

HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH, MARPLE

Holyspiritmarple.com

Fr.Bill Fitzgerald 427 4922

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5th May 2024

Sixth Sunday of Easter



Online Donations

Pope Francis's prayer intention for May: For the Formation of Religious, Monks, Nuns, and Seminarians.

Sunday Vigil 6 pm 9 am	5th May Ints: Parishioners MORNING MASS Intentions: Renata Broda	Thursday 10 am	9th May DAILY MASS Ascension Thursday Priests intention
Monday	6th May NO MASS	Friday	10th May NO MASS
Tuesday	7th May NO MASS	Saturday 6 pm	11th May VIGIL MASS Ints: Cyril Nield (Recd - decd)
Wednesday 10 am	8th May DAILY MASS Intentions: Sheila Couville.	Sunday 9 am	12th May MORNING MASS Intentions: Parishioners.

Baptism/Marriage	By appointment
Sacrament of Reconciliation	As above

THOSE WHO ARE SICK

Please pray for Christopher Brown, Christopher Clifford, Jonathan Davison, Fr. Bill Fitzgerald, Isaac Iqba, Stuart Madden, Nina Noworyta, 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

Preparations are getting underway with regard to First Holy Communion a number of preparatory dates, will be forwarded to parents and candidates in the near future. Anna Ashton, our Parish First Sacrament Catechist has had a meeting with Fr. Stephen in order to plan the preparatory sessions, and fix provisionally a date for the celebration of First Holy Communion, which candidates and their families can discuss. Fr. Bill again reminds the families of First Communion candidates the importance of attending on a regular basis Sunday Mass. The wellbeing and future of our Catholic Parishes totally depends on the commitment of our Catholic Families. The number of Catholic Parishes in our Catholic diocese of Shrewsbury is rapidly decreasing, and this is mainly due to a lack of commitment and support from Catholic Families.

Fr. Bill explained in last week's News Sheet that the present front of church project is being put on hold for now, this is due to the rise in Vat along with professional fees and the Vat on those plus the increased cost of building materials which have recently increased substantially. It is important that the level of giving towards the Development Fund increases greatly so that the project can be reprioritised by both the parish and the diocese. Contributions to the Development Fund can be made via the Monthly Envelope Scheme there are also a number of sets available from the table in the church Foyer. Contributions can be made also via The Contactless Plate or via Standing Orders, again Standing Order Forms are available from the table in the Church Foyer. Thank you to all who are contributing already to the Development Fund. It is greatly appreciated and valued.

This past week we have entered the month of May, the month of Our Lady, the month of The Holy Rosary. Fr. Stephen this weekend will lead the parish in the devotion of the Crowning of Our Lady.

Thanks to all who attended Choir Practice on Thursday last, there is also Choir Practice this coming Thursday evening May 9th at 7:30pm, again we invite parishioners and friends of the parish to make an effort to attend.

Pentecost is the feast of Holy Spirit Parish and will be celebrated on May 17th/18th, there will be a party after the weekend Masses, so if you can bring any food for eats, please sign the list on the table in the foyer, and likewise if you speak a language other than English, please offer to pray a Bidding Prayer in your native tongue.

Anyone with a Caritas Collecting Boxes please bring them in for emptying, and leave them on the table in the Church Foyer. The Lenten Cafod monies have been counted and have been sent to Cafod, thanks for your generosity, and to our Parish Cafod Group. We are also in the period of Christian Aid and the local Organiser is looking for a couple of Volunteers to deliver Christian Aid Envelopes in the area around Holy Spirit Church/Buxton Lane, if you can volunteer please contact Marian Thompson on 0161-4277254. Please also note that Thursday next May 9th is the Ascension Day and is also a Holy Day of Obligation.

SCRIPTURE READINGS – Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 10: 25-26, 34-35, 44-48 1 John 4: 7-10 John 15: 9-17

In today's first reading from the Acts of the Apostles, while Peter is speaking to the family of Cornelius, the power of the Spirit becomes evident, and the previously spoken words of Peter, about God not having any favourites among those who are believers comes through, as Peter baptises Cornelius and his family.

Today's second reading is again from the first letter of St. John, Love is the creation of God and his gift to us. To love is to recognise that we have been created by God, so we can do no harm, when we love each other, for we are recognising that we are in fact God's creation.

In today's Gospel, which is again from St. John, we have a continuation of last week's Gospel, where we were told that God was the Vine and we are the Branches. We are told this week that it is love that keeps the branches alive and active. Love of God is much more than just having knowledge about God. God's Love invites us into a very close union with him, this union inspires us to give our lives in his service.