

NEWSLETTER



SAINT PHILIP NERI
CATHOLIC PARISH BIRKENHEAD

Sunday 21 April 2024

SERVING THE CHURCHES OF SAINT MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS AND SAINT JOSEPH

Day	Date	Celebration	Psalter	Mass Time	Mass Intention	Church
Saturday	20	Ferial		10.30am 11.00am 5.15pm 6.00pm	Sheila Morrel RIP Adoration & Confession Confession Mary Southgate	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
Sunday	21	Fourth Sunday of Easter	Week IV			
During Easter we are asked to pray for these intentions: New Members of the Church; Vocations; The Right Use of the Media: Survivors of Abuse; the Church; Human Work				9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	Parishioners Angela Devine RIP (Special cousin of Peter & Rowena Hodgson) Barney & Lucy McCartan RIP	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's
Monday	22	Ferial		9.15am	Laurence Murphy RIP	Saint Michael's
Tuesday	23	St George		7.00pm	Priest's intention	Saint Joseph's
Wednesday	24	Ferial		9.15am	Michael Berry RIP	Saint Joseph's
Thursday	25	St Mark		9.15am	Brenda Jones RIP	Saint Michael's
Friday	26	Ferial		9.15am	Mr Varghese departed soul	Saint Joseph's
Saturday	27	Ferial		10.30am 11.00am 5.15pm 6.00pm	Priest's intention Adoration & Confession Confession Pat Campbell	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
Sunday	28	Fifth Sunday of Easter	Week I			
				9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	Parishioners Teresa Walker RIP Priest's intention	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's

Canon Niall writes.....

Welcome to this week's newsletter. On this Fourth Sunday of Easter the Gospel is always one of the versions of Jesus, the 'Good Shepherd'. Jesus used the image of 'sheep' and 'shepherd' a lot. In Jesus' earthly time, as would probably still be the case in many places in the middle east today, shepherds pastured their sheep together. These sheep from being tiny lambs, would have been taught their shepherd's distinctive call; they would recognise their shepherd's call alone. At the end of the day, when several flocks had been pastured together, the shepherds would stand outside the flocks and each make their distinctive call; the larger flock would then separate and each would go to their own shepherd only, and follow him only to their own corral. Jesus watched this process, and thought in a way it was like our world; there are so many 'voices' that call us 'this way & that', and it difficult to recognise what is true. That is why we come to Mass, take time to pray and seek to live our Christian life, so that being 'attuned' to God's way we will recognise, amid all the 'voices', the voice of Christ the Good Shepherd and with his grace, follow it. This is a day when we pray for 'Vocations'; and we pray that we may each recognise our 'call' and by following it, help build up the Body of Christ today

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.

The Diocese of Shrewsbury is a Registered Charity. Number: 234025

Safeguarding Representatives Saint Michael's - Mairie Gelling & Saint Joseph's - Marie Fisher

The Annual Diocesan Mass for Marriage: This will take place on Saturday, June 8th, 12.noon at St Columba's Church, Plas Newton Lane, Chester CH2 1SA. If any parishioners are celebrating a special anniversary, such as 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th, or a 1st wedding anniversary, and would like to attend this Mass, please let our Parish Office know as soon as possible so that we can arrange an invitation to be sent to you.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: This is the formal term for those we know better as 'Eucharistic Ministers'. In the near future we are thinking it is now time to restore the option of receiving Holy Communion under both kinds. To help with this we would need to have some Eucharistic Ministers to assist. We will contact those we know about, but if anyone feels they might like to help with this role to speak to one of Clergy after Mass and we can then get arrangements made for meetings to prepare for this.

Diocesan Director of Schools Post: With the retirement of our present Diocese of Shrewsbury Director of Schools this summer, the Diocese is seeking to recruit a new Director of Schools and applications are now open. Details of the role and the application process can be found at:

<https://www.tes.com/jobs/vacancy/director-of-schools-birkenhead-2040730>

Birkenhead Area Confirmation Mass, Friday 26th April: This coming Friday, 26th April, 7.00pm at Our Lady's, Cavendish Street, we welcome Bishop Mark to lead our Birkenhead Area Confirmation Mass. Please keep all involved in your prayers, especially thinking of those who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, that strengthened by this Sacrament they will always know God's presence in their lives.

Churches Together: In Saint Joseph's church we are praying this week for those in the following roads: **Alistair Crescent, Amery Grove, Bankville Rd, Balmoral Gardens, Briardale Rd, Brimstage Ave, Broadway, Caerwys Grove & Carlton Mount**

Spring Sing Concert: Thank you to everyone who came and supported the Parish at our Spring Sing Concert last Saturday night with Warrington Male Choir and the 3Ls Choir. An amazing total of £1364.52 was raised for Parish funds.

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

Welcome back to Seminarian Johnson Edeh: This weekend we welcome back Seminarian Johnson Edeh from his recent holiday. It is good to have him back with us.

Prayer Group: After our winter of praying at home We will be back in St Michael's and all Angels from this coming Thursday 25 April at 2 pm till 3 pm. All are welcome, side door will be open to enter.

The Marian Lamp: burns each week in both our churches for particular prayer intentions. This week the Lamp in Saint Joseph's burns for **Vocations to the Priesthood**. The Lamp in Saint Michael's burns for **Norah McGarrity diagnosed with Leukaemia**. Please write your intention out and place it with an offering (we suggest £5 to cover the cost of the candle) in an envelope marked "Marian Lamp". We ask Our Blessed Lady to carry these prayers to her Son and to intercede for us.

Grand National Sweep: Thank you to all those who entered the Grand National Sweep. After prize money was given out to the winners we raised an amazing £444 towards Parish funds. Winners: **1st £50: Anne Williams. 2nd £30 Holly Graham. 3rd £15 Stella McGann. 4th £5 Lesley**

Fund Raising Team: Our Parish Fundraising Team is delighted to announce that the Easter Raffle, The Grand National Draw and the Spring Sing altogether raised just over £2,000 towards the needs of the parish. This will help the Parish offset large heating costs, contribute towards Church supplies like candles, Communion hosts etc, IT and stationery equipment and general maintenance. Many thanks to those of you who have given so generously and to those who have helped in any way to organise these events.

Every Penny Counts - our Bethlehem loose change collection has been rebranded to EVERY PENNY COUNTS. Please keep donating your loose change in the boxes provided. Our Bethlehem collection has raised £200.00 in the last three months, and about £700.00 in the last year. As our heating costs have more than doubled EVERY PENNY COUNTS and this money will help towards the costs, thank you.

Healing and Anointing Service St John's New Ferry: Friday 3rd May at 7pm. Speaker Father Pat Collins, All welcome! Please see leaflet at back of Church.

Further threat to the unborn of abortion up to birth:

This is still an urgent issue that needs our support, please see how you might be able to help by following this link: <https://righttolife.org.uk/littlefighters>

St Michael's Old Presbytery: Work is restoring the Old Presbytery at St Michael's is coming to completion, but it will a short while yet until the building is ready for use again.

Foodbank: Thank you for your continued support of Wirral Foodbank over the years. Donations of long life items always welcome e.g. Tinned vegetables, fruit, meat, fish. Please leave your donations at the back Church, many thanks.

Parishioners who are Housebound 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 0151 652 5767 or admin@saint-philip-neri.co.uk

Old Spectacles: Please bring any old unused glasses and leave them at the back of church at St Joseph's. They will be taken to a charity who send them on to Africa, Many thanks.

Flame CCR (Christian and community radio) has now been on air on DAB+ to Liverpool and most of Wirral since the start of December last year, and also continues to be available nationally and globally on the internet at www.flameradio.org and via the Flame Radio app. On Saturday 27 April, from 10am until 4pm we are having an Open Day at our studios in Rock Ferry, Birkenhead, and would like to invite and welcome anyone to pop in at any point during the day to see and hear what we do. We are also always interested in the possibility of new people joining our team of volunteers. Our Open Day could be a chance to find out about the possibilities (though the day is open to everyone).

DO JUSTICE is an invitation to parishes to become a more synodal & missionary Church, a Church that adores God & serves the men & women of our time, going forth to bring everyone the consoling joy of the Gospel. The sessions will run on Monday evenings, beginning Monday 29th April, at 7pm in Our Lady's church, Birkenhead. Each sessions begins with a short time of prayer.

Parish Secretary Vacancy: A vacancy has arisen for a Parish Secretary at the parish of St Anne's, Rock Ferry. **Hours:** 15 per week, to be spread over Monday to Friday mornings (flexible). **hourly rate:** £12.50 to £13.50 depending on experience. For further details please see the Diocesan Website <https://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/latest-vacancies/> Applications in the form of a CV and covering letter should be sent to Pauline McCulloch recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org **Closing date:** 17 May 2024.

Another singing event..... Five members of **St Joseph's Birkenhead Choir** are also members of **Liverpool Welsh Choral** who are staging an ambitious and spectacular performance of **Verdi's Requiem**. LWC will be joined by three other choirs, with 290 singers in all, 4 international soloists and an orchestra of 64 at **Liverpool Anglican Cathedral on Saturday 27th April at 7.30 p.m.** Tickets, £26 are available on the LWC website: LWCU.co.uk or at the door. This event is the biggest choral event to have been staged in Liverpool for many years. Unmissable if you love dramatic music....or if you've never been to an event like this before!



Please Pray for the Repose of the Soul of
All those who have died recently
May they rest in peace
in the arms of the Good Shepherd

Readings at Mass

Entrance Antiphon	Cf. Psalm 32:5-6	<i>The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made</i>
Reading 1	Acts 4:8-12	<i>This is the only name by which we can be saved.</i>
Psalm	Ps 117:1.8-9, 21-23, 26.28-29	<i>The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.</i>
Reading 2	1 John 3:1-2	<i>We shall see God as he really is.</i>
Gospel Acclamation	John 10:14	<i>I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my own sheep and my own know me.</i>
Gospel	John 10:11-18	<i>The good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep.</i>
Communion Antiphon		<i>The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.</i>

Parish Team:

Parish Priest:	Canon Niall Mullaley
Assistant Priest:	Father Samuel Thotamala
Deacons:	Reverends Gerard Boyle, Patrick Regan, Les Arch, Paul D'Ambrogio & John Birch
In Residence:	Father Febin Thomas CMI, Wirral Syro-Malabar Rite Chaplain
Parish Sister:	Sister Catherine Bibby FCJ

Parish Office: *The Parish Office is usually open 10am to 1pm Monday – Friday*



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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: 14th April £1338.68

Monthly Standing Orders: £1625

Development Society No: 14th April £50 038 C Pryce

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 NOW OPEN

0151 652 8487

0345 241 2485

bhj@ypcevents.com

Saint Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Woodchurch Road, Oxtton CH43 5UT

Head Teacher: Mr Alex Turner
0151 652 6781

schooloffice@stjosephs-birkenhead.wirral/sch.uk

[Saint Michael's Church Tour Video](#) view on the website or the QR codes on the posters at Church