

# NEWSLETTER



**SAINT PHILIP NERI**  
CATHOLIC PARISH BIRKENHEAD

**Sunday 16 February 2025**

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<br>11.00am<br>5.15pm<br>6.00pm | Carol Braden RIP<br>Adoration & Confessions<br>Confession<br>Margy Hill Anniversary RIP | Saint Joseph's<br>Saint Joseph's<br>Saint Michael's<br>Saint Michael's |
| <b>Sunday</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>16</b> | <b>Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>   | <b>Week II</b>  |                                        |                                                                                         |                                                                        |
| 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<br>11.00am<br>5.00pm            | John McLoughlin RIP<br>Parishioners<br>Pauline Tamm RIP                                 | Saint Joseph's<br>Saint Michael's<br>Saint Joseph's                    |
| Monday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 17        | Ferial                                 |                 | 9.15am                                 | Eternal life of Mr Varghese                                                             | Saint Michael's                                                        |
| Tuesday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 18        | Ferial                                 |                 | 12.noon<br>7.00pm                      | Funeral Mass for Marie (Josie) Delaney<br>Maureen Wood RIP Anniversary                  | Saint Joseph's<br>Saint Joseph's                                       |
| Wednesday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 19        | Ferial                                 |                 | 9.15am                                 | Intentions of Andrew O'Brien                                                            | Saint Joseph's                                                         |
| Thursday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 20        | Ferial                                 |                 | 9.15am                                 | Mary (Maureen) Whelan RIP                                                               | Saint Michael's                                                        |
| Friday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 21        | Ferial                                 |                 | 9.15am                                 | Gillian Dasher                                                                          | Saint Joseph's                                                         |
| Saturday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 22        | Chair of St Peter                      |                 | 10.30am<br>11.00am<br>5.15pm<br>6.00pm | Madeleine Dasher<br>Adoration & Confessions<br>Confession<br>Kevin Robinson RIP         | Saint Joseph's<br>Saint Joseph's<br>Saint Michael's<br>Saint Michael's |
| <b>Sunday</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>23</b> | <b>Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> | <b>Week III</b> |                                        |                                                                                         |                                                                        |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |           |                                        |                 | 9.30am<br>11.00am<br>5.00pm            | Parishioners<br>Paul Manchester RIP<br>Patti Rixon RIP                                  | Saint Joseph's<br>Saint Michael's<br>Saint Joseph's                    |

## Canon Niall writes.....

Welcome to this week's newsletter. This weekend the scriptures remind us to build on what matters, not on what is passing. The Gospel reading from St Luke this weekend is his version of 'The Beatitudes'; those values that will be revealed in the life of a follower of Jesus. St Luke speaks of 'the rich' and 'the poor'. It is a picture not so much about those who have, or have not, material wealth, but people's 'attitude of heart'. 'The rich' spoken of in the Gospel have an attitude of heart that feels they have everything they need, but in fact have no 'treasure in heaven'. 'The poor' are those who know that all they have and are is a gift of God and persevere to do right. This is prefigured in the First Reading from the Old Testament prophet Jeremiah, who warns people again about who or what they put their trust in; they will only flourish when they are rooted in God. St Paul reminds us in the letter to the Corinthians that if we don't really believe that Jesus is risen from the dead, then all we do is meaningless and outward show, but professing and believing his resurrection we are sharing in the very life of God. As we move into this 'Jubilee Year 2025', we seek once again to be re-rooted in those values of the Gospel that endure into eternal life

### *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](http://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

**Canon Chris Matthews new appointment:** Some of you will know by now that Canon Chris Matthews is moving from Shrewsbury Cathedral at the beginning of next month to a new appointment as Parish Priest of St Hugh and St John in Timperley, on the Manchester side of our diocese. Canon Chris will continue with his other diocesan responsibilities. Please keep him in your prayers at this time of transition.

**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.

**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.

**The Marian Lamp:** burns each week in both our churches for particular prayer intentions. This week the Lamp in Saint Joseph's burns for **Anthony Sullivan birthday remembrance**. The Lamp in Saint Michael's burns for **Intentions of Bridget Cruise**. 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: [Wharfedale Ave](#), [Wharfedale Rd](#), [Willowbank Rd](#), [Woodchurch Lane](#), [Woodchurch Rd](#), [Woodville Rd](#), [Wycherley Rd](#), [Wye Close](#) & [Yelverton Rd](#).

**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.

**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](mailto: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.

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

**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.

[An exciting opportunity has arisen within the Diocese with the Shrewsbury Youth Mission Team.](#) Further details can be found on the Diocesan website [Latest Vacancies - Diocese](#)

Completed applications to be sent to Pauline McCulloch

[recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org). Closing date 21 February 2025.

**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?**

Click [here](#) to learn more and register your place.

For any questions, feel free to reach out to **Bernadette** at [bernadette.durcan@csan.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:secretary@teamshrewsbury.co.uk)



[www.LumoProject.com](http://www.LumoProject.com)

*"Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God"*

#### A prayer for this weekend

Please keep in your prayers those couples who have come together in preparation for their marriages during this coming year



Welcome to Kaliah Mearns, Freya Clunn & Joseph Belfield who were baptised in the Parish this week

Please Pray for the Repose of the Soul of Marie (Josie) Delaney and Margaret Walshe and all those who have died recently.  
May they rest in peace,  
in the arms of the Good Shepherd

# Readings at Mass

|                           |                        |                                                                                                                                                 |
|---------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Entrance Antiphon</b>  | Psalm 30:3-4           | <i>Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name</i> |
| <b>Reading 1</b>          | Jer 17:5-8             | <i>Cursed is the man who trusts in man; blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord</i>                                                           |
| <b>Psalm</b>              | Ps 1:1-4. 6 r. Ps 39:5 | <i>Blessed the man who has placed his trust in the Lord</i>                                                                                     |
| <b>Reading 2</b>          | 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20     | <i>If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile</i>                                                                                      |
| <b>Gospel Acclamation</b> | Matt 11:25             | <i>Rejoice and leap for joy, says the Lord, for behold, your reward is great in heaven</i>                                                      |
| <b>Gospel</b>             | Luke 6:17, 20-26       | <i>Blessed are you who are poor. Woe to you who are rich</i>                                                                                    |
| <b>Communion Antiphon</b> | Cf. Psalm 77:29-30     | <i>They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved</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](http://www.churchservices.tv/woodchurch)

Parish YouTube Channel: via [www.saint-philip-neri.co.uk](http://www.saint-philip-neri.co.uk)

**Income:** Thank you for your generosity.

*Offertory Collection:* 9th February £730.00

Monthly Standing Orders: £1610

*Development Society No:* 9th February £50 808 Rob Bell

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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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