

HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH, MARPLE

holyspiritmarple.com

Fr.Bill Fitzgerald 427:4922

5th September 2021

23rd Sunday of the Year

First Reading: (Isaiah 35:4-7)

The ears of the deaf shall be unsealed and the tongues of the dumb shall be loosed/

Second Reading : (James 2:1-5)

God chose the poor to be the heirs to the kingdom.

Gospel: (Mark 7:31-37)

He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.

Pope Francis's prayer intention for September: That we will make encourageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.

Sunday 6pm Vigil 9am	5th September Special Intention (Blundell) Parishioners	Thursday 10am	9th September Margaret Dixon
Monday	6th September NO MASS	Friday	10th September NO MASS
Tuesday 10am	7th September Kate Lee	Saturday 6pm Vigil	11th September NO MASS until Vigil
Wednesday	8th September NO MASS	Sunday 6pm Vigil (Sat.) 9am	12th September Golden Wedding (Hollingworth) Tony Hennessey Parishioners

One decade of the Rosary after Mass	Suspended
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions	Last Saturday of the month – 10.30am-11.30am After weekday Mass or by arrangement
Baptism/Marriage	By appointment
Sacrament of Reconciliation	As above
Collection	£345.90p

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, Ann Crossley, Kathryn Smith, Steven Platts, Fr. Kevin Gradwell, Pauline Magrath, Kathleen Jones, Father Pat Munroe, Renata Broda, Cyril Nield, Neil Timperley, Isaac Iqba, Grace Birch

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

SOCIAL

This past weekend has been a most memorable occasion, both for me personally and for the parish. To mark 40 years in any vocation is a significant milestone, in my case 40 years in the "Priestly Ministry." I am especially thankful for the opportunity to serve currently as Parish Priest both of "Holy Spirit, Marple & St. Bernadette's, Brinnington." Fr. Bill would like to express his deep gratitude for the special celebrations, that were part of "Bank Holiday Monday" beginning with the celebration of his Anniversary Mass and followed by the celebratory Garden Party. Special thanks for the wonderful food so kindly donated by Parishioners and Friends of the Parish, the quality and quantity was enormously generous, and appreciated by all who sat down to eat, numbering in the region of 100+ which included visitors from all across the diocese. Thanks to Frank & Mary Bergin as well the Shropshire Friends of Fr. Bill for preparations in the lead up to the celebrations. Robert Moss and his team did as always a terrific job in welcoming and Stewarding Parishioners, Friends of the Parish, and Visitors for the Mass, along with the preparation and presentation of the food. Again Robert's team led the tidy up after the Garden Party, a major task in itself, so thanks again for the "Community Spirit" that was so much to the fore right through the weekend. Thanks to Tony Walker for the welcome and reassurance he gave to the "Telford Quartet" as they prepared the Music for the actual Anniversary Mass. Dianne, the Quartet Leader and Tony presented a beautifully "Sung Mass" appreciated by all who were present, and may I say which many Parishes would be envious of.

Family life will have returned to normal for a lot of "Families" in the past week, with the re-opening of our Primary/ Post Primary Schools, in some cases Colleges of Secondary Education have reopened. We hope this New Academic Year will give School Communities an opportunity to ease down on the Covid Regulations of the past fifteen months, and restore learning to a more gentle process as it previously was.

On Wednesday last we entered the 2021 "Season of Creation" which we will continue to celebrate until October 4th. Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi. As a Parish we will be preparing for the "Cop 26 Conference" which will be held in Glasgow from October 31st to November 12th this year. We as a Parish will prepare for "Cop 26" by devoting the entire "Weekend's Liturgy" of September 25th / 26th to preparation for the Glasgow Conference, we as a Parish will also be linking this with the 2021 "Cafod Harvest Family Fast Day" which is on Friday October 1st. Currently on the table there are copies of a Prayer for our Earth. (This Prayer Page 179 of the Encyclical "Laudatory Si") by Pope Francis) There is also a "Hand Out" on "Seasons of Creation" in case anyone did not get last week's one that was attached to the Newsletter.

There are plenty of things we have to look forward to as the Autumn sets in. If anyone has any practical ideas about our "Parish Liturgy Celebration on September 25/26 our Parish preparation for "Cop 26" speak with Fr. Bill or Marian Thompson, and share your ideas.

SCRIPTURE READINGS: — 23rd. SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME.

Today's Psalm carries much significance for today's liturgy, it extols the magnificence of God' healing and the "Power of the Almighty." Yahweh is especially praised for his power to heal the blind. Even the healing of the "Deaf Mute" though not explicitly mentioned, it is of course, implied. Today's Gospel story of the deaf man is immediately linked to the Psalm. St. James in writing, takes a view that is based on the inherent truth of the Gospel. Wealthier members of the Community should care for the poor, because of their Baptism, the poor are afforded a primary place in the "Reign of God," this New Kingdom that is approaching, will be theirs. The "Poor" are to be treated with the same love and deference that is given to the rich, especially at "Liturgical Celebrations." All give God the same honour and glory. A poor person is not to be ignored, or treated as a second class citizen in the assembly of the Lord. The Pope in his Lenten Address, Ubi et Orbi in Lent 1998 (John Paul 11) echoed the sentiments of today's readings. He clearly exhorted the people to enter the solitude of the desert, in order to see and feel their inadequacies before God, and thus become more sensitive to the needs of the poor and marginalised in the World. Today's Gospel is a clear reminder of the compassion Jesus had for people who were and are suffering. His Disciples were invited to be at the very heart of this compassion. Jesus was the mediator of His Father's Compassion, God is the ultimate source of compassion and healing as ministered by his Son, Jesus.

The Season of Creation: Pope Francis has declared a global "climate emergency", warning of the dangers of global heating. "Future generations stand to inherit a greatly spoiled world. Our children and grandchildren should not have to pay the cost of our generation's irresponsibility".