HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH, MARPLE
www.holyspiritmarple.org
Fr.Bill Fitzgerald 427:4922
5th January 2020
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

First Reading: (Isaiah 60:1-6)
Above you the glory of the Lord appears.
Second Reading :(Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6)
It has now been revealed that pagans share the same inheritance.
Gospel: (Matthew 2:1-12)
We saw his star and have come to do the king homage.

Pope Francis's prayer intention for January: That Christians, followers of other religions and all people of good will may promote peace and justice in the world.

Sunday 6pm 9am	**5th January** Joe Dwan & family Parishioners	**Thursday**	**9th January** NO MASS/SERVICE
Monday 10am	**6th January** Eucharistic Service	**Friday** **2pm**	**10th January** REQUIEM Audrey Turner
Tuesday 10am	**7th January** Eucharistic Service	**Saturday**	**11th January** NO MASS/SERVICE
Wednesday	**8th January** NO MASS/SERVICE	**Sunday** 6pm 9am	**12th January** **The Baptism of the Lord** Joseph Kan Hai Alan Foster Parishioners

One decade of the Rosary	Mon, Tues, Weds Thurs, Fri. – 10.30am
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Adoration and Rosary	Last Saturday of the month 10am-10.50am. Tuesdays 4pm-5pm **None this week**
Baptism/Marriage	By appointment
Sacrament of Reconciliation	Saturdays 5.15pm-5.50pm and last Saturday of the month.
Collection:	£311.10p

Those who are sick:

Please pray for Bill Davies, Christopher Brown, Stuart Madden, Christopher Clifford, James Tanner, Annie Shufflebotham, Marie Sidebottom, Malcolm Garrett, Libby Webb, Nina Noworyta, Fr.John Cairns, Marie Hayes, George Williams, Ruth Grace Crosby, Jarek Tomaszewski, Emily Small, Ann Crossley, Kathryn Smith, Pauline Walton, Steven Platts, Fr.Kevin Gradwell, Clare Hadlow, Pauline Magrath, Kathleen Jones, Father Pat Munroe, Audrey Turner, Renata Broda, Mary Foster, Gino Belli.

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A warm welcome to everyone. If you are new to the parish, please fill in a card and give it to Fr Bill. We shall be glad to visit you and make you as welcome as possible.

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SOCIAL

Fr.Bill writes… Fr.Bill hopes that everyone crossed safely over the threshold of the New Year 2020 with suitable celebrations. He hopes that people have not over burdened themselves with New Year resolutions. There is much to look forward to at the beginning of a new year and especially this year, on the political front it looks like we are definitely leaving the European Community of Nations to which Great Britain has made such a great contribution over the last fifty plus years. It will be very interesting to gauge how this separation will impact on the prosperity of our country. The recent General Election left our one party government in a very strong position to govern, it is to be hoped that they will be able to govern for all the population in a fair and just way. Schools will reopen this coming week, with the start of the Spring Term so we pray for all our School Communities that this coming year will be a time of growth for Pupils and Staff in many areas. Fr.Bill is currently on his Christmas vacation, and will resume Pastoral Duties on Monday 13th January. Special thanks to Fr.Ambrose Nicholson who celebrated the Weekend Masses last weekend December 28th/29th and this Weekend January 4th/5th. His ministry is greatly appreciated and valued. Next Weekend January 11th/12th we welcome Fr.Joseph Archibong of the Kilteagan Missionary Fathers, who will celebrate the Weekend Masses and also make an Appeal on behalf of his society. As always I am sure that you will give Fr.Joseph a warm welcome and be generous to his Appeal. On Friday next January 10th at 2pm the Parish will celebrate the Requiem Mass for Audrey Turner a long standing Parishioner, who was here at the beginning of the Parish, and has given sterling service in the years since. Fr.Kuriakose, assistant Priest at St.Christopher's, Romiley, will celebrate the Requiem Mass, and it would be appropriate to have a good turnout of Parishioners. The December Special Collection for the Redevelopment Fund will be counted this coming week, so still time this weekend to make a donation December Envelopes still available from Table in the Church Foyer. Gracious thanks to all our Parishioners and Friends who continue to support the Fund on a monthy basis. Fr.Bill would also like to record his thanks for the Christmas Offerings received from the Parishioners, Friends of the Parish, and Visitors, who attended the Christmas Masses. On Sunday Evening January 19th at 6pm here at Holy Spirit, Fr.Bill will be installed as the Chair of Churches Together in Marple in a "Special Ecumenical Service". This is also the beginning of the Week of Christian Unity as well as being the Day of Prayer for World Peace. Fr.Bill would like to see a big turnout of Parishioners and Friends to welcome those who will be in attendance from other Churches. It is a considerable time since anyone from "Holy Spirit Parish" held the Chair. Marian Thompson, of our Parish is currently Secretary. On the Weekend of February 1st and 2nd we will have Bishop Mark making a "Pastoral Visitation" of the Parish, he will celebrate both weekend Masses, and preach, and will be available, should anyone wish to speak to him on any matter. **Fr.Bill will write again next week.**
HOLY SPIRIT RAMBLING GROUP AGM is this Tuesday January 7th at 10.45am in the Meeting Room.

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GROWING IN FAITH

POPE FRANCIS'S PRAYER INTENTION for January is on the front of the newsletter.
CHURCHES TOGETHER – UNITED SERVICE – Sunday January 19th, 6pm here at Holy Spirit
When Fr.Bill is taking over the role of Churches Together Chair. Please try to come to welcome Christians from other churches and to give him your prayerful support.
MINISTERS OF THE WORD: Please collect new Rotas for January/February 2020 from the tray at the side of the Newsletter. Please refer to the list on the notice board for Prayer Intentions for this period, which have just been received. Many thanks for your continued service to the Parish through this Ministry.

FUNDRAISING

WHITE FLOWER APPEAL: Thank you for your support last weekend for the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) amount raised will be published next weekend.
WELLSPRING WALK is on **25th January**. More details later.
AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED: We will be sending a Christmas Donation to help Christians suffering persecution, remembering especially at this time, those being driven from their homes in the Holy Land of Jesus' Birth. Grateful thanks to all who regularly make donations via the basket at the back of Church.
BOOK SALE: Books including children's books priced from 50p-£1. Boxed sets £2.50p. There are also DVDs/CDs at 50p each. Proceeds to Our Mission in Zambia. Many thanks for your continued support.
PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS: Please continue to pray and support our fellow Christians suffering persecution throughout the world. We want them to know that they are not forgotten.