

HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH, MARPLE
 Holyspiritmarple.com
Fr.Bill Fitzgerald 427 4922
16th July 2023
15th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Online Donations

Pope Francis's prayer intention for July:

The month of July is dedicated to The Precious Blood of Jesus.

Sunday Vigil 6 pm 9 am	16 th July Ints: Renata Broda / Grace Birch. MORNING MASS Intention: Mary Abbott.	Thursday	20 th July NO MASS
Monday	17 th July NO MASS	Friday	21 st July NO MASS
Tuesday 10 am	18 th July DAILY MASS Intention: Joan O' Brien.	Saturday 6 pm	22 nd July VIGIL MASS Intention: Ken Rain.
Wednesday 10 am	19 th July DAILY MASS Intention: Derek Davies.	Sunday 9 am	23 rd July MORNING MASS Intention: Parishioners.

Baptism/Marriage	By appointment
Sacrament of Reconciliation	As above

THOSE WHO ARE SICK

Please pray for Christopher Brown, Christopher Clifford, Ruth Grace Crosby, Bill Davies, Jonathan Davison, Isaac Iqba, Kathleen Jones, Stuart Madden, Cyril Nield, Nina Noworyta, Pat Owen, Steven Platts, Emily Small, Kathryn Smith, James Tanner, Neil Timperley, 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:

We have now reached mid July with schools and colleges getting ready for the Summer Vacation. This coming Tuesday Fr. Bill will celebrate the Leavers Mass for those who are leaving St. Bernadette's Primary School at Brinnington. It is the time of year at most schools where changes to the staff and pupil populations occur, in preparation for the New Academic Year 2023/24. Families in this part of the world are extremely fortunate to be part of a well organised education system in comparison with many other parts of the world, where education systems are very much a hit and miss. A big thank you to all our staff who make our education system fit for purpose, despite the challenges in doing so.

The Parish of St. Thomas, Mellor and Marple Bridge installed their new Vicar Rev. Andrew Tawn on Wednesday evening last, Fr. Bill and others from the Holy Spirit were in attendance. We wish the Rev. Andrew a very fruitful ministry among his flock at Mellor and Marple Bridge, in the years ahead, and look forward to working with him.

Since early July the installation of the new Church boiler has been ongoing, Fr. Bill is now very pleased to announce that the installation was completed last Monday and the insulation on Wednesday last. A big thank you to W&G Heating Engineers/Heald Green for their very professional approach to the installation. There was the minimum disruption to Church Services during the installation, which was most helpful, as we celebrated a number of Requiems in that period. We are confident that the new boiler will now be much more efficient than the old boiler, which served our needs for over fifty years, by having various parts added during that period. The overall cost of the installation is £17k+ which is approx 2k lower than the other quotes received, when the job went out to tender.

Our next part of the maintenance programme is the Church Entrance. This has now gone for planning permission to the Stockport Borough Council Planning Department and we are in the usual "Planning Queue" Fr. Bill will keep Parishioners updated on the progress of the Planning Application.

A big thank you to all who are able to make a regular donation to our Development Fund. The ongoing Maintenance Programme is very dependent on regular donations by Parishioners and Friends of the Parish. The New Church Entrance/outside ground work will cost somewhere in the region of £90k. Over the past few years, the increase in building materials is some 20% leaving all repairs very expensive. With the installation of the new Church boiler and roof repairs, Fr. Bill has spent £215k since his arrival in the Year 2017, considering the initial cost of the building was 87k this highlights the importance of regular maintenance of our plant.

This weekend is Sea Sunday, and we remember all those Seafarers who bring the necessary goods for our daily living to our Shores.

SCRIPTURE READINGS — 15th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 2023

Isaiah 55: 10-11 Romans 8: 18-23 Matthew 13: 1-23

Today's first reading is from the Prophet Isaiah, and it gives us an awesome comparison between the natural occurrences of Nature as we experience it, and the Word of Our God as we likewise experience it. Both have a set purpose, which are fulfilled in their own way and in their own time, giving us an enormous benefit, sometimes without us being in any way aware of what is actually happening to us.

Today's second Reading is again from St. Paul to the Romans, Paul gives us a magnificent insight into God's Work of Creation which includes our part in it. The entirety of the process is a long term giving "birth process", guided continuously by the ever active hand of God, which will bring it to completion. We are coworkers with God in this most creative process, as we ourselves continue to be born spiritually.

Today's Gospel from St. Matthew is the beginning of a longer teaching from chapter 13 of his gospel which will unfold over the next three Sundays. Jesus is explaining to those listeners what exactly the Kingdom of Heaven is, and he begins in today's Gospel with the "Parable of the Sower". Seeds of course grow best in good soil, the Word of God similarly, is best heard by those who have Faith and so are in a position to recognise what is being taught, and to be strengthened by it.