

NEWSLETTER



SAINT PHILIP NERI
CATHOLIC PARISH BIRKENHEAD

Sunday 19 January 2025

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

Day	Date	Celebration	Psalter	Mass Time	Mass Intention	Church
Saturday	18	Ferial		10.30am 11.00am 5.15pm 6.00pm	George Dodd Adoration & Confessions Confession Trevor Beckett intention	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
Sunday	19	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	Week II			
During Ordinary Time (Winter) and up to Lent we are asked to pray for these intentions: Peace on Earth; Openness to the Word of God; Christian Unity; The Sick and Those Who Care for Them; Victims of Trafficking and Those who Work to Combat it; The Unemployed				9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	Parishioners Gordon McGuinness intention Kate & Tom Cash & family	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's
Monday	20	Ferial		9.15am	Bridie McGee RIP	Saint Michael's
Tuesday	21	Ferial		7.00pm	Prayers answered to Sacred Heart	Saint Joseph's
Wednesday	22	Ferial		9.15am 10.30am	NO MASS Funeral Service for Hugh Boyle	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's
Thursday	23	Ferial		9.15am 1.00pm	Pat Campbell Funeral Mass for Margaret Pegg	Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's
Friday	24	St Francis de Sales		9.15am	Thomas Elcock RIP 2 nd Anniversary	Saint Joseph's
Saturday	25	The Conversion of St Paul		10.30am 11.00am 5.15pm 6.00pm	Bridie McGee Adoration & Confessions Confession Mr & Mrs Hanlon	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
Sunday	26	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	Week III			
				9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	Betty Anyon RIP Emily Perry Parishioners	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's

Canon Niall writes.....

Welcome to this week's newsletter. We have moved back to the Church's 'Ordinary Time' which will take us to the Seasons of Lent and Eastertide, and then recontinues after the completion of the Easter Season at Pentecost. However, the Gospel of this Sunday, St John's account of the Wedding at Cana, has an Echo of Christmastide! It is the third traditional 'Epiphany' scene. The word 'Epiphany' means 'to show forth' to allow something to be seen for what it truly is. The first of these scenes is the visit of the wise men, then thirty years later, the Baptism of the Lord, and then today, the Wedding at Cana. A family who are not too well off have invited Jesus, his mother and disciples to the Wedding and celebration. They start to run out of wine and face severe embarrassment. Jesus' mother Mary intervenes and asks Jesus' help; Jesus initially appears to refuse, but Mary believes in him "do whatever he tells you" she says to the stewards. Jesus tells the steward to draw the water which has turned to wine. Jesus never sought the role of 'wonderworker' or 'magician' he sought to 'show forth' the way of God 'the kingdom of God' among us. His 'miracles' are a sign of that kingdom. In today's Gospel Jesus is 'shown forth' in an ordinary human celebration 'among us'. Mary, perhaps representing the whole Church, intercedes and Jesus helps turn what could have been a disaster into a celebration; his disciples 'believe in him'. The Church, with Mary and the Saints, still intercede, and Jesus can still turn 'disasters' into 'celebration' if we also 'believe' in him, knowing that he is among us still

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

Come O 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 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

First Holy Communion: The children of the parish have now enrolled on their program of preparation for their First Forgiveness and Holy Communion. Please keep them in your prayers as they grow in their love for the Lord. Help and encourage them whenever you see them and pray also for their parents and teachers as examples of faith for them.

Crib Offerings: As we move into the New Year the Christmas Decorations in our Churches have been taken down, and thanks to all who prepared them, and saw to their being taken down. The Cribs, in accordance with tradition, will stay in place until the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord in early February. There are still 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.

Acolyte William Muh Ngong: It is good to have Acolyte William Muh Ngong, with us for a little while longer whilst he is on his January placement.

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.

No 9.15am Mass on Wednesday Morning: Please note that this coming Wednesday, 22nd January, due to a Funeral Service at 10.30am that morning there will be NO 9.15am MASS THAT DAY.

Cross Deanery Support: As we said last week, before Father Sam moved away we had arranged for him to take the month of January as a holiday. To help keep this in place for him, several local Clergy from ours, and the neighbouring deanery are covering English Martyrs Church, Wallasey. Thankfully, due to having Father Sleva and Father Malachy with us we are able to help offer support at this time.

Livestream and DONA Station at St Michael's Update: Again, our apologies again that this is taking so long. We have made several complaints and our Diocesan Offices are now helping us to get a resolution. Sadly it is not a matter of ringing or emailing an individual, it goes through a call centre and has been very frustrating to us all. We will keep you posted.

The Marian Lamp: burns each week in both our churches for particular prayer intentions. This week the Lamp in Saint Joseph's burns for **Intentions of Mary & Les Arch.** The Lamp in Saint Michael's burns for **Valerie Malam.** 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.

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**

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

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.

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

Marriage Preparation For couples contemplating marriage in the near future in a catholic church we are offering a marriage preparation course at St Joseph's Presbytery on Saturday 15th February. Please contact the parish office if you would like to take part in this session. The next preparation session will not be until the end of September

Thank you for your kind donations during Advent.

It was a fantastic response and the donations of warm coats, nappies, baby wipes, socks, underwear and toiletries were distributed between the SVP, Vincent Centre in Birkenhead and hearts for refugees. These items were passed on to families in our community and to refugees and asylum seekers who needed help. Both organisations were so grateful for the kindness and support of our parishioners, especially as we know how Budgets are stretched at this time of year. Once again, thank you for your continued support for those in our community who are in need. God bless.

St Joseph's Cleaning: Will restart Thursday 6th February from 9.30am onwards. Many hands make light work. Any help greatly appreciated, thank you.

St Joseph's Flower rota: The new rota is on WhatsApp, thank you.

**Please Pray for the Repose of the Soul of
Hugh Thomas Boyle and Margaret Pegg
who have died recently.
May they rest in peace,
in the arms of the Good Shepherd**

*This, the first
of his signs,
at Cana in
Galilee*



Water into Wine

Readings at Mass

Entrance Antiphon	Psalm 65:4	<i>All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!</i>
Reading 1	Isa 62:1-5	<i>The bridegroom rejoices over the bride</i>
Psalm	Ps 95:1-3, 7-10 r. 3	<i>Proclaim the wonders of the Lord among all the peoples</i>
Reading 2	1 Cor 12:4-11	<i>The one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills</i>
Gospel Acclamation	Cf. 2 Thessalonians 2:14	<i>God called us through the gospel, so that we may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ</i>
Gospel	John 2:1-11	<i>This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee</i>
Communion Antiphon	Cf. Psalm 22:5	<i>You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst</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



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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: 12th January £565.47

Monthly Standing Orders: £1610

Development Society No: 12th January £50 347 Lesley McDaid

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