

NEWSLETTER



SAINT PHILIP NERI
CATHOLIC PARISH BIRKENHEAD

Sunday 22 December 2024

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

Day	Date	Celebration	Psalter	Mass Time	Mass Intention	Church
Saturday	21	Ferial		10.30am 11.00am 5.15pm 6.00pm	Sandra Mullen Adoration & Confessions Confession Parishioners	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
Sunday	22	Fourth Sunday of Advent	Week IV			
During Advent and Christmastide we are asked to pray for these intentions: Openness to the Word of God, Migrants and Refugees, Expectant Mothers				9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	Kath & Gerry Sherlock John and Norma Smith Emily Farley RIP	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's
Monday	23	Ferial		9.15am	Sick Babies	Saint Michael's
Tuesday	24	Christmas Eve Vigil Mass		5.30pm 10.00pm	For world peace and reconciliation Parishioners	Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's
Wednesday	25	The Nativity of the Lord		9.30am 11.00am	Monsignor Peter Walton RIP Canon Phil Moor Intention	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's
Thursday	26	St Stephen		10.00am	William Muh Ngong & Johnson Edeh Int	Saint Michael's
Friday	27	St John		10.00am	Matthew O'Connell	Saint Joseph's
Saturday	28	The Holy Innocents		10.30am 11.00am 5.15pm 6.00pm	Michael Coughlan Senior RIP Adoration & Confessions Confession Marlene Robb – recovery from op	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
Sunday	29	The Holy Family	Week I	Christmastide		
				9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	James & Ann Caveney 1 st Anniv RIP Parishioners John (Jack) Turner RIP	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's
Monday	30	Sixth Day of Christmas Octave		10.00am	Thanksgiving	Saint Michael's
Tuesday	31	Seventh Day of Christmas Octave		10.00am	Mary McGuire 1 st Anniversary RIP	Saint Joseph's
Wednesday	1	Mary the Mother of God		10.00am	Patricia O'Connell	Saint Joseph's
Thursday	2	Ss Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen		9.15am	Priest's intention	Saint Michael's
Friday	3	Friday of the Christmas Season		9.15am	Mother Mary Immaculata of Jesus RIP	Saint Joseph's
Saturday	4	Saturday of the Christmas Season		10.30am 11.00am 5.15pm 6.00pm	Henry Cullen RIP (A beloved brother) Adoration & Confession Confession Priest's intention	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
Sunday	5	Epiphany of The Lord	Week II	Christmastide		
				9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	Christine McLoughlin Priest's intention Parishioners	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's

Canon Niall writes..... Welcome to this week's newsletter. Due to limited space this week, just to wish you all every Blessing for Christmas & New Year! Thanks for your support over the last year. As we move into a New Year with its hopes and challenges, we pray that the Joy of Christmas gives us the strength to move forward knowing that 'God is with us'

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

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

Changes to regular times over the Christmas

Period: Please note that some of the regular service time patterns will change over the Christmas period. On the Evening of the 24th December the first Vigil Mass of Christmas will be at 5.30pm at St Michael's and the second at 10.00pm at St Joseph's. On Christmas Day itself, 25th December there will be a 9.30am Mass at St Joseph's and an 11.00am at St Michael's. On Thursday 26th December, St Stephen's (Boxing) Day there is a 10.00am Mass at St Michael's and on Friday 27th December a 10.00am Mass at St Joseph's. Please see the Newsletter for the other times that week.

Livestream at St Michael's: We are so sorry that the Livestream is still down at St Michael's. This has been a long time, and is not just a matter of 'fixing the Livestream', it is a problem with the Internet connection that powers it, and also the DONA Contactless Donation Tablet. We have been on many times to the Service Provider, and now have support from our Diocesan Offices in trying to get this resolved. Despite assurances from the Service Provider, I have no faith sadly that we will be back up again in time for Christmas. This is very disappointing for us all, especially those who value being able to join in through the Livestream. To join Bishop Mark and Canon Chris at our Cathedral in Shrewsbury through their livestream please go to: www.shrewsburycathedral.co.uk
More locally you can join Father Michael Coughlan at Holy Cross, Our Lady and St Paul Parish, Birkenhead on:
www.holycrossourladysaintpaul.org

Crib Offerings: There will be baskets by the Cribs in both our Churches for the Annual 'Crib Offerings' which go to 'Caritas, Diocese of Shrewsbury' the name for the group that now incorporates what was the 'Catholic Children's Society'. 'Caritas' seeks to bring support to the most vulnerable families and peoples in the community, so do please support them as you are able.

Parish Office: The Parish Office is closed from Tuesday 24th December until Monday 6th January.

Anointing & Healing service: Friday 3rd January at 7pm, St John's Church, New Ferry.

Mass intentions: We are currently short of Mass intentions. If you would like a Mass intention please write who your intention is for, which Church you would like it saying at and place your donation in an envelope, many thanks.

WUTH Carol Service: Thank you to all who sang and those who organised last Sunday's Carol Service. An extremely enjoyable occasion was had by all. To everyone who attended the collection raised £476.87 in support of Wirral University Teaching Hospital Trust Charity.

Thank you to Chloe from St Michael's who raised an amazing £132.82 towards Parish heating costs from the sale of her home made decorations.



The Marian Lamp: burns each week in both our churches for particular prayer intentions. This week the Lamp in Saint Joseph's burns for **John McCaffrey RIP**. The Lamp in Saint Michael's burns for **Leone Monaco**. Next weekend (29th December) the Lamp in Saint Joseph's burns for **Cathy and Claire make a full recovery from illness** and the Lamp in Saint Michael's burns for **Phil Clarke speedy recovery**. 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.

Churches Together: In Saint Joseph's church we are praying this week for those in the following roads: **Bryanston Rd, Burrell Close, Burrell Court, Cressington Ave, Crofton Rd, Cumberland Ave, Dingle Rd, Derby Rd & Dovedale Close.**

Thank you to the Cleaning and Flower Arranging Teams from both Churches for all your hard work during 2024.

Prayer before Christmas Dinner: There are some prayer cards at the back of Church. Please help yourself to one.

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 **Thank you to Chloe at St Michael's** who raised an amazing £132.82 towards heating costs by selling her home made decorations.

Sale of Craft items: Thank you to everyone who bought craft items handmade by Mary Arch. A total of £300 was raised towards Parish heating costs.

Christmas raffle: Thank you to everyone who bought tickets for the Christmas raffle. An amazing total of £414 was raised towards Parish funds. Winners have been notified.

CAFOD school volunteers needed! Could you visit your local Catholic school to talk about the work of **CAFOD**? We are looking for volunteers in the Shrewsbury Diocese to deliver school assemblies and workshops to inspire children and young people to make a difference and take action. For further information please contact Anna on **07710 094449** or email aletizia@cafod.org.uk

St Michael's Piety Stall – A range of birthday cards, Baptism cards etc, Rosary Beads and other items are available to purchase at the back of Church.

God Speaks: Hearing God's voice for others led by Jordan Kelly: Music led by Joe Wells of One Hope Project, Saturday 18th January 2025, 10.30am – 3.30pm, St Edwards's Church, Runcorn. WA7 5NZ (Lunch will be provided) please register by emailing:-
alphamkruncorn@gmail.com

Foodbank: Please remember there is a continuing need for food. Please leave your donations at the back Church, many thanks.



Dates for your diary

Christmas Services:

Tuesday, 24th December – Christmas Eve

5.30pm Vigil Mass for Christmas at St Michael's
10.00pm Vigil Mass for Christmas at St Joseph's

Wednesday, 25th December – Christmas Day

9.30am Mass St Joseph's
11.00am Mass St Michael's

Thursday 26th December – St Stephen's (Boxing Day)

10.00am Mass at St Michael's

Friday 27th December

10.00am Mass at St Joseph's



*A Happy and Holy Christmas to all in our Parish Family
May the Lord bless you all with the gifts of the Holy Spirit*

**Please Pray for the Repose of the Souls 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. Isaiah 45:8	<i>Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour</i>
Reading 1	Mic 5:1-4a	<i>Out of you will be born the one who is to rule over Israel.</i>
Psalm	Ps 79:2-3, 15-16, 18-19	<i>Bring us back, O God; let your face shine forth, and we shall be saved.</i>
Reading 2	Heb 10:5-10	<i>Here I am! I am coming to obey your will.</i>
Gospel Acclamation	Luke 1: 38	<i>Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.</i>
Gospel	Luke 1:39-45	<i>Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord!</i>
Communion Antiphon	Isaiah 7:14	<i>Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel</i>

Parish Team:

Parish Priest: Canon Niall Mullaley
Assistant Priest: Father Sleevappa Medikonda
Assistant Priest: Father Malachy Ogbede
Deacons: Reverends Gerard Boyle, Patrick Regan, Les Arch, Paul D'Ambrogio & John Birch

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: 15th December £723.83

Monthly Standing Orders: £1610

Development Society No: 15th December £50 028 Mrs Ashton

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