

HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH, MARPLE
 Holyspiritmarple.com
Fr.Bill Fitzgerald 427.4922
27th November 2022
1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Online Donations

First Reading: (Isaiah 2:1-5)

The Lord gathers all nations together into the eternal peace of God's kingdom..

Second Reading: (Romans 13:11-14)

Our salvation is near..

Gospel: (Matthew 24:37-44)

Stay awake so that you may be ready

Pope Francis's prayer intention for December: That volunteer, non-profit organisations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

Sunday 4pm 9am	27th November Jenny Love Pauline Magrath Parishioners	Thursday	1st December NO MASS
Monday 12 noon	28th November REQUIEM (Jeremiah Kelleher)	Friday	2nd December NO MASS
Tuesday	29th November NO MASS	Saturday	3rd December NO MASS until 4pm Vigil
Wednesday 10am	30th November St.Andrew, Apostle Special Intention (Davies) Holy Souls	Sunday 4pm Vigil 9am	4th December Denise Sweeney Anniversary Bella Paul 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, Libby Webb, 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, Renata Broda, Cyril Nield, Neil Timperley, Isaac Iqba, David Froggatt .Pat Owen.

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

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A/C DETAILS: Name "Holy Spirit Development Account" Account No.58710368 Sort Code 30 15 52

SOCIAL

Fr. Bill began the week by attending a funeral of a great friend in York, in the diocese of Middlesbrough, and on Wednesday attended the diocesan day of Recollection for the clergy at Our Lady's, Stockport. Both events remind us of the journey of our lives, there is a time for living and a time for dying, and a time for reflecting on the meaning of both. As we end November and move into December we also begin this weekend the 2022 Season of Advent as well and the New Liturgical Year 2022/23. In our parishes, there is a sense of hope and expectation as we prepare for the great event that is Christmas. Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, once again invites Catholics all over the World, to use the "Season of Advent" wisely. He has asked all of us to consider those who are poor and suffering in our World, both in prayer, and also by feeding the poor of our World. We are at this time especially conscious of those in Somalia, where there is yet another famine, this time the most severe of the past forty years.

On the home front we begin the "Advent Tombolas" this weekend and next weekend, some more bottles / sweets / chocolates would be welcomed. If you've got a favourite Charity please put the "Name of your Charity" in the Box provided, we will then pull out two of the "Names Submitted" and divide the monies raised from the Tombola's between the Charities drawn out. Next weekend is also the deadline for Toys for the Wood Street Mission, so if there are any donations, do please bring them for next weekend. There is also an appeal by ST. MARY'S SCHOOL for gifts for their Christmas Fayre which will be held on December 9, goods can be left at the back of Church, marked "St. Mary's School". The third Sunday of Advent will be our "Parish Advent Carol Service" at 4:00pm we hope for a full Church, now that Covid is over there are no restrictions on numbers. As usual this Christmas Morning, there will be a Nativity Play which will be Central to the "Liturgy Of The Word" Children wishing to be part of the play, please submit your name, now, to Louise or Janice, as practice for the play will commence immediately.

We have received and accepted a quote for the installation of the "Defibrillator" which we acquired during the summer, so it will be installed and be ready for use in the near future. The recent diagnostic test on the "Church Boiler" will now be considered at the next meeting of the "Diocesan Finance and Management Board" in December. Central in the report was the assessment of the W&G Engineer that if the "Boiler" breaks down again, he will be forced to condemn it, should he be called out again.

This weekend we are invited by the Diocese to take up the "Special Collection" for the training of our Students to the Priesthood. There are "Baskets" on the tables in the Church Foyer, to help you with your donation. The situation nowadays is that the "Parishioners" of the various parishes across the diocese, are responsible for the financing of the Students who present themselves for the Priesthood. This is a change from previous times, when a student's family were responsible for financing his education, so please be as generous as you can. The Diocese across all years of training has about nine students.

SALE OF CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS raised £130 for Aid to the Church in Need. Veronica would like to thank you all for your generous support for this very worthy cause.

WALK WITH ME BOOKLETS on sale in the Church Foyer priced £1 per copy. A great way to prepare for the coming of Our Lord at Christmas.

CAFOD: Total raised from donations throughout October - £1,465. Many thanks for your generosity.

SCRIPTURE READINGS - FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT 2022

The first reading this Sunday is from the Prophet Isaiah, who looks into the future and outlines God's plan for his chosen people of all nations, and how they will be gathered in peace. The things that divided them, will now become the instruments of lasting unity. It is a vision for all time for those who can take up the challenge of living by the Gospel.

In today's second reading there is a note of urgency, the moment of Salvation is now, it is here, now is the time to act, if you do not avail of the opportunity, then it may well be too late. Sometimes our preoccupation with the cares and worries of this world cause us to miss the glorious call that God is giving to us. God loves us with the very same love with which he loved his Son, Jesus.

Today's passage from St. Matthew's Gospel is rather straight forward, no one knows the precise time of the coming of the Lord in glory, so watchful waiting and vigilance are the order of the day. The passage also speaks about the uselessness of looking for signs, for there won't be any. As a thief sneaks in during the night, so will the Lord's coming be in glory. Today's passage therefore speaks to us about the nature of our waiting as opposed to the details of our waiting. The type of vigilance that Jesus speaks about, is similar to the vigilance exercised by the homeowner, protecting his home.