

HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH, MARPLE

Holyspiritmarple.com

Fr. Bill Fitzgerald 427 4922

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24th September 2023

25rd 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	24 th September Intentions: Pauline & Michael Walton. MORNING MASS Ints: Nora Crompton.(A)	Thursday 10 am	28 th September DAILY MASS Intentions: E. Fotheringham. (A)
Monday	25 th September NO MASS	Friday	29 th September NO MASS
Tuesday	26 th September NO MASS	Saturday 10 ³⁰ -11 ³⁰ am 12 noon 6 pm	30 th September Exposition/Confessions. <u>Training Session</u> for the New Eucharistic Ministers. VIGIL MASS Intentions: Ken Rain (A)
Wednesday 10 am	27 th September DAILY MASS Ints: Fr. M. Dyson. (A)	Sunday 9 am	1 st October 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:

As we progress through the Season of Creation we are starting to see very distinct signs of Autumn, some of our vegetation is beginning to turn brown. The colours that nature will offer over the coming months will be awesome, so let us enjoy these in all their splendour, perhaps some photographs of these awesome colours will appear in our upcoming photographic competition. Tickets still on sale for those wishing to enter.

On this Sunday there will be a MacMillan Cake Sale with refreshments, tea/coffee after the 9am Mass, so please give your fullest support to this very worthy cause.

Saturday next 30th September is the Churches Together - Annual Sponsored Wellspring Walk. It would be appreciated if you could offer those who are doing the Walk Sponsorship a Sponsorship Form is available on the table in the Church Foyer, for those who are able to offer some Sponsorship. The Wellspring Centre is a real beacon of hope in the Stockport Area, catering for the homeless and many others, who do not have the basics in order to maintain a decent standard of living.

We are also coming up to the Autumn 2023 Cafod Family Fast Day. Members of the Parish Cafod Group will be at all Masses next weekend September 30th/October 1st and will thank you for your on — going support.

With regard to the proposed replacement of the Church Entrance permission is now in place to progress the proposed works. The Plans Board at Stockport Council gave the go ahead, as did the Shrewsbury Diocesan Board of Finance & Planning. The even better news is that the Replacement Entrance will go ahead alongside the External Works which will include widening the space immediately in front of the Church Entrance so that Wedding and Funeral vehicles will be able to park immediately in front of the Church, as well as the total refurbishment of the Front Church Car Park.

The Parish has been given the go ahead on the grounds that we have 75% of the monies, we need however, about another 25k. Fr.Bill will address this issue of how to raise this extra 25k over the coming weeks in the weekly newsletters. This is a great opportunity to restore the Church of Holy Spirit to its former glory, please let us not lose out on this unique opportunity because of a financial shortfall.

Lancaster/Maloney/Martin, a local firm of Architects from Stockport will now progress the works on behalf of the Parish/Diocese under the direction of the Shrewsbury Diocesan Property Manager. Fr. Bill with the Parish Finance and Management Committee will keep Parishioners and Friends of the Parish up to date on developments, eg: start date etc.

SCRIPTURE READINGS — 25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 2023

Isaiah 55: 6-9 Philipians 1:20c-24,27 Matthew 20:1-16

This Sunday's first reading is from the Prophet Isaiah, call upon the Lord while he is still near to you, you must realise Isaiah says that it is only by striving that we can in any way hope to come close to God. The majesty and greatness of God is so far beyond our efforts that without making a new evaluation of ourselves, then we can never get to know who God really is, left merely to our own devices we are light years away from knowing who God really is.

Today's second reading from Paul to the Philippians carries on the theme of the first reading, Paul presents us with a problem, he asks is it better to be dead and be secure with the Lord ? or is it better to be alive and try carrying on the Mission of The Church he concludes, that at this time being alive for him in the body, as he puts, is far more important than being dead.

In this Sunday's Gospel we again read from St. Matthew, where we hear the story of the "Workers in the Vineyard." Here we get an extraordinary account of God's Mercy. We have difficulty in imagining how we ourselves could live up to, or even reach this level of generosity. To those who worked a full day, they got the wage they agreed to work for and God's abundant generosity is seen in the way he treated those who managed just one hours work. Likewise the young man who could not be parted from his wealth, a lack of generosity tied him to his earthly possessions.