



HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH, MARPLE
 Holyspiritmarple.com
Fr.Bill Fitzgerald 427 4922
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3rd December 2023
FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT 2023



Online Donations

Pope Francis's prayer intention for December:

The month of December is dedicated to the Immaculate Conception, which is celebrated on December 8th

Sunday Vigil 4 pm 9 am	3 rd December Ints: Hollingsworth / Kanhai. MORNING MASS Ints: Parishioners / Walter Meanwell.	Monday	4 th December NO MASS
Tuesday	5 th December NO MASS	Wednesday	6 th December NO MASS
Thursday 12 noon	7 th December REQUIEM MASS Jim Mottram.	Friday <u>9:30 am</u>  	8 th December THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY Intentions: Mary Bowles
Saturday 4 pm	9 th December VIGIL MASS Ints: Ismay, Bill, Stephen Daniel, Walton family and Mandy Rees.	Sunday 9 am	10 th December MORNING MASS Ints: Parishioners / Renata Broda

Baptism/Marriage	By appointment
Sacrament of Reconciliation	As above

THOSE WHO ARE SICK

Please pray for Christopher Brown, Christopher Clifford, Jonathan Davison, Isaac Iqba, Kathleen Jones, Stuart Madden, Cyril Nield, Nina Noworyta, Pat Owen, Steven Platts, Emily Small, Kathryn Smith, James Tanner, Jarek Tomaszewski, Kathleen Williams.

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: Name Holy Spirit Development Account, Account No. 58710368, Sort Code 30 15 52

Fr Bill Writes:

The ten candidates who have been preparing for their First Forgiveness will on this coming Monday evening, December 4th, celebrate their First Forgiveness, here at Holy Spirit at 6:30 pm. Families and friends are welcome to join them, as they take the next step in their Catholic Faith Journey. They have prepared very well over the past four weeks. We invite Parishioners & Friends of the Parish to pray for the Candidates and their Families, these Candidates will be the future practising adult Catholics of Holy Spirit Parish. Thank you to Chris and Mary who assisted Fr. Bill with the Candidates preparation, their time given is appreciated.

This weekend we begin the New Liturgical Year 2023/24, as we enter Advent 2023 our time of immediate preparation for the celebration of Christ's Birth into our World. Our Parish, as always, is committed to making the best preparations that we can, both spiritually and materially.

For the next two weekends after the Saturday 4 pm Vigil and Sunday 9 am Masses, the annual Charity Tombolas will take place. We invite you as always to give your support, the monies raised this year will be donated to Caritas at Diocese of Shrewsbury, who are expecting this Advent/Christmas to have to help 200 Families plus, across the many deprived areas of the Shrewsbury Diocese, with heating and other bills. Recently Caritas at Diocese of Shrewsbury received £105 by way of a donation from this Parish, thank you to all who support Caritas.

This weekend is the last opportunity to donate toys for the Wood Street Mission. A big thank you for all the Toys received, they will be delivered to Wood Street Mission asap this coming week.

On the third Sunday of Advent the Annual Advent Service of Carols will be held at 4 pm followed by refreshments for Adults & Children. Donations will be invited during the Carol Service for the work of the Wellspring Centre.

From the sale of knitted Poppies £50 was added to the sale of the British Legion Poppies for which as yet I do not have a figure.

Thanks to Veronica Harrison, for the sum of £110 from the sale of festive bits and pieces, which is being donated to Aid to the Church in Need, thanks to all who supported Veronica.

The Requiem Mass for Jim Mottram will be celebrated on Thursday next December 7th at 12 noon with committal at 1:45 pm at the Rowan Chapel at Stockport Crematorium.

The Requiem Mass for Evelyn McSwitty, is on Thursday, December 14th at 11:15 am at Holy Spirit followed by committal at 12:45 pm in the Cypress Chapel, Stockport Crematorium. May they both rest in peace.

Please also pray for the success of COP 28 currently underway in Dubai.

SCRIPTURE READINGS — FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT 2023

Isaiah 63: 16b-17,19b;64: 2-7 First Corinthians 1: 3-9 Mark 13: 33-37

Isaiah in this Sunday's first reading prays for God's Forgiveness for the chosen people who clearly have strayed from serving God. Isaiah gives a vivid picture of what it feels like for the God's People to have strayed, they were like withered leaves blown away by the wind. They felt that God had shut them out, and abandoned them. Isaiah asks, why did no one appeal to God to be restored as His People ?

The second reading for this first Sunday of Advent is from St. Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, where Paul gives thanks for the strong faith of the Corinthians. We have already had this reading during the Sundays of Ordinary Time, the Faith demonstrated by the Corinthian, meant so much to Paul, that he wants us to hear about it again.

Today's Gospel is from St. Mark, and Jesus gives his disciples a word of caution. Scholars believe that Mark's Gospel was written around 70 AD this is roughly around the time that the Temple in Jerusalem was destroyed, which came as a total surprise to the Jewish Community of the Temple. Likewise the Father will come at a time known only to him alone, so we must be alert.