

Holy Spirit Catholic Church, Marple



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2nd August 2026

18th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Online Donations
 A/C details:

Name: Holy Spirit
 Development Account,
 Account No.58710368,
 Sort Code 30-15-52

Sunday Vigil 6pm	2nd August VIGIL MASS Intention: For the Parish	Thursday 10am	6th August Priest Intention
9am	MORNING MASS Intention: For the Parish		
Monday 10am	3rd August Priest Intention	Friday 10am	7th August Priest Intention
Tuesday	4th August No Mass	Saturday 6pm	8th August VIGIL MASS Intention: For the Parish
Wednesday 10am	5th August Priest Intention	Sunday 9am	9th August Intention: For the Parish
Baptism/Marriage			By appointment
Sacrament of Reconciliation			As above

THOSE WHO ARE SICK

Please pray for Christopher Brown, Christopher Clifford, Fr. Bill Fitzgerald, Isaac Iqba, Stuart Madden, Steven Platts, Emily Small, Kathryn Smith, James Tanner, Jarek Tomaszewski, Kathleen Williams, Mary Gilbody, Sharon Rodgers, Sarah Callan, Margaret Redman, Bill & Penny Bowker, John Farrell, Vincent Taylor.

Marian Lamp: For the Parish.

A warm welcome to everyone. If you are new to the parish, please fill in a card and give it to Fr Stephen. We shall be glad to visit you and make you as welcome as possible. The Diocese of Shrewsbury is a Registered Charity No.234025

Data Protection Privacy Notice. The Parish of Holy Spirit, Marple sometimes collects personal information about parishioners. All personal information is collected, processed and stored in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations. This is retained only as necessary and used by the Parish/Diocese for the benefit of the Parish and for legitimate reasons such as administrative and religious purposes. You can read our full privacy notice at; <https://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/legal/privacy-notice/>

Fr. Stephen Writes

This week the gospel tells us, “When Jesus heard of the death of John the Baptist, he withdrew in a boat to a desolate place by himself.” The death of John the Baptist marked a deeply sorrowful moment in the ministry of the Lord. John a faithful servant of God, and a relative whose life had been devoted to preparing the way for the Messiah. The news of his violent and unjust death was met not with immediate action or public words, but with quiet withdrawal.

Jesus' response is both deeply human and profoundly instructive. He sought a solitary place, not to escape His mission, but to make space for grief. In doing so, He affirms that loss should not be ignored or hurried past. There are moments in life when the heart needs silence more than activity, reflection more than conversation, and the presence of God more than the distractions that so easily fill our days.

We often feel compelled to carry on as though nothing has changed. Responsibilities remain, people continue to depend upon us, and the pace of life allows little opportunity to mourn. Yet unacknowledged grief has a way of lingering beneath the surface. Scripture shows us that there is wisdom in withdrawing for a time to pray, to reflect, to remember, and to place our sorrow before the Lord.

Solitude is not an abandonment of others; it is an acknowledgement of our own need for God's sustaining grace. In the quiet, we are able to bring our questions, our sadness, and even our confusion before Him. We may not always receive immediate answers, but we discover that God Himself is present with us. It is often in those still moments that He brings comfort, restores perspective, and gently strengthens us.

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 55:1-3 Romans 8:35, 37-39 Matthew 14:13-21 Page 378

Churches Together

The Methodist Church will be busy in August have invited us to join their various events.

Community Celebration Festival at The Ridge Methodist Church on Saturday August 1st 12- 3pm. This is a lovely place to visit on a summer's day with plenty to do when you are there.

Marple Methodist Church a dementia friendly service on Sunday August 9th at 2 pm for people living with dementia and those who care for them.

Ridge Methodist Church movement and mindfulness on Tuesday August 11th at 11 am

Invitation for early risers to come to pray on Wednesday mornings 7 - 8 am at Connect in Queen Street Marple. Also see the August link magazine:
www.churchestogethermarplearea.org.uk

Laudate Si Centre Thursday 24th September

A visit to the Laudate Si Centre limited to 20 people if anyone is interested in going, please speak to Elizabeth Foster.

Volunteer Registration Form Non-DBS Volunteers

For the Parish records, Parishioners who volunteer in roles such as Readers, Welcomers, Cleaners, Flower arrangers (Eucharistic ministers on parish premises only.) There is a non-DBS Volunteer Registration form available to collect from the parish after any of the masses. When the form is filled out return it to me at the parish many thanks Fr. Stephen