

NEWSLETTER



Sunday 15 May 2022



“It becomes difficult to hear the cry of nature itself.”

Day	Date	Celebration	Psalter	Mass Time	Mass Intention	Church
Saturday	14	Saint Matthias		10.30am 11am 11am 5.15pm 6pm	Anna Adoration & Confession St Michael's First Holy Communion Mass Confession John Connely	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
Sunday	15	Fifth Sunday of Easter	Week I			
During Easter we are asked to pray for these intentions: New Members of the Church; Vocations; The Right Use of the Media; the Church; Human Work				9.30am 11.00am 5pm	Michael Breslin RIP Raymond Keogh RIP Parishioners	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's
Monday	16	Easter Ferial		9.15am	Mary Baker	Saint Michael's
Tuesday	17	Easter Ferial		7pm	Intentions of Susan & Ron Hill	Saint Joseph's
Wednesday	18	Easter Ferial		9.15am	Jean Keller RIP	Saint Joseph's
Thursday	19	Saint Milburga		9.15am	Gail White seriously ill	Saint Michael's
Friday	20	Easter Ferial		9.15am	Dominique Borboen	Saint Joseph's
Saturday	21	The Dedication of the Cathedral		10.00am 12noon 5.15pm 6pm	St Joseph's First Holy Communion Mass St Joseph's First Holy Communion Mass Confession Parishioners	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
Sunday	22	Sixth Sunday of Easter	Week II			
				9.30am 11.00am 5pm	Marcelino Marinas JR RIP Peter & Kathleen Mahony John Ronald Connors RIP	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's

Canon Niall writes.....

Welcome to this week's newsletter. In this Sunday's Gospel we hear Jesus' 'New Commandment': "I give you a new commandment: love one another; just as I have loved you, you also must love one another". That call to 'love one another' was to be lived out not in some ideal, happy dreamy world, but in the real world. The first followers of Jesus had to live out that calling in difficulties and hardships, and in the face of authorities and groups that were often hostile, and persecuted them with suffering and even death. As we meet Jesus in Word and Sacrament today we are reminded that our call to share that love is in the real world of today. In all the conflicts, division and concerns of our world we are inspired to see people working for peace and reconciliation. We see others going into the most desperate situations to bring that love, mercy, tenderness and care of Christ to those most in need, even to those who are presented by various bodies as undesirable or unacceptable. Here we can take heart that this same love is part of us, and each one of us can make it real wherever we are, in whatever situation we are in. Our contribution may seem small, but the more of us who believe this message, the more we each contribute to a great wave of love that grows and can touch people's hearts

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

Come O Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and enkindle 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 taught the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit, grant that by the gift of the same Spirit we may be always truly wise and ever rejoice in his consolation Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Newsletter Deadline: 9am Thursday morning

Upcoming First Holy Communion Masses: We have several First Holy Communion Celebrations coming up:

◆ **Saturday, 14th May 11.00am at St Michael's** – Mass, Confessions & Holy Hour at St Joseph's as usual

◆ **Saturday, 21st May 10.00am & 12.noon at St Joseph's** – no 10.30am Mass, Holy Hour or Confessions that day

◆ **Saturday, 18th June, 10.00am at St Joseph's** - no 10.30am Mass, Holy Hour or Confessions that day

Do please pray for the children involved, and for their families, at this special time

Retiring Collection for SPUC: This weekend of the 14th/15th May we will be holding a Retiring Collection after our Masses for the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) 'White Flower' appeal. Whilst there is no presentation with this appeal, we ask your support at this time when there are so many threats to the Unborn and Vulnerable.

Prayer Times before the Blessed Sacrament: At a time when many people feel the need to pray it is good to remember that we have two opportunities for quiet prayer before the Blessed Sacrament each week in the Parish. These are on Tuesday evenings at St Joseph's from 6.00pm to 7.00pm, before the 7.00pm Mass and at St Michael's on Thursday mornings from 8.45am to 9.15am, before the 9.15am Mass

Laudato Si: In June 2015 this letter of Pope Francis was on our call to care for creation in the light of the climate crisis. It has inspired many, and in this time of challenge for our climate each week on the top of the Newsletter we are producing a different quote from 'Laudato Si' to help us reflect on how each one of us can make a real difference by our choices and actions

Easing of COVID-19 Measures: Although COVID Regulations have been eased, we still ask:

- *Not come to church if you are unwell or have Covid symptoms*
- *If you can, please wear a face mask in Church*
- *Use hand sanitiser as you enter and leave church*
- *Follow the directions of our wonderful stewards*

If you wish to continue to socially distance, please take a couple of signs and place them either side of you on the bench (please return the signs at the end of Mass). Please respect others need for distance at this time.

Please keep your mask on if singing if you can.

We are required to keep our Churches ventilated so do please continue to dress warmly.

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

The Marian Lamp: burns each week in both our churches for particular prayer intentions. This week the Lamp in Saint Joseph's burns for **Prayers for Brian MacDonald**. The Lamp in Saint Michael's burns for **Private Intention**. 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.

Parishioners who are Housebound or who are unable to join us at Mass. If you know of anyone who wishes to receive Holy Communion at home, can you ask them or help them to contact our Parish Secretary Jane on 652 5767 or admin@saint-philip-neri.co.uk We will then make the necessary arrangements. Thank you.

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

Bethlehem 2021 Onward: Please continue to bring in your coins, for the third mile, we now only need 11872 pennies. All money raised will go towards the Parish. So far we have received **£2725.80**. A HUGE Thank you, please keep saving your coins.

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.**

Music Notes:

Requests please! There is a box at the back of St Joseph's church in which you can put your 'requests' for your favourite hymn, and hopefully they can be included in our music at 9.30 Mass.

Save the Date! We will be holding a Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebration for the Parish on Sunday 12th June after the 11am Mass at St Michael's. More details to follow.

St Michael's Tea and Coffee has started again after the 11am Mass on Sunday. Please come and join us.

St Michael's Ladies' Jubilee Party - St Michael's Ladies' will meet on Thursday 26th May at 7 pm for a Jubilee Party. There will be quizzes, bingo etc.. There will be a prize for the best "crown" to be made at home should anyone want to have a go. Please bring a raffle prize and a plate of party food to share. Wine and soft drinks will be provided.

Sr. Loretta Madigan FCJ (Amendment of Date): A Memorial Service in thanksgiving for the life and service of Sr. Loretta Madigan FCJ will be held in Upton Hall School Chapel on Monday 23rd May at 7pm. All are welcome, Past Pupils, Staff, Parents, Friends. RSVP to 0151-652-3715 (for catering) by Friday 20th May.

Urgent need: The Vincent Centre, Grange Road, Birkenhead (SVP) is in desperate need of good quality clothes that they give out free to those in need. They especially need clothes for 0 – 5 year olds. If you are a parent, Grandparent etc and can donate, please either take them to the Vincent Centre or contact Mary Dyer on 07752 164181, Many thanks.

Foodbank: Please remember there is a continuing need for food. Donations of long life items always welcome e.g. Tinned vegetables, fruit, meat, fish. There is a donation box at the back of St Joseph's Church.

Collation of Synod Responses and Diocesan Discernment for the 'Diocesan Listening Phase': Once again, thank you to all who submitted responses and prayed for the Diocesan Listening Phase of the Preparation for the Synod in Rome in October 2023 on the theme of 'Synodality' 'Walking Together' in our faith journey. The Collated Responses and Bishop Mark's discernment can be viewed on our Website.

Synod Prayer: Please continue to pray the Synod Prayer. This Prayer is called in Latin the 'Adsumus Sancte Spiritus' which means 'We stand before you Holy Spirit' and is based on the Prayer that the Bishops of the Second Vatican Council prayed before each of their sessions.

Prayer for the Synod: 'Adsumus Sancte Spiritus'

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder.

Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

All this we ask of You,

who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever.

Amen

Shrewsbury Youth Pilgrimage to Lourdes: 27th July – 5th August 2022 for those aged 16-22. Cost £570 plus £33 insurance. Please email youth@dioceseofshrewsbury.org for more information or an application form

Easyfundraising: If you're not supporting us yet, please sign up now. It takes 2 minutes & 5,900+ shops will donate to us for free every time you shop with them! if you are an internet shopper, use www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stphilipneri/ and register to support your parish by doing your normal online shopping. Thank you in anticipation.

Diocese of Shrewsbury Training 2022: The Diocese will be running a series of training courses at venues across the Diocese in 2022. These days are aimed at those involved in the various roles described. This training day will consist of two short courses on Safeguarding and Fundraising in the morning followed by a course covering Health and safety in the afternoon. The courses are free and there will be refreshments and a light lunch for those attending a course in morning and afternoon. The next one of these courses will be at St Wilfrid's Northwich on 22nd June. Booking is essential.

Vocations Weekend for young women: Theme: Discernment and Vocation, Dates: 27-29 May 2022

Location: Liverpool. The weekend is organised by the sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ).

There is nothing quite like religious life – it's an extraordinary adventure into a deep relationship with God. If you are wondering if God is calling you to religious life and would like to find out more why not come along? You are welcome to stay for the weekend or just come along on Saturday for the day. There will be opportunity for prayer, reflection and input, chance to ask questions and to meet others who are also wondering where God is calling them. **For more information contact Sr Lynne fcJ at lynnefcj@hotmail.com or visit our website www.fcjsisters.org**

Welcome to Daniel & Mark Zelazny & Poppy Grace Jones & Lara Jasmine Carrigan who were baptised in our Parish last weekend

Please Pray for the Repose of the Soul of Veronica Hill, James Maloney and Father Robin Sutton who have died recently
May they rest in peace in the arms of the Good Shepherd

Readings at Mass

Entrance Antiphon	Cf. Psalm 97:1-2	<i>O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia</i>
Reading 1	Acts 14:21-27	<i>They gave an account to the church of all that God had done with them.</i>
Psalm	Ps 144:8-9, 10-11, 12-13	<i>I will bless your name for ever, O God my King.</i>
Reading 2	Apoc 21:1-5a	<i>God will wipe away all tears from their eyes.</i>
Gospel Acclamation	John 13: 34	<i>Jesus said: 'I give you a new commandment: love one another, just as I have loved you.'</i>
Gospel	John 13:31-35	<i>I give you a new commandment: love one another.</i>
Communion Antiphon	Cf. John 15:1.5	<i>I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty</i>

Parish Team:

Parish Priest: Canon Niall Mullaley
 Assistant Priest: Reverend Father Humphrey Agbim
 Deacons: Reverends Gerard Boyle, Patrick Regan, Les Arch, Paul D'Ambrogio & John Birch
 Parish Sister: Sister Catherine Bibby FCJ
 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
 Parish YouTube Channel: via www.saint-philip-neri.co.uk

Income: Thank you for your generosity.

Offertory Collection: £644.55

Monthly Standing Orders: £1858.50

Development Society: May 8th £50 102 Tony Evans

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 Catholic 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
 THE PARISH CENTRE IS CLOSED
 AS MAJOR WORK HAS TO BE UNDERTAKEN
 ON THE ROOF

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

[Saint Michael's Church Tour Video](#) is now available to view by accessing the button on the front page of the website or the QR codes on the posters at Church