

NEWSLETTER



SAINT PHILIP NERI
CATHOLIC PARISH BIRKENHEAD

Sunday 20 April 2025

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

Day	Date	Celebration	Psalter	Mass Time	Mass Intention	Church
Saturday	19	Holy Saturday		8.30pm	The Easter Vigil & First Mass of Easter (Parishioners)	Saint Michael's
Sunday	20	Easter Sunday	Week I			
During Easter we are asked to pray for these intentions: New Members for the Church; Vocations; The Right Use of the Media; the Church; Human Work.				9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	Frank, Hugh & Marie Hyland Anniv Freda Cavanagh NO MASS	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's
Monday	21	Monday of The Easter Octave		<u>10.00am</u>	Thanks for giving massive blessings to family	Saint Michael's
Tuesday	22	Tuesday of The Easter Octave		7.00pm	Priest's intention	Saint Joseph's
Wednesday	23	Wednesday of The Easter Octave		9.15am	Edward O'Neill RIP	Saint Joseph's
Thursday	24	Thursday of The Easter Octave		9.15am	Jane Christley RIP	Saint Michael's
Friday	25	Friday of The Easter Octave		9.15am	Repose of Soul of Roy Turner	Saint Joseph's
Saturday	26	Saturday of The Easter Octave		10.30am 11.00am 5.15pm 6.00pm	No Morning Mass, Confessions and Holy Hour at St Joseph's this morning Confessions Prayers answered	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
Sunday	27	Second Sunday of Easter	Week II			
During Easter we are asked to pray for these intentions: New Members for the Church; Vocations; The Right Use of the Media; the Church; Human Work.				9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	Peter McGann 20 th Anniversary RIP Parishioners Ronnie Connors RIP	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's

Canon Niall writes.....

Welcome to this week's newsletter. We proclaim 'Happy Easter' Jesus' Resurrection, in a time for our world when there are dreadful conflicts in Ukraine, the Holy Land and several other parts of our world that have slipped from the focus of attention. There is ongoing concern for the environment and the effects of climate change that cause displacement of peoples; this can result in conflict, and fear from others, which is sadly fed on by some, that these displaced people will 'overwhelm' their lands. It could seem dark and hopeless, like a dark tomb; it was here in the darkness, of what seemed 'dead' that the new light, new life of Christ broke forth. Light came from darkness, hope from despair, joy from sadness, life from death. Those seem 'nice words' but recently we have seen those words become 'living words' in those who put their lives on the line to bring aid, compassion and care to those most vulnerable, those who risk scorn and derision to reach out to people that might be labelled 'outcasts' or 'undesirable' by some. We saw, through the hard pandemic days, people going out of their way to see nobody was forgotten. Then the Resurrection becomes real right now! When people encountered the Risen Christ often they did not recognise him, something blocked their understanding, then a word or action would happen and 'their eyes would be opened'; they would realise he had been there all along! We take heart today that by our attitude and witness we can help people to see the Risen Christ is among us, and we can make that hope and life real right now!

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

Come 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

Every Blessing for Easter: As I say in the note above, we wish you all every blessing for this Easter Time, rejoicing that the Good News of Jesus' Resurrection gives us great hope even in the darkest days.

Easter Ceremonies: Please see the 'Dates for your Diary Box on the fourth page in bottom right for details of our Services. Please note the changes that take place in the regular pattern of services in the Easter Weekend. On Saturday 19th April there is **NO 6.00pm Vigil Mass at St Michael's** that evening because of the Easter Vigil Mass at 8.30pm at St Michael's later that evening. Also on Easter Sunday, 20th April there will be **NO 5.00pm Evening Mass at St Joseph's**. Please note also that there are no morning Services or Confession's on Holy Saturday Morning, 19th April at St Joseph's. Please note also that there will be no 10.30am Mass, Adoration or Confessions on Saturday, 26th April, due to the Clergy attending Father Lucas Ngwa's 40th Ordination Anniversary and farewell Mass in Upton that morning. Hopefully, all will return to normal on Saturday, 3rd May

Churches Together: In Saint Joseph's church we are praying this week for those in the following roads: **Prenton Rd West, Prenton Village Rd, Prenton Way, Singleton Ave, Snowdon Rd, South Rd & Southwick Rd.**

Birkenhead Area Confirmation Mass, Friday 25th April: This coming Friday, 25th April, 7.00pm at St Michael's, we welcome Bishop Mark to lead our Birkenhead Area Confirmation Mass. Please keep all involved in your prayers, especially thinking of those who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, that strengthened by this Sacrament they will always know God's presence in their lives.

Upcoming First Holy Communion Masses: We have two First Holy Communion Celebrations coming up:

◆ **Saturday, 10th May 10.30am at St Michael's** – 10.30am Mass, Holy Hour or Confessions at St Joseph's will still take place that day

◆ **Saturday, 17th May 10.30am at St Joseph's** – no Holy Hour or Confessions that day

Offertory Envelopes: if you haven't already collected your new offertory envelopes they are at the back of both Churches. Please look for your name (**Most peoples' numbers will have changed**). Please **DO NOT use last year's envelopes.**

Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill: There are still copies of last weekend's Pastoral Letter from all the Bishops of England & Wales concerning the 'Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill'. Now in May, Members of Parliament (MPs) will be asked to vote on whether it progresses further. There is deep concern about this Bill, not just in the Church or Faith circles, but in society as a whole. In the Bishops' Letter we are urged once again to write to our MP expressing concern and asking them to vote against this Bill. Lord David Alton and Baroness Jane Campbell have also sent Cards that we can use to send to our MPs. For more from the Bishops of England & Wales please go to: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk>

From the perspective of the concerns of Disabled People please see: <https://www.notdeadyetuk.org>

CAFOD Emergency Myanmar Earthquake Appeal: We have all been saddened by the terrible Earthquake in Myanmar, formally known as 'Burma'. CAFOD, and its partner agencies in the 'Disasters Emergency Committee' (DEC) are seeking to offer aid and support. Please see the posters in our Churches where you can scan the QR Code to give or go to: www.cafod.org.uk/myanmar

Youth to Lourdes: Some of our Parish Youth are going as helpers to Lourdes with the Diocesan Youth Pilgrimage. To help towards the financial cost of going they will be organising some fundraising events starting with a raffle for a chocolate hamper, a bottle of Jura Whiskey, Gin and other spirits, wine and Easter eggs. Winners will be drawn after 11am Mass this Easter Sunday. Many thanks.

The Marian Lamp: burns each week in both our churches for particular prayer intentions. This week the Lamp in Saint Joseph's burns for **Neil birthday remembrance**. The Lamp in Saint Michael's burns for **Norma Smith**. 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.

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

St Michael's Church Cleaning: This Thursday 24th April after 9.15am mass. All help greatly appreciated, Many thanks.

Volunteers needed for St Joseph's: We would be grateful for more volunteers to help with the many different jobs at St Joseph's, including Cleaning, flower arranging, Grounds tidying etc. Please speak to Liz Brookes after Mass or let the office know if you are interested. Many thanks

Divine Mercy and St Michael Retreat: Friday 2nd May 2pm to 3.30pm, Birkenhead Carmelite Monastery. Please see posters at back of Church for more details.

Tour of the Relics of St. Columba, St. Andrew and St. Margaret at St. Anne's Church in Rock Ferry: Please see the posters at the back of Church advertising full details of the upcoming Tour of the Relics of St. Columba, St. Andrew and St. Margaret at St. Anne's Church in Rock Ferry from 25th April to 27th April.

Marriage Help - Retrouvaille helps couples find hope and healing for their marriage. Next date: 20-22 June www.retrouvaille.org.uk Tel: **0788 7296983**

Supporting the Vocation to Marriage & Family Life:

Calling all those interested in supporting the vocation of marriage and family to join Jane Deegan Director of Marriage and Family Life Vocation for a retreat day to find out more about this important work and the various different ways you can help.

When: 7th June 2025 9.30am-4.00pm, **Where:** Parish Hall, Holy Angels Church, Wicker Lane, Hale Barnes WA15 0HG

To Register and for More Information please contact:

Monika at

monika.golembiewska@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

Mobile: 07549226794 or Jane at

jane.deegan@dioceseofshrewsbury.org Mobile: 07517 906435.

A vacancy for an Energy Contracts Officer has arisen in the Interdiocesan Fuel Management Department (IFM) based at the Curial Offices in Birkenhead. **Salary:** £27-£30K depending on experience. **Hours:** 35 per week. Further details of the post can be found on the Diocesan website <https://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/latest-vacancies/> CV with covering letter should be directed to Pauline McCulloch recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org **Closing date:** 9 May 2025.

Dates for your Diary 2025

Holy Saturday – 19 April

Blessing of Easter Food - 2.00pm St Joseph's
Easter Vigil Mass 8.30pm - St Michael's
NB No Saturday evening 6.00 Mass at St Michael's

Easter Sunday – 20 April

9.30am St Joseph's
11.00am St Michael's
NB No Sunday evening Mass at St Joseph's

Please Pray for the Repose of the Soul of Patricia McNellis and all those who have died recently.

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

Readings at Mass

Entrance Antiphon	Ps 138: 18. 5-6	<i>I have risen: I am with you still, alleluia. You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia. Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia, alleluia</i>
Reading 1	Acts 10: 34. 37-43	<i>We ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead</i>
Psalm	117: 1-2. 16-17. 22-23 r. 24	<i>This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice in it and be glad.</i>
Reading 2	Col 3: 1-4	<i>Seek the things that are above, where Christ is.</i>
Gospel Acclamation	1 Cor 5:7-8	<i>Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed; let us therefore celebrate the festival in the Lord.</i>
Gospel	John 20: 1-9	<i>He must rise from the dead</i>
Communion Antiphon	1 Cor 5: 7-8	<i>Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia; therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia</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: 13th April £771

Monthly Standing Orders: £1610

Development Society No: 13th April £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, Oxtan 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