

**HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH, MARPLE**  
 Holyspiritmarple.com  
**Fr.Bill Fitzgerald 427 4922**  
**5th February 2023**  
**5th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**



Online Donations

**First Reading: (Isaiah 58:7-10)**

Then will your light shine like the dawn

**Second Reading: (1 Corinthians 2:1-5)**

During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus and the crucified Christ

**Gospel: (Mathew 5:13-16)**

You are the light of the world

**Pope Francis's prayer intention for February:** We pray that parishes, placing communion at the centre, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.

Sunday 4pm Vigil 9am	5th February 5 <sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Mandi Rees David Devine (Intention) Maureen Lees / Parishioners	Thursday	9th February - NO MASS
Monday	6th February NO MASS	Friday 12:15pm	10th February REQUIEM MASS Renata Maria Broda
Tuesday	7th February NO MASS	Saturday 4pm	11th February Vigil Mass
Wednesday 10am	8th February Joe Dwan (Anniversary)	Sunday 4pm Vigil 9am	12th February Philip Gardner (Deceased) Parishioners

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions	Last Saturday of the month 10.30am-11.30am or by arrangement
Baptism/Marriage	By appointment
Sacrament of Reconciliation	As above

**THOSE WHO ARE SICK**

Please pray for Bill Davies, Christopher Brown, Stuart Madden, Christopher Clifford, James Tanner, Annie Shufflebotham, Marie Sidebottom, Nina Noworyta, Kathleen Williams, Ruth Grace Crosby, Jarek Tomaszewski, Emily Small, Ann Crossley, Kathryn Smith, Steven Platts, Fr.Kevin Gradwell, Kathleen Jones, Father Pat Munroe, Cyril Nield, Neil Timperley, Isaac Iqba, David Froggatt, Pat Owen, Jonathan Davison.

**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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St. Peter's Parish Hazel Grove has a further session of "Footsteps" on Thursday Feb 9 entitled "Where is God in my Life ???" to which all are most welcome. It begins at 7:30pm and is led by Mary Hardiman, a professional counsellor. The session will take the form of a Cafe Style Presentation.

Our Parish "Red Box Promoter" invites all who have a "Red Missio Box" to bring it in for emptying, please leave it in the Sacristy, and put your name on the Box, so that it can be returned to you. If anyone would like to begin using a Red Box, speak with Fr. Bill.

This weekend the "Registration Forms" for "First Sacraments" are available to Candidates and Families of YEAR 3 Pupils, who attend Catholic / other Primary Schools, and now wish to be considered as "Candidates for the 1st Sacraments Programme 2023" here at Holy Spirit. Parents / Guardians are asked to fill in the Registration Form and return it personally to Fr. Bill. The preparation for "First Forgiveness" will begin at the end of February, and will consist of five sessions including "First Forgiveness", just prior to Easter. The most essential step in preparation is that Candidates and Families regularly attend Sunday Mass, and especially are part of the "Children's Liturgy." It is encouraging to see so many families attending Sunday Morning Mass since the start of the New Year 2023, this helps to build up the Catholic Community here at Holy Spirit.

It was good last week Weekend to have had an input on "Guided Prayer" many of you took with you, a "Registration Form" with a view to possibly being a part of the "Week of Guided Prayer" at the end of March, all "Completed Applications" can be put in the box on the table in the foyer, entitled "Accompanied Prayer."

During this past week we have had a full "Fire Review" of the property here at Holy Spirit, and overall our procedures are pretty much in keeping with National Regulations. A few procedures need updating, which we will have done in keeping with the advice given in the Review. We also have had a PAT Test done on all our electrics here at Holy Spirit in the past week, to ensure we are up to date.

Our Parish Saint Vincent De Paul Conference is going from strength to strength, and we are now getting to visit quite a number of parishioners who are long term "housebound". We could do with some more members to help us in our SVP work, especially some men. Speak with Sue Tucker the Parish President of the Conference or Fr. Bill if you might be interested in joining. The one thing that housebound parishioners appreciate is, that they are being remembered, now that they cannot come to Church and share in the Eucharist anymore. We are also fortunate to have a number of Eucharistic Ministers, who are devoted in making sure that the housebound receive the Eucharist on a regular basis, and for this we are most grateful.

It is with sadness that we record the death of David Matthews, a very good parishioner and friend of Holy Spirit. May he rest in peace, sympathies to his family on their loss.

### **SCRIPTURE READINGS — FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

In today's first reading from Isaiah we are reminded about the liberating qualities of Justice, for those who are able to humbly exercise it. Isaiah tells that Justice given to the poor and needy, is like the noonday sun breaking through the cloudy sky, suddenly every where is brighter, the gloom is lifted and everyone is filled with hope, what once felt like disaster, now gives way to a brighter future.

In today's second reading, Paul asks the Corinthians to consider how he presented the Good News to them !! there were no gimmicks he says, or clever arguments in the way he went about it. I preached exactly who Jesus was, to you, Crucified for the Truth, and then risen from the dead. I did it this way so that your Faith would depend on God, and not on any other contrived philosophy.

Today's Gospel from St. Matthew, follows on The Beatitudes. Jesus uses the now very familiar "Metaphors of Salt & Light" to describe the life of Discipleship. We take Light & Salt for granted in our Society today, but in the time of Jesus, both were so essential for the living of a normal life. The fact that this passage still remains so familiar to us today, speaks volumes about the type of imagery that Jesus used to get this message about Disciple to his followers. The call of Jesus, to be the Salt of the Earth and Light of The World, powerfully continues to state what the "Mission of The Church" should be today.

**DATE FOR YOUR DIARY : WORLD DAY OF PRAYER.** Friday 3rd March 2pm. Here at Holy Spirit. Everyone welcome. Prepared by the women of Taiwan.