



St. Joseph's Church Wilton

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The Gospel

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle A).

There may be dandelion in the wheat-field; the mustard seed may look small, and the yeast may be hidden; but the good news is that the kingdom is among us and is growing and advancing. Would that our faith have the eyes to see and the ears to hear the power of God working among us.

The church is a mysterious mixture of divine and human, of grace and free will, of divine seed and human soil. Nobody has the right to expect perfect wheat, a church of total perfection. Every member of the church on earth harbours the roots of seven varieties of dandelion – pride, greed, lust, envy, anger, gluttony, and sloth. Unfortunately, there may be more weeds than wheat to be seen in a particular field of the church. It is no harm to admit this truth, but it's also important to try to see the wheat rather than the weeds in any church community.

You are not a machine. You're a soul who needs music, connection, sunsets, laughter, and small pockets of joy. Prioritize them like your life depends on it—because it does. Life isn't meant to be a cycle of stress and survival. Pause. Look up. Let the sunset remind you: you're here to live, not just to hustle. Life is not a to-do list. It's a gift. Walk slower. Hug longer. Laugh louder. Love deeper. The clock may be ticking, but your presence is timeless. We've been conditioned to believe that constant productivity equals worth, but humans weren't designed for endless output. We need moments of wonder, connection, and rest—not as rewards for hard work, but as essential ingredients for a meaningful life.

Parish Monthly Charity

We conclude our support for a Cork Sister of the Little Sisters of Assumption, who in her youth worked in South America and supported various charities there. The Rev. Sister, now in retirement, still has a desire to help these struggling charities and is reaching out for our support.

We have collected **€3,300**. This amount includes money from the sale of books and CDs at the back of the church. There are leaflets around the church giving some idea of the various charities being supported.

Safeguarding the Human Person in the Time of Artificial Intelligence

Copies of Pope Leo's recent encyclical on *Safeguarding the Human Person in the Time of Artificial Intelligence* are on sale in the Mass Office. Price €8.

Piece Taken from Books on Sale at the Back of the Church

The books are €2 each and the proceeds go to our current parish charity.

HOW TO RENEW OUR CHURCH TODAY?

We need to deepen our spiritual and intellectual dimensions of our faith. At the same time, we must try and educate believers away from a narrow and private version of faith and towards awareness and service of justice. The struggle for faith has changed its ground significantly in the years since the Council – from being thought of primarily in doctrinal and institutional terms as a countering of atheism. Faced with this situation, it is imperative that faith be a conviction rather than a convention, **that the crucial decision of faith be rooted in a person's experience.**

Parish Newsletter

For most parishes, the weekly newsletter is an important tool of communication. It contains the notices for the coming week and keeps people in the loop about what is going on. Many parishes print these notices on one side of a page with the Sunday readings printed on the reverse side. Therefore, the Word of God is taken by the people into their homes, where it can be pondered again throughout the day and even seen by other family members who did not, for whatever reason, come to Mass.

The parish newsletter is also a powerful symbol of mission and outreach. By giving one to the sick, the housebound, and those in nursing homes, we are keeping them connected to the faith community and reminding them that they have not been forgotten.

Fr. Michael surrounded by members of the Filipino community of the "Couples for Christ" movement who came to our parish for a weekend retreat. People came from all over Ireland, England and America. It was an enriching experience for our parish.



For more pictures, check out our Facebook "SMA Church & Parish Centre" or Instagram "smawilton."



SMA Church & Parish Centre

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

See, I have God for my help. The Lord sustains my soul. I will sacrifice to you with willing heart, and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

PENITENTIAL ACT

You were sent to heal the contrite of heart: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

You came to call sinners:

Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us:

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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

Show favour, O Lord, to your servants and mercifully increase the gifts of your grace, that, made fervent in hope, faith and charity, they may be ever watchful in keeping your commands. Through our Lord

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Wisdom 12: 13. 16 - 19

A reading from the book of Wisdom

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything, to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly.

Your justice has its source in strength, your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all. You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned and you expose the insolence of those who know it; but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, you govern us with great



SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

God knows the good and evil in a person's heart and accepts both in us. He knows our struggles over evil and he heals and forgives the wrong-doing in our lives.

19th July 2026



lenience, for you have only to will, and your power is there.

By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, and you have given your sons the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 85

R. O Lord, you are good and forgiving.

1. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of love to all who call.
Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer and attend to the sound of my voice. (R)

2. All the nations shall come to adore you and glorify your name, O Lord:
for you are great and do marvellous deeds, you who alone are God. (R)

3. But you, God of mercy and compassion, slow to anger, O Lord, abounding in love and truth, turn and take pity on me. (R)

SECOND READING Romans 8: 26-27

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

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 13: 24 - 43 (Shorter Form *13: 24 - 30)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*Jesus put a parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While

everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, 'Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?' 'Some enemy has done this' he answered. And the servants said, 'Do you want us to go and weed it out?' But he said, 'No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn.'*

He put another parable before them, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.'

He told them another parable, 'The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through.'

In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfill the prophecy: I will speak to you in parables and expound things hidden since the foundation of the world.

Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, 'Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.' He said in reply, 'The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom

of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

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.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

O God, who in the one perfect sacrifice brought to completion varied offerings of the law, accept, we pray, this sacrifice from your faithful servants and make it holy, as you blessed the gifts of Abel, so that what each has offered to the honour of your majesty may benefit the salvation of all. Through Christ our Lord.

AFTER THE CONSECRATION

The mystery of faith.

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

