CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT: LEIGH AVENUE, MARPLE: 4th / 5th JULY 2020

Newsletter:

Saturday 4th July: ***Vigil Mass: 4pm. Int: Parishioners. / Vigil Mass: 6pm. Int: Beryl Lilford – Recently Deceased.*** ***Silver Wedding of:*** *Eric & Renata Broda. (July 1st 2020)*

Sunday 5th July: ***Mass: 9am. Int: Parishioners.***

Wednesday 8th July: ***Mass: 10am. Int: Eunice Nield. (Fr. Bill will hear Confessions immediately after the 10am. Mass in the Parish Meeting Room)***

Firstly, Fr. Bill would like to extend a warm welcome to all Parishioners, Friends of Holy Spirit, and Visitors who are able to be present this weekend for Phase Two of our Church reopening, the celebration of "Public Mass" It has been fifteen weeks since our last coming together to celebrate Sunday Mass,and everyone has felt the pain of being seperated from the "Holy Eucharist" We have as a Parish Community been spared the real horrors of the Covid 19 Pandemic, I do not know of anybody in our Parish who has died from the Virus. As we reassemble once more as the Catholic Community in this place, to celebrate the "Eucharist" we are challenged to maintain through our "Social Distancing" and the wearing of MASKS our own Personal Safety and the safety of other Parishioners / Friends / Visitors who are worshipping alongsise us. The Holy Spirit "Finance & Management Team" has put an enormous amount of time, and effort into the preparations for this two stage re-opening of Holy Spirit. During the past two weeks "Holy Spirit" opened its doors on seven occasions for Private Prayer as well as Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and seventy five people made personal visits during this period, all the details of this initial reopening were detailed by "Public Health England" and endorsed by the "Trustees of Shrewsbury Diocese." Thankfully it has gone well, and we now find ourselves at the Crowning moment of Phase Two "The Celebration of the Holy Eucharist" Fr. Bill is conscious that a number of individuals and families are shielding and would like to send them greetings, and to reassure them, that they are not forgotten and are being remembered in our Masses this weekend.We could do with some more ***Stewards for each of the Masses, so if you are in a position to volunteer speak with Robert Moss, who will give you all the information you require on Stewarding. Holy Spirit, Marple and St. Bernadette`s at ..... Brinnington*** *will be among the* ***Forty of the Hundred and Seventeen Churches in the Diocese of Shrewsbury re-opening this weekend,*** *so we say thank you to everyone who has made this possible.*

Money Matters:

Catholic Churches like many small and large businesses, have suffered a marked downturn with regard to income, since the lockdown which began on March 21st . The Diocese is thankful to all who have continued to support the Parish by "Standing "Order" those who sent "Cheques" / Envelopes or used the one/off "Donation Page" *The* ***Parish*** *will now very much welcome* ***Parishioners and Friends of the Parish*** *catching up on their regular donations, which many have not been able to contribute over the past* ***"Fifteen Weeks"*** *the* ***New Series of "Offertory Envelopes"*** *for the* ***"Financial Year 2020 21"*** *are available at the* ***entrance to the Church.*** ***(It would be extremely helpful if any Parishioners using envelopes, could contribute using "Standing Orders"*** *if it is convenient for you to do so, please contact* ***Michael Blundel on 0161-427-1953.*** *The* ***"Development Fund"*** *will be* ***relaunched in "September"*** *with a new* ***Series of Envelopes / or Standing Order.*** *If there is anyone with any of the* ***Old Series of Envelopes,*** *who wishes to submit them, please do so,* ***or if you wish to make a donation to the "Development Fund,*** *all will be thankfully received.*

Offertory Collection: *The* ***Offertory Collection*** *for now at least will not be taken in the customery*

way of ***passing the "Collection Bags" around. Parishioners/Friends/Visitors*** *are invited to make their* ***Offertory Contributions by placing them in the*** ***Basket*** *either as you* ***enter or leave Church.***

Parish Newsletter & Other Church Ministries:

It is hoped that as ***Lockdown eases*** *we will be able to resume* ***Parish Ministries*** *among which is the production of the* ***Weekly Newsletter.*** *All* ***Ministries going forward*** *will have to be "****Risk Assessed"*** *so Fr. Bill would ask all those who* ***exercise Ministies in the Parish*** *to be patient at this time, as* ***directives*** *from the* ***"Confrence of Bishops"*** *with regard to the* ***Celebration of the Sacraments and Ministries*** *are being* ***updated on a daily basis*** *regarding what is* ***Safe Practice & what is not.***

Parish Mass Books / Hymn Books:

For the forseeable future, ***Parish Mass Books*** *which were provided by* ***Holy Spirit*** *cannot be used, however you can bring your own* ***Personal Missal or Prayer Book, but you must take it home with you after Mass is ended. Singing*** *is likewise not allowed for now at least,* ***Tony Walker*** *has knidly offered to provide some* ***"Reflective Music"*** *for our* ***Masses*** *and this will create a more relaxed atmosphere for the* ***Prayer of the Mass.***

St. Bernadette`s Brinnington, Parish / School:

St. Bernadette`s School, has continued to remain open during the Covid 19 Pandemic mainly for the Children of Essential Workers, the numbers however have continued to increase since the ***Lock Down*** *has eased, and the* ***Governors are confident*** *that by the start of the* ***New Academic Year in September*** *that there will be a* ***full cohort in each year group. St. Bernadette`s Church will reopen tomorrow Sunday July 5th for their regular 10:30am Mass. Fr. Bill*** *and the* ***Parish Management Team*** *spent a number of days this past week preparing the Church in accordance with the* ***directives issued by Public Health England, and endorsed by the "Trustees of the Shrewsbury Diocese"***

Scripture Readings / Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time:

St. Paul in writing to the ***Romans*** *encourages them not get overly involved in the material aspects of the World, at the cost of the* ***Spiritual.*** *There is no need for us to be tainted by the material things of the World, because through* ***our Baptism*** *the* ***Spirit of God*** *has come to dwell in our lives.This is a power that should enable us to recognise the* ***Unspiritual*** *so that we can take evasive action, and be able to avoid* ***doing Evil*** *which prevents us from living good lives.*

St. Matthew, *in this Sundays Gospel carrys forward* ***St. Pauls theme. Matthew,*** *says the* ***Path of holiness is open to everyone,*** *it is not about how clever or learned one is, but rather about how* ***willing one is*** *to play their part in building* ***Gods Kingdom. Jesus says*** *that his* ***Father, God,*** *has given him all that is necessary for the building of the* ***Kingdom.*** *If we are finding the journey in any difficult* ***Jesus says why not come and let me share your burden, and show you the way ?*** *What an encouraging invitation at this time, when so many are finding* ***Life a Struggle and a burden.***

Wednesday Morning 10:00am. / Weekday Mass:

There will be one ***weekday Mass*** *for the forseeable future, those attending will be expected to wear a* ***Mask*** *we will be using* ***one section of the main body of the Church, so as not to have to deep clean the entire Church.***