Message from Fr Bill – 5th Sunday of Lent

Parishioners and Friends of Holy Spirit, for the second successive Sunday in the Holy Season of Lent 2020 our Parish Church here in Marple is closed for Sunday Masses and all other Services through the week. Most families are however fortunate that they can have Access to Mass via Live Streaming. The current Covid 19 Pandemic has cut us off from one another, but not from God, we can still share in the greatest sacrifice of all "The Mass" and while we cannot physically receive Holy Communion, it is sufficient for us to make a Spiritual Communion expressing to God our desire to be totally united with him, at this time. Todays Gospel, the raising of Lazarus, signalled a time of new hope for Martha and Mary. Despite the family being personal friends of Jesus, the faith of Martha and Mary was put to the test with the death of Lazarus, their brother. There are thousands across our Universe at this time who are fearing the loss of Loved Ones as well as thousands mourning the loss of Loved Ones. As Citizens of the World, we are all vulnerable in the face of this illness, and even though like Martha and Mary, we do not die from the Covid 19 Pandemic our lives in all areas of daily living are severely impacted by the uncertainty of it all.

This is a time when all of us as Citizens of our Global Village are invited to Work Together by Staying Apart and Worshipping Together by Staying Apart to curtail the transmission of Pandemic Covid 19.

These Necessary Steps will cause stress, anxiety, mental illness as well as many other issues, for young and old alike, and so we need Our Faith to be alive and active at this time, people are already in big numbers contacting Fr. Bill and their Parish Priests for reassurance. All of us at this time like Martha & Mary need the reassuring presence of Jesus Christ in our Personal and Family Lives. Fr. Bill invites all families this Sunday Morning to Gather as they would do at Holy Spirit, Marple, or where ever they usually Gather under Normal Circumstances and Share Mass as a Family – via Live Streaming. Parents and Children can do the Readings, and make up some Bidding Prayers and perhaps the Children do some drawings / Prayers that they can .

bring along to Holy Spirit or their Church of Worship, once they reopen again for Sunday Mass. Fr. Bill will be pleased to receive any Prayers or Children`s drawings via e/mail or they can be posted on the "Twitter Platform" of the New Holy Spirit / Website. Fr. Bill is keeping Well, and like everyone else is 90% isolating and only going abroad if absolutely necessary. He is celebrating Mass, behind closed Doors for the Intentions of all Parishioners with a special remembrance for those who live alone, and those completely Isolating, due to age or underlying health conditions. Fr. Bill is aware that not everyone has access to live streaming, so they may have to search on their Radio`s ..... Irish Radio 252 Khrz. I leave you with every Blessing and happiness, Fr. Bill.

LIVE STREAMING: (Simply Google eg: the following .....)

Shrewsbury Roman Catholic Cathedral -Webcam. (Click on the Icon)

St. Peters, Hazel Grove. (Click on the Icon) / Our Lady & The Apostles, Shaw Heath (Click on the Icon.)

There are 100s of other Churches here in the North West, Live Streaming, simply search for them on Google.