

# HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH, MARPLE

Holyspiritmarple.com  
Fr.Bill Fitzgerald 427 4922  
5<sup>th</sup> March 2023  
2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT



Online Donations

**Pope Francis's prayer intention for March seeks to highlight the joy that the Sacrament of Reconciliation brings, and reminds us that it's a loving and merciful encounter between us and God.**

<b>Sunday</b> Vigil 4pm 9am  4pm	5 <sup>th</sup> March David Devine Parishioners / David Matthews Stations of the Cross	<b>Thursday</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> March DAILY MASS David Matthews
<b>Monday</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> March NO MASS	<b>Friday</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> March NO MASS
<b>Tuesday</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> March NO MASS	<b>Saturday</b> Vigil 4pm	11 <sup>th</sup> March Intentions / Michael & Joan Blundell
<b>Wednesday</b> 10am	8 <sup>th</sup> March DAILY MASS Jenny Sullivan	<b>Sunday</b> 9am  4pm	12 <sup>th</sup> March Parishioners / Renata Broda Stations of the Cross
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, 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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A/C DETAILS: Name "Holy Spirit Development Account" Account No. 58710368 Sort Code 30 15 52

## Fr Bill Writes:

Thank you to all who brought in their "Red Missio Boxes" for emptying, Mary Bergin, our Parish Promoter, will empty and count the contents of each box this coming week, and the "Boxes" will be ready for collection the "Weekend of March 11 / 12. Things have been slightly delayed due to the funeral of Mary's brother, this past week. If anyone would like to use a "Red Missio Box" for the first time; speak with Fr. Bill who will provide you with one.

In entering the second week of Lent, we are conscious of how quickly the 40 days of Lent go by, so let us make the best possible use of our Daily and Sunday Masses during Lent.

March 18 will be the start of the special week of "Accompanied Prayer" and the week will kick off with a Special Service, here in Holy Spirit Church at 10:00am on Saturday 18th of March.

On April 1st, Palm Sunday Weekend, there will be a Special Mass at 12 noon, when the sick of the Parish will be anointed. This Mass will be organised by the Parish "Saint Vincent De Paul Conference" transport will also be provided for those who are "Housebound," and there will be Refreshments and Social Time after the Mass in the meeting room.

This weekend is the final call for anyone who wishes to take part in the "Week of Accompanied Prayer" Registration Forms, available from the table in the Church Foyer, fill yours in, and return it via the Box on the table.

Tickets have sold well for the "Quiz Night" which will take place on Friday night Next March 10<sup>th</sup>, again thank you for your support.

The "Special Basket Appeal" taken up at both Holy Spirit, Marple, and St. Bernadette's, Brinnington, came to the magnificent sum of £1,300. This money has now been processed through Cafod, to be used in the provision of relief aid in the Syrian & Turkish regions affected by the recent massive earthquake, where substantial aftershocks still continue to cause devastation.

Fr. Bill has published details of the "Preparatory Programme" for First Sacraments and all Parents / Guardians should have received them by now. The 1st. Session will take place next Thursday Evening March 9<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm - 7pm here at Holy Spirit. This is the last weekend for Registration, any Registration Forms that come in after midnight on 5<sup>th</sup> March will not be accepted. Can we ask Parents / Guardians of the Children to ensure that Children arrive on time at 6:00pm and are collected promptly @ 7:00pm when the session ends. Regular attendance at Sunday Morning Mass is an essential requirement for all Candidates, where they can join the special Children's Liturgy thus becoming familiar with the Mass. Children overall love coming to Mass and joining the other children, if only parents could come to realise that fact, and thank God a good number are aware of such a blessing.

Thanks to all who were involved with organising the "Women's World Day of Prayer" here at Holy Spirit last Friday, and also to those who were in attendance.

Readers, please pick up the New Readers List that will take us up to Holy Thursday.

The next Meeting of the Parish SVP Conference will be on March 18 at the slightly later time of 11:30am than previously agreed, members please take note of time change.

## SCRIPTURE READINGS — 2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT 2023

### **First Reading: Genesis 12:1-4 *The call of Abraham, father of the People of God***

In the opening reading from Genesis this Sunday we have a brief account of the call of Abraham, the sacred writer wants us to understand the significance of this call. The call is for the benefit of God's chosen people, if Abraham becomes a good leader, then all of the blessings that God bestowed on him from the outset, will then be visited upon the people of Israel, and the name of Abraham will be seen as blessing.

### **Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:8-10 *God calls and enlightens us.***

In today's second reading, we have Paul writing to Timothy, explaining to him that it is by "God's Grace" alone that we are called to "Genuine Holiness." God intended Man to be right from the very beginning, but unfortunately man made decisions that prevented it from happening, but the Salvation brought by God made man has rekindled this initial vision that God had predestined for man.

### **Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9 *His face shone like the sun.***

In today's Gospel from St. Matthew, we have the account of the "Transfiguration" on the mountain in today's reading a voice affirms that Jesus is God's Son in words very similar to the voice at Jesus' Baptism. In addition the appearance of Moses and Elijah on the mountain connects this story with God's relationship to the people of Israel. Moses and Elijah represent the "Law and the Prophets." Taken altogether with Jesus they stand for God's complete word. The "Transfiguration" occurs in the presence of just three of Jesus' disciples, Peter, James, John, and these were among the first to receive the call to be his Disciples.