

**HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH, MARPLE**

[www.holyspiritmarple.com](http://www.holyspiritmarple.com)

Fr.Bill Fitzgerald 427:4922

11<sup>th</sup> April 2021

2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

*DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY*

**First Reading: (Acts 4:32-35)**

United, heart and soul.

**Second Reading : (1 John 5:1-6)**

Anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world.

**Gospel: (John 20:19-31)**

Eight days later, Jesus came.

**Pope Francis's prayer intention for April: We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships. Authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crises.**

<b>Sunday Vigil</b> 4pm 6pm 9am	<b>11<sup>th</sup> April</b> Mary & Frank McGill Pauline & Michael Walton Parishioners	<b>Thursday</b> 10am	<b>15<sup>th</sup> April</b> Gerald Kendrick
<b>Monday</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> April</b> NO MASS	<b>Friday</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> April</b> NO MASS
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> April</b> NO MASS	<b>Saturday</b> Vigil 4pm  Vigil 6pm	<b>17<sup>th</sup> April</b> John Bergin Gabriel Hawksworth Stan Brown
<b>Wednesday</b> 10am	<b>14<sup>th</sup> April</b> Patricia McDonagh	<b>SUNDAY</b> 9am	<b>18<sup>th</sup> April</b> Parishioners
<b>One decade of the Rosary</b>		<b>Suspended</b>	
<b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Adoration and Rosary</b>		<b>Saturday 10.30am-11.30am (and Confessions)</b> <b>Suspended</b>	
<b>Baptism/Marriage</b>		By appointment	
<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b>		<b>Saturday 10.30am-11.30am</b>	
<b>Collection</b>		£428.42p (28/3) Easter Collection £715.73p Development Account Donations £600	

**Those who are sick:**

Please pray for Bill Davies, Christopher Brown, Stuart Madden, Christopher Clifford, James Tanner, Annie Shufflebotham, Marie Sidebottom, Malcolm Garrett, Libby Webb, Nina Noworyta, George Williams, Ruth Grace Crosby, Jarek Tomaszewski, Emily Small, Fr.John Cairns, Ann Crossley, Kathryn Smith, Steven Platts, Fr. Kevin Gradwell, Pauline Magrath, Kathleen Jones, Father Pat Munroe, Renata Broda, Cyril Nield, Neil Timperley.



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: Account Name: "The Holy Spirit Development Account" Account No. 58710368 Sort Code 30 15 52

## SOCIAL

Having celebrated the great Event of the Easter Resurrection, we can now endeavour to live out the Salvation won for us, in the afterglow of Easter. It was most encouraging to record that from the 10am Mass on Spy Wednesday through to the Family Mass on Easter Day, 380 approximately, of Men, Women and Children attended Church here at Holy Spirit. This number exceeds numbers pre/Covid, which speaks for itself. The overall atmosphere at our "Holy Week Services and Easter Masses" was one of great joy, coupled with a great relief that once again despite the confines of Covid 19, we were able to celebrate with safety the "Holy Week Services and Easter Masses." It was only made possible by those in attendance observing the "Social Distancing / Sanitising of their Hands / and the wearing of Masks." Our Church Stewards have done a terrific job of Voluntary Service right from last July, through to the present, and the feeling is that "Social Distancing / Sanitising of Hands and Church, Wearing of Masks," will be the last of the Covid Restrictions that we can expect to be eased, so "Stewards" in our Church will be required for some time yet, if you can help with "Stewarding" please offer your services by speaking with Robert Moss, who will be happy to guide you. For the next five / six weeks we will remain in the "Easter Season" up to Pentecost, Parishes are very hopeful that during that time our Diocesan Bishop will give permission for preparations to begin for the "First Sacraments in the Parishes of the Diocese." Fr. Bill has a number of Application Forms filled in by families of Candidates last year, if there are any other "Year 4" Children from any Primary Schools, whose family wish them to prepare for First Sacraments, please contact Fr. Bill / Mobile 07929-446490. This Sunday the Second Sunday of Easter is also known as "Divine Mercy Sunday" we ask for God's Mercy for the broken aspects of our lives and world, just as he did for the repentant thief on the Cross. We ask your prayers for Canon Brendan Hoban, retired priest of our diocese, his funeral will be held this coming week, also deacon Ron White, whose funeral will be this coming week also, May they rest at Peace. On Friday last, Frs. Bill and Ian celebrated the Requiem Mass of Sr. Gertrude at St. Bernadette's, Brinnington, May she rest in Peace. All of our schools will reopen at some stage during this coming week, for the Summer Term, we hope that it will be fruitful and safe time for all our Schools locally and nationally. Thank you to all who made Easter Offerings for the upkeep of your Parish Priest, it is appreciated. There are still quite a number of sets of "Offertory Envelopes" to be picked up, the "New Financial Year" has begun on April 5th so the New Sets of Offertory Envelopes begin this Saturday / Sunday April 10 / 11.

### SCRIPTURE READINGS SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY)

The first Reading from the "Acts of the Apostles" on this Sunday, give us a glimpse of how the earliest Christian Communities responded to the Resurrection of Jesus, just as Jesus gave himself totally in his passion and death, the members of these Communities tried to follow his example, the theme that is central is that of "Love" we cannot make sacrifices unless we are motivated by "Love." It does not matter how much or how little we have to offerer, so much as we offer and share it with "Love." In the second reading St. John reminds us that it is our "Love of God" that helps us overcome the World and its power to distract us from the things of God. Through the "Waters of our Baptism and our Reception of Christ in the Eucharist" St. John says we have already overcome the World. Jesus has paid the price of our redemption we must now as believers be able to accept this free and precious gift of "Salvation." In this Sunday's Gospel, St. John asks us indirectly how genuine is our belief ?? he recounts the story of one of Jesus' own disciples, Thomas, who was not about when Jesus appeared to a large group of the disciples, and cast doubt on what they told him about their encounter with the "Risen Lord." In no uncertain terms Jesus challenges Thomas about his lack of Love and belief in him as the "Risen Lord." How often we find ourselves in a situation so similar to Thomas, it is easier to deny that we know God, than having to stand up for what we believe, only to realise and regret later that it is God we have let down. Thomas to some extent recovers his composure when Jesus appears personally to him.

**"WALK WITH ME BOOKLETS"** throughout Eastertide up to Pentecost are on sale in the Church Foyer, priced £1. Please consider purchasing one to help you prepare for the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Money can be left in the basket provided. Thank you.