being understood. But how does it feel to say: "The father is like me?" Do I want to be like the father? Do I want to be not just the one who is being forgiven, but also the one who forgives; not just the one who is being welcomed home, but also the one who welcomes home; not just the one who receives mercy, but the one who offers mercy as well?

Pro-Life News

24th July 2026

5 days to recover but not 3 days to consider?
The contradiction of paid leave for abortion

We're now being told by the Irish government that abortion is upsetting — so upsetting, in fact, that you are entitled to **five days paid leave from work** to recover.

But the **same people** are telling us they want to scrap the waiting period of three days to consider and reflect before making the decision. That makes no sense.

Urban Bulldogs Against Kids Abuse.

Urban Bulldogs Against Kids Abuse is a biker organization who advocate against child abuse. They support kids who have been sexually, physically, and psychologically abused. They will join us on our **Parish Fun Day on September 13th** in the church grounds. More details on the group can be found on the charity boxes in the church.

We begin our support for the Group with **€300** collected from the sale of books and CDs at the back of the church. We will collect for the group until the Fun Day.



No one in this
world is pure and
perfect. If you avoid
people for their
mistakes, you will
be alone in this
world. So judge
less and love more.



UsefulGen



SMA Church &
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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O God, come to my assistance; O Lord, make haste to help me! You are my rescuer, my help; O Lord, do not delay.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And with your spirit.**

PENITENTIAL ACT

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit:

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

You bring pardon and peace to the sinner:

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

You bring light to those in darkness:

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

May almighty God have mercy..... 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

Draw near to your servants, O Lord, and answer their prayers with unceasing kindness, that, for those who glory in you as their Creator and guide, you may restore what you have created and keep safe what you have restored.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ

✠ LITURGY OF THE WORD ✠

FIRST READING Isaiah 55:1-3

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord:

Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty;
though you have no money, come!

Buy corn without money, and eat,

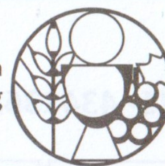
and, at no cost, wine and milk.

Why spend money on what is not bread,



EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The gift of Jesus is different to material wealth; It is more than that. He Promises meaning to life, hope, love that is everlasting
He promises himself in friendship to us. 2nd August 2026



your wages on what fails to satisfy?

Listen, listen to me and you will have good things to eat and rich food to enjoy.

Pay attention, come to me;

listen, and your soul will live.

With you I will make an everlasting covenant out of the favours promised to David.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 144

**R. You open wide your hand, O Lord,
you grant our desires.**

1. The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. (R)

2. The eyes of all creatures look to you
and you give them their food in due time.
You open wide your hand,
grant the desires of all who live. (R)

3. The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
call on him from their hearts. (R)

SECOND READING Romans 8:35. 37 - 39

A reading from St. Paul's letter to the Romans

Nothing can come between us and the love of Christ, even if we are troubled or worried, or being persecuted, or lacking food or clothes, or being threatened or even attacked. These are the trials through which we triumph, by the power of him who loved us.

For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, not any power, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Man does not live on bread
alone, but on every word that
comes from the mouth of
God. Alleluia.**



GOSPEL Matthew 14: 13 - 21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

When Jesus received the news of John the Baptist's death he withdrew by boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But the people heard of this and, leaving the towns, went after him on foot. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them and healed their sick.

When evening came, the disciples went to him and said, 'This is a lonely place, and the time has slipped by; so send the people away, and they can go to the villages to buy themselves some food.' Jesus replied, 'There is no need for them to go: give them something to eat yourselves.' But they answered, 'All we have with us is five loaves and two fish.' 'Bring them here to me,' he said. He gave orders that the people were to sit down on the grass; then he took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven and said the blessing. And breaking the loaves he handed them to his disciples who gave them to the crowds. They all ate as much as they wanted, and they collected the scraps remaining twelve baskets full. Those who ate numbered about five thousand men, to say nothing of women and children.

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 ✠

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

Graciously sanctify these gifts, O Lord, we pray, and, accepting the oblation of this spiritual sacrifice, make of us an eternal offering to you. 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

**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

**You have given us, O Lord, bread from
heaven, endowed with all delights and
sweetness in every taste.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Accompany with constant protection,
O Lord,
those you renew with these heavenly gifts
and, in your never-failing care for them,
make them worthy of eternal redemption.
Through Christ our Lord.

CONCLUDING RITE

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

And may the blessing of almighty God, the
Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,
come down on you and remain with you for
ever. Amen.

Go in peace. **Thanks be to God**