

NEWSLETTER

Sunday 3 August 2025



SAINT PHILIP NERI

CATHOLIC PARISH BIRKENHEAD

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

Day	Date	Celebration	Psalter	Mass Time	Mass Intention	Church
Saturday	2	Ferial		10.30am 11.00am 5.15pm 6.00pm	Secular Clergy Fund Adoration & Confessions Confessions Tony Harrison	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
Sunday	3	Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Week II			
During ordinary Time (Summer) i.e. up to September, we are asked to pray for these intentions: A deeper understanding between Christians and Jews; Those who suffer Persecution, Oppression and Denial of Human Rights; Europe; Human Life; Seafarers				9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	Parishioners Epifania Rubina birthday remembrance June Christina Sutton RIP	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's
Monday	4	St John Vianney		9.15am	Paula Lavey	Saint Michael's
Tuesday	5	Ferial		7.00pm	Father Gerard McGuinness RIP	Saint Joseph's
Wednesday	6	The transfiguration of the Lord		9.15am	Frank Lewis RIP	Saint Joseph's
Thursday	7	Ferial		9.15am	Thanksgiving for Successful Op & treatment Carol Bass Woodcock	Saint Michael's
Friday	8	St Dominic		9.15am	Wells Family Intention	Saint Joseph's
Saturday	9	St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross		10.30am 11.00am 5.15pm 6.00pm	Priest's Intention Adoration & Confessions Confessions Delia & Steve Goulding	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
Sunday	10	Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Week III			
				9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	Nigel Healy Anniversary Pat Malone Parishioners	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's

Canon Niall writes.....

Welcome to this week's newsletter. The message of this weekend's scriptures is to build, not on what passes, but what endures forever. The short passage from the Old Testament book of Ecclesiastes, reminds us that all we labour for in this life must in the end be left for others after we have gone. Jesus took up this theme in the Gospel in the parable of the rich man, who trusted in his own wealth and power to see him through, and that he had 'control' over his life. In the parable God says "Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?" In the parable the 'rich' man had not made himself rich in the sight of God. We make ourselves 'rich' in the sight of God when we share selflessly God's love, mercy, peace, tenderness, compassion, respect, reconciliation, hope and Good News. These are God's 'treasures'; these are treasures that we can give, share and never grow poorer, but grow richer in God's sight the more generously we share them. In our world of today, near and far, God's treasures are as needed now as ever; the 'Good News' today is that those treasures are part of us, and we take heart that in sharing and living them we help each other to grow ever richer in the sight of God!

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 – awaiting appointment & Saint Joseph's - Marie Fisher



The Holy 'Jubilee' Year: We continue the 'Jubilee Year' or 'Holy Year' of Hope 2025 inaugurated by Pope Francis and continuing with Pope Leo, to share with our world, and make present in our lives, the loving heart of Christ

Shrewsbury Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage last week:

We welcome back all those who went on our Diocesan Jubilee Pilgrimage to Lourdes, last week with the theme 'With Mary, Pilgrims of Hope'. There were almost 430 pilgrims this year, which is the biggest number since covid. While they were in Lourdes the pilgrimage intentions were:

- For peace in the world
- For every human life to be held sacred
- For the new evangelisation of our country and for the increasing number of young adults seeking faith and Baptism
- For our new Holy Father, Pope Leo, in his supreme apostolic ministry
- For the renewal of our local church by new and generous vocations especially to Marriage as the foundation of the family; to the Priesthood, the vocation on which all other vocations depend; to the Permanent Diaconate in its generous service; to the Consecrated Life of women and men in its radiant witness; and for the apostolic life and apostolate in the midst of the world

We pray that these intentions will bear fruit, and as our pilgrims return our whole Diocesan family will be blessed and encouraged in our mission to 'magnify the Lord' today

Back Area at St Joseph's Church: During last week a group of people helped to rearrange some of the furniture at the back of St Joseph's Church, and in the old baptistry and piety stall. This has created space so that people can gather for tea and coffee after the 9.30am Mass occasionally, and that the old piety stall can be a 'Charity Area'. Our thanks and appreciation go to all who have made this possible.

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.

Thank you to Mairie Gelling: For a while now, Mairie Gelling has served as Safeguarding Representative for St Michael's Church. Recently, due to her limited availability now for various reasons, Mairie has decided it is time to stand down from this role. Our thanks and appreciation go to her for all the hard work and commitment she has put into this role; we wish her every blessing for the future. We will give thought to a new representative for St Michael's Church in the autumn. In the meantime, if there are any Safeguarding concerns at the St Michael's Site, please contact the Parish Office or Canon Niall.

The Marian Lamp: burns each week in both our churches for particular prayer intentions. This week the Lamp in Saint Joseph's burns for **Eleanor Sullivan Anniversary**. The Lamp in Saint Michael's burns for **Nancy & Harry Woodcock**. 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: **Edinburgh Drive, Elm Rd North, Heswall Ave, Highgreen Rd, Hillside Rd, Holborn Hill, Durley Park Close.**

During the summer months, a time when we are warned of hosepipe bans and drought, we are reminded how something as basic as water straight from a tap is taken for granted. There are many areas of the world where water is still drawn from wells as well as dirty rivers and lakes for drinking and cooking. WATER AID helps by drilling village wells and installing pipes to community village taps to supply clean running water for the villagers. At the back of church at St Joseph's during August and St Michaels during September the parish Justice and Peace group have placed a Well and tap display and we encourage you to donate in the Well to support the work of Water Aid.

St Joseph's Church Cleaning: This Thursday 7th August from 9.30am onwards. Many hands make light work, All help greatly appreciated. Thank You!

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

Steps of hope: Many thanks to everyone who donated to Pete Graham's steps of hope. As a parish we raised £447.74 which has gone to Caritas to support Children in the area.

Policies for Livestreaming in Church: The Privacy Policies for the use of Livestreaming in Church have been updated. Apart from Masses and Services with children the Livestreaming is usually on for all Services at St Michael's. As you will be aware, the Livestreaming is very important for those who cannot get to Church for various reasons, and for those who live away to join in Funerals, Weddings and other significant events. If anyone has any concerns about Livestreaming, then please speak to one of the Clergy and we will advise you about seating out of camera and could bring Holy Communion to any who would not wish to approach the Sanctuary. Please note that our Livestreaming is not recorded.

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.

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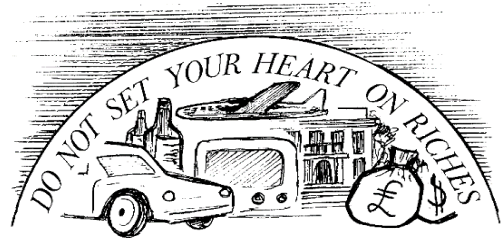
Foodbank: Please remember there is a continuing need for food. Please leave your donations at the back Church, many thanks.

St Vincent De Paul Society (SVP) – Bereavement Support: In September, the SVP will be running another series of its successful programme called **"At a Loss"** It is designed to provide support for people who are grieving because of the death of a loved one. The seven-session programme aims to provide a safe space for people who have experienced a bereavement recently or in the past. Sessions are guided by trained facilitators, to help people to explore steps to promote the path to recovery. If you feel this programme would be helpful to you or someone you know, please contact us, in confidence, on telephone 07894 240 469 or by

emailing recovery.hamsvp@gmail.com or speak to an SVP member.

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.

Security around our Churches during the Summer Holidays: Thankfully, in recent months due to improved security round St Michael's Church, vandalism and anti-social behaviour has eased. Now, as we move in to the School Summer Holidays, we do need to keep vigilance. We are doing the best we can to keep the gates closed at St Michael's. We have been working with the Diocese, Police and other agencies to help improve security facilities. We are still concerned for people's safety round the sites. Please if you see any groups of youths or adults acting in a suspicious way, please **DO NOT APPROACH THEM OR CHALLENGE THEM, AND ESPECIALLY DO NOT DO SO IF YOU ARE ALONE.** Please do not put yourself at risk. If you see anything that is of concern please call the Parish Office, or if it appears serious call 999 and let the Police know. If you are coming into the Church Site out of hours and see a gang around, please do not try to get in, it is safer to turn around and let us know. Please also be aware around St Joseph's Church, and again, please contact us if you have any concerns. Thank you all and please take care



*“Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of one's possessions”
(Luke 12: 15b)*

Please Pray for the Repose of the Soul of Father Gerard McGuinness 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 69:2,6	<i>O God, come to my assistance; O Lord, make haste to help me! You are my rescuer, my help; O Lord, do not delay</i>
Reading 1	Eccl 1:2, 2:21-23	<i>What has a man from all his toil?</i>
Psalm	Ps 89: 3-6. 12-14. 17 r.1	<i>O Lord, you have been our refuge, from generation to generation</i>
Reading 2	Col 3:1-5, 9-11	<i>Seek the things that are above, where Christ is.</i>
Gospel Acclamation	Matt 5:3	<i>Blessed are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.</i>
Gospel	Luke 12:13-21	<i>The things you have prepared, whose will they be?</i>
Communion Antiphon	Ws 16:20	<i>You have given us, O Lord, bread from heaven, endowed with all delights and sweetness in every taste</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: 27th July £743.34

Monthly Standing Orders: £1610

Development Society No: 20th July £50 580 Mrs Cleary

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