

NEWSLETTER



SAINT PHILIP NERI
CATHOLIC PARISH BIRKENHEAD

Sunday 16 June 2024

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

Day	Date	Celebration	Psalter	Mass Time	Mass Intention	Church
Saturday	15	Ferial		10.30am 11.00am 5.15pm 6.00pm	Michael Berry RIP Adoration & Confessions Confession John Hunt RIP	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
Sunday	16	Eleventh Sunday Ordinary Time	Week III			
During Ordinary Time (Summer) i.e. up to September, we are asked to pray for these intentions: a deeper understanding between Christians and Jews; Those Who Suffer Persecution, Oppression and Denial of Human Rights; Europe, Human Life; Seafarers				9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	Linda McGibbon 1 st Anniversary In thanksgiving (Jyothei Maria) Parishioners	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's
Monday	17	Ferial		9.15am	Priest's intention	Saint Michael's
Tuesday	18	Ferial		7.00pm	Norma Edwards RIP	Saint Joseph's
Wednesday	19	Ferial		9.15am	Priest's intention	Saint Joseph's
Thursday	20	Ferial		9.15am	John Hunt RIP	Saint Michael's
Friday	21	St Aloysius Gonzaga		9.15am	James G Farrell birthday remembrance	Saint Joseph's
Saturday	22	St John Fisher & Thomas More		10.30am 11.00am 5.15pm 6.00pm	John Murphy birthday remem RIP Adoration & Confessions Confession Des Butler	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
Sunday	23	Twelfth Sunday Ordinary Time	Week IV			
				9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	Michael Gannon RIP Samuel Pickering Anniversary Parishioners	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's

Canon Niall writes.....

Welcome to this week's newsletter. In today's Gospel there are two parables about the 'Kingdom of God'. The 'Kingdom of God' is not a country or a place 'out there' - the Kingdom of God, the 'Reign of God' the 'Way of God' is an attitude of heart, a mind-set, an outlook of life that we are called to make part of our 'outlook' our 'mind-set'. The first parable has the picture of a Sower, throwing seed into the ground. He goes away, and without any power of his that seed sprouts, and bear's its fruit until the time it is gathered in for the harvest. Jesus uses parables to 'invite people into the story' and by instructing his disciples, gives them the means to expound the message of the parables when the time was right. Sometimes when we seek to live the Gospel, when we are sharing the seeds, faith, hope, love, mercy and compassion, we might not ever know how they bear fruit, but we are invited to persevere in sharing them, and trust that God will allow them to bear fruit in God's good time and place. We do not have to do anything 'great' in the eyes of the world; the second parable Jesus reminds us, that even the smallest acts of kindness and generosity, if they are planted in the soil of love and faith, can be made into something marvellous by God. Here we are called to faith and trust, that what we offer with a generous heart, however 'great' or 'small' God can flow through. Here we '*walk by faith, and not by sight*' as we are reminded in the Second Reading. Today we take heart; we don't have to go anywhere to find those seeds of hope, through our sharing the life of Christ they are part of us and with us, and each and every one of us, whatever our situation, can plant those seeds in every circumstance of our lives. When we are tempted to feel we have nothing to offer, that what we might offer is too small and insignificant, then we remember: Those seeds of hope are right here! We are ones who can plant them now, 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

New Lectionaries from First Sunday of Advent: Thank you for the support we have received so far with this. The 'Lectionary' is the book which we read from at Mass and other Services, from which passages from the Bible are set out to be read across the Liturgical Year. It is a long time since these have been updated; and from the First Sunday of Advent next across England, Wales and Scotland our present versions will be replaced with new ones taken from the English Standard Version of the Bible, Catholic Edition (ESV-CE). These come in four volumes and there is also a 'Book of the Gospels' to be used in procession and to emphasise the proclamation of the Gospel. We have pre-ordered two sets of the of the four volume editions and two Books of the Gospels for each of our Churches. By pre-ordering we have received a discount of £328-50p. Obviously these Books incur an expense, which has been £1,611-50p. This has been paid through one of our personal accounts and is being reimbursed. What many Churches are doing is inviting people to sponsor these new Lectionaries, and to make whatever donation they can toward these. There is space to write in the front of these books the name of any donors, or someone's name they would wish to dedicate their offering to. If you feel you would like to help in this way, please contact the Parish Office or speak to one of the Clergy.

New Sunday Missals: Updated versions of the Sunday Missal will be published on 14th October. These include the revised versions of the readings from the new Lectionary that will be used from the First Sunday of Advent. So that individuals do not have to pay delivery charges, the Parish can put in a bulk order (minimum 5 copies). If you would like to pre-order a copy, please put your details and money in an envelope marked Sunday Missal. **Please hand the envelope to a member of the clergy or hand in to the Parish Office by Monday 24th June.** The cost is £10 for the paperback version and £20 for the hardback version.

Cross Deanery Support: With some Clergy being off sick, and others not being available in our neighbouring Wallasey and West Wirral Deanery, Father Michael Coughlan from Holy Cross, Our Lady & St Paul Parish, Father Sam and myself will be covering English Martyrs' Church over several weekends into this June. Again, this is a time when we help and support each other as a Wirral Catholic Community.

DONA Card and Contactless Donation Station and Livestream at St Michael's: Due to an upgrade in the WIFI System the Payment Station at St Michael's is now back in use. The Livestream is temporarily unavailable while it is being connected to the new system. Hopefully it will be back soon.

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

An Evening with Dr Bill Keimig: This will be on Monday 24th June at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall, Holy Angels Church, Wicker Ln, Hale Barns, Altrincham WA15 OHG. Dr Bill Keimig, from the Franciscan University of Steubenville in the USA, will lead an evening filled with laughter, inspiration and wisdom as he shares his insights and experiences of parish renewal and leading RCIA. This is open to all and especially to volunteers, catechists and those who are curious! This promises to be a fantastic evening, so please sign up early via this link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/evening-with-dr-bill-keimig-tickets-902343853757>. For any further details please contact Natalie Orefice, Diocesan Mission Catechist natalie.orefice@dioceseofshrewsbury.org or telephone 07730 526826.

Divine Mercy Celebration and Veneration of 1st Class Relic of St Faustina Led by Fr Peter Prusakiewicz from Poland, who travels the world proclaiming and explaining the Divine Mercy devotion and talking about his experience of St Michael the Archangel and Holy Angels. Please join us at St Anne's Rock Ferry from 12 noon to 2.30pm on Wednesday 19th June for Holy Mass and a talk, followed by a Eucharistic healing service with veneration of a 1st class relic of St Faustina. There will also be an opportunity to purchase rosaries and the Angels magazine.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion - Update: Thank you to those who have got in touch with us about this request. The title above 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. If any existing Eucharistic Ministers could please let us know if they are willing to continue, and if anyone else 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. We will start to bring this together soon.

Churches Together: In Saint Joseph's church we are praying this week for those in the following roads: Rosedale Rd, Rothesay Gardens, Roxburgh Ave, Shipton Close, Stanley Ave, Tudor Rd, Victoria Fields, Victoria Park Rd & Victoria Rd.

**SAVE THE DATE!
SUMMER AFTERNOON TEA PARTY
SUNDAY 21st JULY 2.00-5.00
VENUE AND OTHER DETAILS TO FOLLOW!**

The Marian Lamp: burns each week in both our churches for particular prayer intentions. This week the Lamp in Saint Joseph's burns for **In Memory of John Hunt RIP**. The Lamp in Saint Michael's burns for **All who are fighting addiction especially Patrick**. 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.

Preparation for the General Election July 2024: To help us prepare for the upcoming General Election our Catholic Bishops of England and Wales have prepared some reflections on key issues for us as followers of Jesus to consider. These can be viewed on their Website: www.cbcew.org.uk

Voluntary help needed to clean St Joseph's Church: First Thursday of the month from 9.30am onwards. A good way to meet other Parishioners and can be very rewarding. Tea and biscuits afterwards.

FCJ 1000 Pledges For The Earth: We aim to collect **1000+ pledges** of action that people will take in caring for our common homes (small or large). The initiative is designed around Laudate Deum paragraphs #70, and #71. which assures us that the significance of small actions in shaping cultural change. People are invited to do any small or large additional thing, pray, plant a flower, buy a bamboo toothbrush, use less plastic, etc etc. Take a card from the back of church. You can also make your pledge online using the following link: <https://bit.ly/FCJ1000Pledges>

In the words Pope Francis from Laudate Deum:-

#70. Every little bit helps, and avoiding an increase of a tenth of a degree in the global temperature would already suffice to alleviate some suffering for many people..

#71. Efforts by households to reduce pollution and waste, and to consume with prudence, are creating a new culture. The mere fact that personal, family and community habits are changing is contributing to greater concern about the unfulfilled responsibilities of the political sectors and indignation at the lack of interest shown by the powerful

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.

Books St Michael's: Thank you very much for your donations of books to sell at St Michael's. Due to the

overwhelming response and currently a surplus of books means our shelves are full, Many thanks.

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.



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

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.

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:** £14.00. 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: Friday 22 June 2024.

Details below of 3Ls' next concert. Many of you heard them at the 'Summer Sing'. The choir is directed by Stella McGann and includes a number of St Joseph's Choir members.

**WIRRAL 3LS CHOIR
SUMMER CONCERT
MEDLEYS AND
MELODIES
HESWALL HALL
Telegraph Road CH60 0AF
THURSDAY 4th JULY**

10.45-12.15

Doors Open 10.15

Tickets £6 from 3Ls/St Joseph's Choir members

Please Pray for the Repose of the Soul of
Kastanthanaraj Joseph & Kathleen O'Hagan who have
died recently

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

Readings at Mass

Entrance Antiphon	cf. psalm 26:7. 9	<i>O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; be my help. Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour!</i>
Reading 1	Ezek 17:22-24	<i>I make low trees grow.</i>
Psalm	Ps 91:2-3. 13-16 r.2	<i>It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.</i>
Reading 2	2 Cor 5:6-10	<i>Whether we are living in the body or exiled from it, we are intent on pleasing the Lord.</i>
Gospel Acclamation	John 15:15	<i>I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father.</i>
Gospel	Mark 4:26-34	<i>It is the smallest of seeds; yet it grows into the biggest shrub of them all.</i>
Communion Antiphon	Psalm 26:4	<i>There is one thing I ask of the Lord, only this do I seek: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life</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
 Parish Sister: Sister Catherine Bibby FCJ

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



@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: 9th June £825.00

Monthly Standing Orders: £1625

Development Society No: 9th June £50 456 Hayley Knox

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, Oxton 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