



SAINT PHILIP NERI

CATHOLIC PARISH BIRKENHEAD
SERVING THE CHURCHES OF SAINT MICHAEL
& ALL ANGELS AND SAINT JOSEPH

NEWSLETTER



Sunday 22 November 2020

Day	Date	Celebration	Psalter	Mass Time	Mass Intention	Church
Saturday	21	Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary		10.30am 11 – 12am 6pm	Secular Clergy Fund Open for Private Prayer Billy Dooley RIP	Live stream Saint Joseph's Live stream
Sunday	22	Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe	Week II	Ordinary Time Week Thirty Four		
During Ordinary Time (Autumn) ie, from September to Christ the King we are asked to pray for these intentions: Students and Teachers; The Spread of the Gospel; the Harvest; the Fruits of Human Work; and the Reverent Use of Creation; Justice and Peace in the World; All Victims of War; Young People; Prisoners and their families				11.00am	Deceased Family & Friends of Maureen & Bernadette RIP	Live stream
Monday	23	Ferial		9.15am 10 – 11am	Janette Woolrich RIP Open for Private prayer	Live stream Saint Michael's
Tuesday	24	Saints Andrew Dung-Lac, P & Companions		7pm	Agnes McGinn Anniversary	Live stream
Wednesday	25	Ferial		9.15am 10 – 11am 1.15pm	Benjamin O'Connell Open for Private Prayer Funeral Service for Damien Burke*	Live stream Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's
Thursday	26	Ferial		9.15am 10 – 11am 12 noon	November List Open for Private Prayer Requiem Mass for Frances Davies*	Live stream Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
Friday	27	Ferial		9.15am	Holy Souls	Live stream
Saturday	28	Ferial		10.30am 11 – 12am 6pm	November list Open for Private Prayer Margaret McMullin RIP	Live stream Saint Joseph's Live stream
Sunday	29	First Sunday of Advent	Week I	Advent		
				11.00am	Samuel Pickering	Live stream

* Please note invited guests only at funerals.

Father Chris writes.....

Welcome to this weeks newsletter. Today is the last Sunday in Ordinary Time and the Solemnity of Christ the Universal King. Today is also a national day of prayer for young people. Pope Saint John Paul II described young people as the 'Church of today and the hope of tomorrow.' Today let us pray especially for our young people - those actively involved in the life of our parish, those in our parish schools and those who are on the margins. May they hear and respond to the call of Jesus Christ to follow Him wherever He may lead them. Wishing you a blessed week ahead.

Prayer to the Holy Spirit – please pray this prayer every day

*Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth.
O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful,
grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations
Through Christ Our Lord. Amen*

Newsletter Deadline: 9am Thursday morning.

Weekly timetable during lock down:

Mass will be live streamed from Saint Michael's each day: www.churchservices.tv/woodchurch
See the front of the Newsletter for times of live streamed Masses and when our churches are open for private prayer.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available on request - simply ask Father Chris or Father Humphrey and they will happily hear your confession outside.

The layout will be slightly different for Private Prayer, so it is important that you please follow the directions of our wonderful stewards.

Advent: Believe it or not, we are only one week away from the beginning of Advent and the new liturgical year!! This year our Advent focus is for those in the local area who are less fortunate than ourselves. During the first three weeks of Advent we ask you to bring to church and place before the crib those little extras that make Christmas Day special - chocolate decorations for the tree, boxes of sweets, Christmas crackers, etc. These will be made into small hampers and distributed to those families we know who will struggle to simply put food on the table this Christmas. If you know of a family who would benefit from these extra treats, please let Jane in the Parish Office know. On the Second Sunday of Advent (5/6 December) we will be holding the annual collection for Caritas Shrewsbury (the social welfare arm of the Diocese). This collection used to take place at the crib over Christmas, but this year Caritas have asked if they can possibly have the proceeds before Christmas to support families who are struggling at this time of year. Your generosity will be much appreciated. On the Fourth Sunday of Advent please bring your crib (or at least the Christ Child) to Mass and we will be blessing those cribs, and a Christmas Dinner Grace Prayer Card will also be available to take home.

Christmas Masses: advance warning! We will have a booking system in place for our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses this year, so that we can maintain COVID safe capacity in both our church buildings. More info will be available next weekend.

**The Safeguarding Representatives for our parish are
Saint Michael's - Marie Gelling mobile 07771636925
& Saint Joseph's - Marie Fisher 01516701767**

Covid Update Private Prayer: You are asked to please:

- Follow the directions of our wonderful stewards - they are here for your safety.
- Maintain social distance on the way into church, in church, and outside church.
- Wear a face covering in church (age 3+). Face shields are only acceptable for those exempt from wearing a mask.
- Use hand sanitiser on the way in and on the way out.
- Cooperate with the track and trace system we have in place.
- Follow the one way system.
- Sit where you are directed to by our wonderful stewards and only in household groups.
- Do not move around church unnecessarily.
- Remember the toilets are currently closed.
- Please do not come to church if you have symptoms or feel unwell

Parish Office: Although the Parish Office remains operational at this time of lock down, please avoid calling to the Presbytery door unless absolutely necessary. Please make contact either by phone or email and Jane will try and help as best she can in these unusual circumstances. Thank you.

Act of Spiritual Communion: My Jesus, I believe that thou art present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love thee above all things, and I desire to receive thee in my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive thee sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace thee as if thou wert already there, and unite myself wholly to thee. Never permit me to be separated from thee. Amen.

November: Month of the Holy Souls: During November, Masses will be offered for the repose of the souls and those whose names appear in our Book of Remembrance, which for the first time is also available on our parish website. Please send in a list of names of those who you wish to be remembered in these Masses, along with your offering in a sealed envelope to the Parish Office or via the collection basket. You may also submit the names by email and then make an offering through our online donation page as a one off payment (please comment 'November').

#somethingtolookforwardto! Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2021. We are currently negotiating prices for a parish pilgrimage to Lourdes in the 2021 October half term. No commitment at this stage but please let Jane in the Parish Office know if you would be interested in joining us in Lourdes in October next year. We need a good idea of numbers by the end of November to negotiate the best price possible.

Parish Finances: We are well aware people are struggling, and this is not trying to guilt trip anyone - we are so sorry to have to raise the issue of money at this time. Can you help? Do you shop online? Please go to **www.easyfundraising.org.uk** first, search for **stphilipneri** and then when you do buy online lots and lots of shops will make a donation to us that will cost you absolutely nothing - it is free money for the parish. Don't forget there is a donation link on our parish website too. Thank you.

Pause for Reflection - Weekly Video Reflections: The next reflection, featuring Clare Williams will be available on YouTube this coming Monday from 7.45am.

Thinking about becoming a Catholic? During lockdown people started to reflect on the bigger questions of life and explore their faith. If you have been thinking about becoming a Catholic please get in touch with Deacon John (via the Parish Office).

The parish weekly rosary continues each Monday at 1.15pm from the comfort of your own home.

Churches Together: In Saint Joseph's church we are praying this week for those in the following roads: **[Parkhurst Rd](#), [Pennine Rd](#), [Pine Walks](#), [Prenton Rd East](#), [Raffles Rd](#), [Rawcliffe Rd](#) & [Rectory Close](#).**

The Marian Lamp: burns each week in both our churches for particular prayer intentions. This week the Lamp in Saint Joseph's burns for **A Successful Operation for Julia**. The Lamp in Saint Michael's burns for **Anthony Whitehead RIP**. Please keep both of these intentions in your prayers. If you would like the lamp to burn for a particular prayer intention, then please write your intention out and place it with an offering (we suggest £5) in an envelope marked "Marian Lamp". We ask Our Blessed Lady to carry these prayers to her Son and to intercede for us.

Youth Zoom: Clare is planning a Youth Zoom for those in Year 5 and above (up to 18) on Sunday 29th November 4-5pm. It'll be a chance to catch up and have some fun with games and quizzes plus we'll be putting our Faith into Action with an activity! It's important to let Clare know if your young person is coming so a pack can be made up for them for the meeting.

If you'd like your young person to be involved or want to know more, please email Clare and she will send you the consent forms to be filled in and answer any questions.

clare.williams@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

Advent Candles available: some sets of advent candles have been made by recycling church candles from Saint Joseph's church. These sets are available for a donation of £5 to parish funds on a first come first served basis. If you would like a set please contact Jane in the Parish office.

Help get Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem: As people are using less and less coins, we thought you might like to put your odd ones to a good cause - our Parish. Mary and Joseph travelled 90 miles before the birth of our Lord, can we help get them there? A mile of pennies would raise £792.78! However, we are asking for all types of coins from 1 pence pieces to £2 coins. Each week we will "convert" the coins donated to pence to see how far along the way we have helped Mary and Joseph and we will publish this in the newsletter. **Coins can be put in either money bags, envelopes or plastic bags labelled Bethlehem in the baskets along with your offertory.** Interesting fact - 90 miles of pennies would raise £71,350.20, we can but dream! So far we have received **£158.38** which has got Mary and Joseph about 352 yards on their trip to Bethlehem. Thank you, please keep saving your coins.

To help Mary and Joseph find their way to Bethlehem there will be a star colouring competition for the children and young people in the Parish, 50p per star! Stars will be available at the beginning of Advent.

**Please Pray for the Repose of the Soul of
Fran Davies, Damien Burke and Margaret
McMullin**

*May they rest in peace in the arms of the Good
Shepherd*

Readings at Mass

Entrance Antiphon	Revelation 5:12, 1:6	<i>The Lamb who was slain is worthy to receive strength and divinity, wisdom and power and honour: to him be glory and power for ever</i>
Reading 1	Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17	<i>As for you, my sheep, I will judge between sheep and sheep</i>
Psalm	Psalm 22	<i>The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want</i>
Reading 2	1 Corinthians 15:20-26,28	<i>He will hand over the kingdom to God the Father, so that God may be all in all</i>
Gospel Acclamation	Mark 11:10	<i>Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David!</i>
Gospel	Matthew 25:31-46	<i>He will take his seat on his throne of glory, and he will separate men one from another</i>
Communion Antiphon	Psalm 28:10-11	<i>The Lord will reign for ever and will give his people the gift of peace</i>

Parish Team:

Parish Priest: Reverend Father Christopher Matthews VE AChLJ BA (Hons) MA
 Assistant Priest: Reverend Father Humphrey Agbim
 Deacons: Reverends Gerard Boyle, Patrick Regan, Les Arch, Paul D’Ambrogio & John Birch
 Parish Sisters: Sister Catherine Bibby FCJ & Sister Mary Hill CSN
 Youth Minister: Clare Williams ✉ clare.williams@dioceseofshrewsbury.org ☎ 07803414669

Parish Office:

The Parish Office is usually open 10am to 1pm Monday – Friday
 10 Willowbank Road Birkenhead Wirral CH42 7JY
 0151 652 5767
 admin@saint-philip-neri.co.uk
 www.saint-philip-neri.co.uk
 @stsjoeandmike StMaAAandStJosephs stphilipneribirkenhead
 Live Stream: www.churchservices.tv/woodchurch

Income:

Offertory Collection: Not available this week *Monthly Standing Orders:* £1848.50
Saints Club: Suspended until further notice *Development Society:* 15/11 £50 410 Sheila Wilson

*Our Parish Receives no outside funding and rely completely on your generosity.
 Please consider remembering the Parish in your will.*

The parish of Saint Philip Neri 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 www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice.

Saint Michael & All Angels Primary School
 New Hey Road, Woodchurch, CH49 5LE
 Head Teacher: Mrs Susan Ralph
 0151 677 4088
 schooloffice@stmichael-allangels.wirral.sch.uk

Saint Joseph’s Parish Centre
 Greenbank Road Birkenhead
 Manager: Mrs Marge Penrose
 0151 652 8487 (after 7pm)

Saint Joseph’s Catholic Primary School
 Woodchurch Road, Oxton CH43 5UT
 Head Teacher: Mr Alex Turner
 0151 652 6781
 schooloffice@stjosephs-birkenhead.wirral.sch.uk