

HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH, MARPLE
 Holyspiritmarple.com
Fr.Bill Fitzgerald 427 4922
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17th September 2023
24rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Online Donations

Pope Francis's prayer intention for September:

The month of September is dedicated to Our Lady of Pity, whose memorial the Church celebrates on September 15th.

Sunday Vigil 6 pm 9 am	17 th September Intentions: Terry Coop. MORNING MASS John Gretton. (Dec)	Thursday	21 st September NO MASS
Monday	18 th September NO MASS	Friday 12 noon	22 nd September REQUIEM MASS Barry Gilbody.
Tuesday	19 th September NO MASS	Saturday 6 pm	23 rd September VIGIL MASS Intentions: Pauline & Michael Walton.
Wednesday 10 am	20 th September DAILY MASS Ints: Grace Birch. (A)	Sunday 9 am	24 th September MORNING MASS Ints: Nora Crompton. (A)

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:

Schools/Colleges have now settled into the new Academic Year 2023/24.

Fr. Bill has celebrated the opening of the new School Year at St. Bernadette's, with the celebration of Mass last Thursday. It was a very fitting celebration in which we asked God's Blessing on the endeavours of the school for this coming Academic Year.

Fr. Bill will celebrate the start of the New Academic Year at St. Mary's, Marple Bridge, on Monday October 2nd, at 2pm with Mass.


This weekend is the final invitation for anyone wishing to be considered for the Ministry of "Eucharistic Minister". There is a sheet, for your Name & Details if you wish to register, on the table in the Church Foyer. Fr. Bill will arrange some training for the end of September.

On Sunday September 24th, there will be a MacMillan Coffee Morning after the 9am Mass. It will be organised by Annette O' Mullane, who is asking for as much support as is possible on the day, for this most worthy of causes.

There are also tickets currently on sale for the Autumn Photographic Competition after the weekend Masses, the venture once again is receiving great support and many thanks to all who have already given that support.

On Tuesday September 26th, the Parish SVP Conference are taking a number of our Parish Senior Citizens out to Lunch for 12:30pm. If you know of anyone who would like to be taken out, speak with either Sue Tucker, our Parish SVP President or with Fr. Bill. Transport will be arranged for those who wish to travel.

It was nice to see our Young Readers back on Rota at last Sundays 9am Mass, if we have any other girls or boys from Years 6 Primary - 7/8/9/10/11 Secondary who would like to be part of our Readers Rota at the Sunday 9am Mass, speak with Fr. Bill, there are vacancies for Readers also at the Saturday Vigil Mass 6pm in Summer Time and 4pm in Winter Time.

Fr. Bill, would like to ask those using our church disabled toilet to please ensure the sink water tap is fully turned off after use. The Tap Lever has to be fully pulled to the left, and not partially, otherwise the water  continues to run and large quantities of water can be wasted, all of which costs the parish money.

Your prayers are kindly asked for the happy repose of the souls of Monica Walton, whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated on Monday October 2nd, at 11:00am, with burial at St. Mary's, Marple Bridge, at 12:30pm; and Barry Gilbody / Requiem Mass on Friday 22nd September at 12 noon, Holy Spirit, Marple, followed by Committal at 1:30pm Cypress Chapel, Stockport Crematorium. May they rest in Peace.

SCRIPTURE READINGS — 24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 2023

Ecclesiasticus 27:30-28:7 Romans 14: 7-9 Matthew 18: 21-35

This week's 1st Reading is from Ecclesiasticus, where the sacred writer tells that if we want to experience God's mercy, then we must be merciful ourselves to others. Sinners especially have difficulty with mercy/forgiveness as part of their sinfulness is anger and resentment, so they are caught up in a process where mercy and forgiveness are not part of their life cycle, rather trying to get even with others, preoccupies their time.

The 2nd Reading this weekend is from St. Paul to the Romans, here Paul tells us that we belong to the Lord. Our life has a significant influence on others, living or dead, we are the Lord's very precious procession, this why Jesus has given his life for us, because he loves us without reservation.

This week's Gospel is again from St. Matthew, and is a continuation of last Sunday's Gospel, where Jesus was speaking about Church discipline and how to resolve the various disputes that arise. Peter poses the inevitable question to Jesus about how many times we should extend forgiveness, the "parable of the unforgiving servant" is Jesus' elaboration of his initial reply to Peter. Through this parable of Jesus we come to understand the depths of God's mercy towards us and the results of our acceptance of God's forgiveness. We must not quantify the amount or the number times we extend forgiveness to others, otherwise we risk forfeiting the effects of God's Mercy in our own Lives.