

NEWSLETTER



SAINT PHILIP NERI
CATHOLIC PARISH BIRKENHEAD

Sunday 23 February 2025

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

Day	Date	Celebration	Psalter	Mass Time	Mass Intention	Church
Saturday	22	Chair of St Peter		10.30am 11.00am 5.15pm 6.00pm	Madeleine Dasher Adoration & Confessions Confession Kevin Robinson RIP	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
Sunday	23	Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time	Week III			
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 Paul Manchester RIP Patti Rixon RIP	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's
Monday	24	Ferial		9.15am	Eternal life of unborn baby	Saint Michael's
Tuesday	25	Ferial		7.00pm	Marguerite Long RIP	Saint Joseph's
Wednesday	26	Ferial		9.15am	Stephanie Lewis	Saint Joseph's
Thursday	27	Ferial		9.15am	John Francis RIP	Saint Michael's
Friday	28	Ferial		9.15am	Canon John Perryman RIP	Saint Joseph's
Saturday	1	St David		10.30am 11.00am 5.15pm 6.00pm	Carol Adoration & Confessions Confession Beatrice McParland RIP	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
Sunday	2	Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Week IV			
				9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	Harry Wood Anniversary Angela Devine 1 st Anniversary RIP Parishioners	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's

Canon Niall writes.....

Welcome to this week's newsletter. In this weekend's readings we see Jesus in the Gospel calling us to share in the 'heart' the vision and outlook of God. He is calling us to share the love, compassion and mercy of God, not just with those we like, or are good to us, but with those who are against us, 'enemies' as they are referred to. *'Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful'* Jesus says. That compassion, tenderness, mercy, forgiveness and respect of God is needed more than ever! We hear of divisions, threats of war, peoples being exploited and used for the greed of others, cruelty and inhumanity. Yet we see also generosity, self-sacrifice and peace building. We see some, seeking no reward for themselves, courageously speaking out for the poor, oppressed and needy; challenging the systems that cause such injustice. We see others working for a fairer and just use of world's resources, respecting the gift of creation for the greater good and well-being of all. Then we can 'take heart' and remember that those values Jesus shares with us today are part of every one of us, and by what we say and do, we can make those words 'living words'. When it seems that all that is negative is overwhelming us, we take courage that Jesus' message is part of us, and we can make that compassion, love and mercy real and present in all our lives.

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 Holy 'Jubilee' Year: We have been speaking for some time about the 'Jubilee Year' or 'Holy Year' 2025. A 'Jubilee Year' is a special time when the whole celebrates and seeks to proclaim the mercy and compassion of God, and seek anew in our lives to make that message real and present. For more information please go to our Diocesan Website: www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org

On the welcome page, scroll down to the bottom, and on the left of the picture of Pope Francis you will see links to further information

Pastoral Letter from Bishop Mark: This weekend we have a Pastoral Letter from Bishop Mark entitled '*On the Catholic Faith we have received*'. This 'Jubilee Year' takes place during the 1700th Anniversary of the Council of Nicaea in 325 in what we would now call Turkey. In the face of challenges the Bishops of the Church met to help clarify the truth of our faith. It is from this Council that we get the Nicene Creed that we proclaim at Mass. It proclaimed the truth of our faith in the face of challenges. In this Jubilee Year we also are called to proclaim the truth of this same faith, also in a time of challenges. May we all find encouragement in this special Year to live that faith we have received.

The Marian Lamp: burns each week in both our churches for particular prayer intentions. This week the Lamp in Saint Joseph's burns for **Paul Ward birthday remembrance**. The Lamp in Saint Michael's burns for **Baby Emryn Jessica Thomas First birthday**. 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.

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

Churches Together: In Saint Joseph's church we are praying this week for those in the following roads: [Waterpark Close](#), [Waterpark Rd](#), [Westbank Rd](#), [Whalley Rd](#), [Waverley Grove](#), [Whitfield St](#), [Whitford Rd](#) & [Willmer Rd](#).

Livestream and DONA Station at St Michael's Update: We are gradually making some progress and are working toward a full resolution of these problems.

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.

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.

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

Flower donation money: If you would like to make a donation towards flowers please put the money into an envelope marked flower donation and either hand to Gill Gaunt or write Gill Gaunt's name (for St Michael's) or Liz Brookes (for St Joseph's), Many thanks.

A Night at the Musicals - Friday 4th April 2025 - 7.30pm St Michael and All Angels Church : Tickets for our Parish Fundraising Concert performed by the Warrington Male Voice are now available to purchase at the end of each Sunday Mass. The ticket price is £8.00. They can also be obtained from the Parish Office. 652 5767

The concert is a great opportunity, not only to have an enjoyable evening, but will also help raise much needed funds for our Parish Community especially as we come out of the winter period having to face large Gas and Electric Bills.

Please do support this concert and bring along family and friends. Thank you. Deacon Gerard

Books for sale at St Joseph's at the back of Church.

Please leave a donation in the box. Any proceeds will go towards flowers for Church, Many thanks.

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

Discover Catholic Social Teaching – An Online Course for Parishes. Are you ready to explore the heart of Catholic Social Teaching?:

Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN) invites you to join **Catholic Social Teaching: An Introduction**, a dynamic online course designed specifically for parishioners, staff, and volunteers. Whether you're new to Catholic Social Teaching or looking for a refresher, this course will inspire and empower you to bring your faith to life.

When and Where?

Five one-hour Zoom sessions

📅 Every Tuesday in March and Tuesday, 1 April 2025

🕒 Convenient and flexible timing for all

What's in Store?

- Learn the key principles of Catholic Social Teaching in an accessible and engaging way.
- Hear real-life stories from CSAN members working on the frontlines of poverty and exclusion, bringing theory to life.
- Be inspired to put your faith into action within your parish and community.

Course Fee: Just **£95** for all five sessions! This includes a copy of Raymond Friel's "**Catholic Social Teaching: An Introduction for Schools, Parishes, and Charities.**" **Ready to Take the Next Step?**

For any questions, feel free to reach out to **Bernadette** at bernadette.durcan@csan.org.uk.

Let's deepen our understanding of Catholic Social Teaching and work together to transform our communities with the love and justice of Christ!

From Shrewsbury Lourdes Hospitality: There will be a meeting of Shrewsbury Lourdes Hospitality at St Columba's Church (Newman Room), Plas Newton Lane Chester CH2 1SA on Saturday 1st March at 2.00pm. Please forward any apologies, or items to be discussed under AOB, to secretary@teamshrewsbury.co.uk

Mary's Meals has recently launched an emergency appeal for children and families in Southern Africa who urgently need help. The region is experiencing its worst drought in 100 years. Crops have failed, cattle are dying, and food is scarce and expensive. The situation is desperate; an estimated 21 million children are suffering from malnutrition. Mary's Meals is providing a lifeline to families in four of the worst-affected countries, Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe. It costs just 10p a day to feed a child at school with Mary's Meals. With your support we can help many thousands more children and families through this devastating drought.

Please visit www.marysmeals.org.uk and find out more about our Emergency in Southern Africa appeal.



www.LumoProject.com.

"Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful"

Please Pray for the Repose of the Soul of Margaret Walshe, Pat Cross and all those who have died recently.

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

Readings at Mass

Entrance Antiphon	Psalm 12:6	<i>O Lord, I trust in your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.</i>
Reading 1	1 Sam 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23	<i>The Lord gave you into my hand today, and I would not put out my hand against the Lord's anointed</i>
Psalm	Ps 102:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13 r. 8a	<i>The Lord is compassionate and gracious.</i>
Reading 2	Cor 15:45-49	<i>Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven</i>
Gospel Acclamation	John 13:34	<i>A new commandment I give to you, says the Lord, that you love one another, just as I have loved you</i>
Gospel	Luke 6:27-38	<i>Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful</i>
Communion Antiphon	Ps 9:2-3	<i>I will recount all your wonders, I will rejoice in you and be glad, and sing psalms to your name, O Most High</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: 16th February £600.60

Monthly Standing Orders: £1610

Development Society No: 16th February £50 Not Available

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