HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH, MARPLE
www.holyspiritmarple.com
Fr.Bill Fitzgerald 427:4922
20th December 2020
4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading: (2 Samuel 7:1-5,8-12,14-16)
The kingdom of David will always stand secure before the Lord.
Second Reading : (Romans 16:25-27
The mystery, which was kept secret for endless ages, is now made clear.
Gospel: (Luke 1:26-38)
Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son.

Pope Francis's prayer intention for December: That our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

Sunday **4pm** **6pm** **9am** **2.30pm-3.30pm**	**20th December** **Intentions of Broda Family** **Cornelius & Margaret Lane** **Gilda Mion** **Parishioners** **EXPOSITION AND CONFESSIONS**	**Thursday** **CHRISTMAS EVE** **10.15am** **4pm 1st Vigil Mass** **6pm 2nd Vigil Mass** **8pm 3rd Vigil Mass**	**24th December** **Requiem -John Kirrane (Family only)** **Priest's Intentions** **Priest's Intentions** **Marie Taylor**
Monday **Church closed**	**21st December**	**Friday** **CHRISTMAS DAY** **9.30am**	**25th December** **Dec'd parishioners** **(reserved for families)**
Tuesday **10am**	**22nd December** **Dec'd McDonagh family**	**Saturday - HOLY FAMILY 4pm Vigil** **one vigil only today**	**26th December** **Edward Grieves** **Murielle Sadler**
Wednesday **10am**	**23rd December** **Neil Timperley (Sick)**	**Sunday** **Mass 9.30am**	**27th December**

One decade of the Rosary	**Suspended**
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Adoration and Rosary	**Suspended**
Baptism/Marriage	By appointment
Sacrament of Reconciliation	As announced or by appointment.
Collection	£487.25p Standing Orders (November £1085.37p) Development Account Donations £130.

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, Marie Hayes, George Williams, Ruth Grace Crosby, Jarek Tomaszewski, Emily Small, Ann Crossley, Kathryn Smith, Steven Platts, Fr.Kevin Gradwell, Pauline Magrath, Kathleen Jones, Father Pat Munroe, Renata Broda, Cyril Nield, Neil Timperley

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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.

The Diocese of Shrewsbury is a Registered Charity No. 234025

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A/C details:Account Name: "The Holy Spirit Development Account" Account No. 58710368
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SOCIAL

As I prepare this, the last “Advent Newsletter” for 2020, we stand on the threshold of yet another “Christmas. In every sense it will be a totally different celebration from what we were used to in other years. Our Churches will not be packed as in other years, rather all wishing to celebrate, have to book in and be accounted for via “Track & Trace” I can hear those who have not booked in yet asking, how do I go about this booking in ? It is very simple, go to the “Holy Spirit Web Site” or ring Fr. Bill on 07929 - 446490. There are three “Vigil Masses” on Christmas Eve: — 4:00pm.(70 places, all of which are now taken) 6:00pm.(Places still Available) 8:00pm. Sung Mass, (A good number of places still Available) Christmas Day 9:30am -Families only, (A number of places available, to book places, contact Fr. Bill only. St. Bernadette’s at Brinnington, will also have 4:00pm Vigil Mass, on Christmas Eve, and an 11:00am. Mass on Christmas Day. Church decor has been taken care of by Robert Moss and his team, Robert has also organised the “Stewarding” for the Christmas & New Year Masses. Gracious thanks to all of our Stewards for their hard work over the past year, and especially over this “Festive Time. Thank you to Dominic Bowler, our “Parish Covid Lead” for ironing out a number of issues with the Diocesan Health & Safety Officer” with regard to Christmas celebrations. Fr. Bill would like to wish all Parishioners and Friends of Holy Spirit a Joyous, peaceful and Blessed Christmas, with renewed thanks for all Christmas Cards and Gifts received, they are appreciated and very much valued. Fr. Bill hopes that despite all the disruption caused by “Covid 19” Families will be able to pause over the Christmas season, to draw hope and strength from each other’s company like the “Holy Family of Nazareth” did on that first Christmas in the Manger at Bethlehem. It is with sadness that we record the death of John Kirrane after a period of illness. John and his family have continued down the years to make a rich contribution to the Parish Life of Holy Spirit. His Requiem Mass will be here at Holy Spirit on December 24th Christmas Eve at 10:15am. followed by Cremation at Stockport Crematorium, Rowan Chapel. Due to the restrictions of Covid 19 John’s funeral will regrettably be family only. We extend our Parish sympathies to his wife Imelda and family, May he rest in peace. Fr. Bill will visit a number of housebound in the lead up to Christmas, so if you know of anyone needing a Pastoral visit, then let Fr. Bill know.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

In today’s Annunciation Story, Jesus is proclaimed as the fulfilment of the Old Testament Prophecies. Jesus is the Son of David, Gabriel’s words in today’s Gospel, gives us an understanding of Samuel Chapter 7 Vrs: 8 — 16, the promise made by Nathan to David, which had as its foundation the promise of a Messiah that would come in the future. God is seen as the one who always keeps his promises. St. Paul’s letter to the Romans reveals a new understanding about Paul’s belief, that God's hidden plan for “Salvation” gradually unfolded in human history since the beginning of time, and can only be understood in the “Light of the Jesus Event” Christian Faith, understands that Jesus is the fulfilment of all that went before him, all that was foretold in the Prophetic tradition. St Paul insists that in holding on to the sixth century B. C. Prophetic thought God's saving work is Universal, it is for all people, Jews / Gentiles. Jesus has ushered in new inclusivity. In today’s Gospel from Luke, Mary is the one who hears the Word of God and acts on it, we catch the fullness of her response in “Luke’s Magnificat.” Luke is insistent on Mary’s enthusiastic , joyful response to “ God’s Call.” St Luke highlights Mary’s immediate responses by contrasting her call with that of John the Baptist. John is that voice crying in the “Wilderness” suggesting perhaps there is no one listening. In the case of Mary all her Family and Community are curious as what it is that Mary has been chosen for.

A VERY HAPPY AND BLESSED CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL

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