



St. Joseph's Church Wilton

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The Gospel

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle A).

The parables of the treasure in the field and the pearl of great price are similar. Both suggest the kingdom of God is present though unperceived.

Only the very shrewd discover it. When they do discover it, they sacrifice everything to possess it.



The treasure we find is really a gift that is given. We need not work to attain the kingdom, nor can we earn it in any way. It is given to us by God; all we have to do is accept it. In a sense, the kingdom of God is ours for the asking.

Unfortunately, we do not always recognize its value, and we do not ask for it.



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.

Getting More from the Sunday Readings

Each week the parish provides a reflection on the Sunday Gospel. We have now introduced a new format which includes a reflection that could help parents to reflect on the gospel with the family.

Copies are in the middle of the church. Please take one home.

Parish Monthly Charity

The picture shows Sr. Bridie receiving the cheque of €3,300 on behalf of her community's charities in South America. She was extremely grateful for our support. This weekend we are responding to another charity which we will support up to early September.



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.

REFLECTIONS ON TODAY'S GOSPEL.

- Can the community make it harder for the individual to sell all?
- Why does the disciple have to sell everything?
- The treasure was found in the subsoil of the man's daily work. Where can Jesus be found today?
- God's kingdom is exemplified in the gospel as a pure gift. What is your reaction to this gift?

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.

Confession During the Summer

Priests in the community will be available for confession during the summer period on Friday's only.

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

When you cannot change
what life puts in front of you,
change the way you look at it.
Sometimes, the situation
is not stealing your peace.
Your response to it is.



SMA Church &
Parish Centre

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

God is in his holy place, God who unites those who dwell in his house; he himself gives might and strength to his people.

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..... 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

O God, protector of those who hope in you, without whom nothing has firm foundation, nothing is holy, bestow in abundance your mercy upon us and grant that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may use the good things that pass in such a way as to hold fast even now to those that ever endure.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING 1 Kings 3: 5.7-12

A reading from the 1st book of the Kings

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant



SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly

We choose good or evil often in our lives. To follow something good, we reject paths which are less good. Following Christ means saying 'No' to other riches.

26th July 2026



finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned.

Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great? It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you'.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 118

R. Lord how I love your law!

1. My part, I have resolved, O Lord, is to obey your word.
The law from your mouth means more to me than silver and gold. (R)
2. Let your love be ready to console me by your promise to your servant.
Let your love come to me and I shall live for your law is my delight. (R)
3. That is why I love your commands more than finest gold.
That is why I rule my life by your precepts: I hate false ways. (R)
4. Your will is wonderful indeed; therefore I obey it.
The unfolding of your word gives light and teaches the simple. (R)

SECOND READING Romans 8: 28 - 30

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

We know that by turning everything to their good God co operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 13: 44-52 (Shorter form 44-46)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

'Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.'

'Again the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

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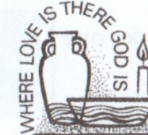
I believe in one God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with 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

Accept, O Lord, we pray, the offerings which we bring from the abundance of your gifts, that through the powerful working of your grace these most sacred mysteries may sanctify our present way of life and lead us to eternal gladness. 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.

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

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all his benefits.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We have consumed, O Lord, this divine Sacrament, the perpetual memorial of the Passion of your Son; grant, we pray, that this gift, which he himself gave us with love beyond all telling, may profit us for salvation. Through Christ our Lord.