

NEWSLETTER



Sunday 24 May 2026



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	23	Ferial		10.30am 11.00am 5.15pm 6.00pm	Deacon Ben Tomnay RIP Adoration & Confessions Confessions Carol Rigby for a full recovery	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
Sunday	24	Pentecost Sunday	Week IV			
				9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	Parishioners Sandra Doyle RIP Ronnie Connors RIP	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's
Monday	25	Mary Mother of the Church		<u>10.00am</u>	Sue Jameson RIP	Saint Michael's
Tuesday	26	Our Lady Help of Christians		7.00pm	Ruth Comer	Saint Joseph's
Wednesday	27	St Augustine of Canterbury		9.15am 11.00am	Eternal Rest for an Aunt & Uncle Funeral Service for Michelle Johnson	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's
Thursday	28	Our Lord Jesus Christ The Eternal High Priest		9.30am	Fran Christley	Saint Michael's
Friday	29	Ferial		9.15am	Professor Judith Champ RIP	Saint Joseph's
Saturday	30	Ferial		10.30am 11.00am 5.15pm 6.00pm	Kastan Thanaraj Joseph (Memorial) Adoration & Confessions Confessions Andrew Pacey	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
Sunday	31	The Most Holy Trinity	Week I			
				9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	Intentions of Pam McLoughlin Steve England Parishioners	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's

Canon Niall writes.....

Welcome to this week's newsletter. Today, on Pentecost Sunday, we celebrate the culmination of Eastertide in the Gift of the Holy Spirit. After Easter Sunday, there are the days of the Easter Season, then after the Ascension we have a few days to reflect on its meaning, but the day after Pentecost Sunday we go straight back into the Church's 'Ordinary Time!' It is a reminder that all we have recalled over Holy Week and the Easter Season is about us! Right here, right now! It is a call for us to 'get on with it!' so to speak. On Pentecost Sunday we remember that the first disciples of Jesus, who had seen him go away in his one physical body in the Ascension now experienced him present with each of them in the Gift of the Holy Spirit; they were the 'Body of Christ', each a part of it, and together they were the presence of Jesus, and went out and lived his presence. Pentecost is often referred to as 'the birthday of the Church' God's people. When we come to the Sacraments and to Prayer we are refreshed to bear the fruits of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, faithfulness and self-control. These 'fruits' are needed more than ever in our world, and the 'Good News' the 'Gospel' of today is that these fruits are part of us, and we each, with our brothers and sisters across the world can live them and be Christ's living Body today! There is great need all around us, in Christ we take heart today that we can 'get on with it!'

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

Parish Team:

Parish Priest: Canon Niall Mullaley
 Assistant Priest: Father Malachy Ogbede
 In Residence: Father Sijo Poulose (*Syro-Malabar Rite*)
 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



@stsjoeandmike



StMaAAandStJosephs



stphilipneribirkenhead

Live Stream: www.churchservices.tv/woodchurch

Parish YouTube Channel: via www.saint-philip-neri.co.uk

Parish Office: The Parish Office will be closed from Monday 11th May until Friday 29th May inclusive. For any urgent matters please speak to Canon Niall or one of the Deacons, Many thanks.

Mass at St Michael's this coming Monday: As this coming Monday, 25th May is a Bank Holiday, the Mass at St Michael's that morning will be at the slightly later time of 10.00am.

Mass intentions St Michael's: Please bear with us if your Mass intention hasn't yet been said as currently we have a lot of intentions especially for a Saturday night and Sunday morning, thank you.

Parish Finances: On the noticeboard in both our church buildings is a summary of the financial return for the year 2025/26. Unfortunately like a lot of Parishes in the current circumstances with rising fuel prices and the costs to run our parish with two listed buildings etc you will see that we continue to pay out a lot more than we receive. Thank you to all for your generous offertory donations and fundraising.

The Marian Lamp: burns each week in both our churches for particular prayer intentions. This week the Lamp in Saint Joseph's burns for **Those preparing for exams**. The Lamp in Saint Michael's burns for **Dottie birthday remembrance**. 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.

Spring Sing'26 with Warrington Male Voice Choir This coming Friday 29th May - 7.30pm St Michael and All Angels Church: Last chance today to purchase tickets (or on the door) for our Parish Fundraising Concert performed by the Warrington Male Voice The ticket price is £8.00. This is an opportunity, to have an enjoyable evening, and also raise much needed funds for our Parish, 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

Tour of the Relics of St Gerard Majella 2026: This week the relics of St Gerard Majella on their tour of England and Wales are in the diocese. This is to mark St Gerard's 300th anniversary. A Redemptorist lay-brother from Southern Italy who died at 29. The four locations across the Diocese: The Cathedral, Chester, New Brighton, and Stockport. See the poster for details.

Diocesan Marriage Mass 2026: An invitation from the Bishop to celebrate a significant wedding anniversary or married within the last year. contact the Parish Office to register. Details required: couples name, address and the anniversary being celebrated. 13th June 2026 at St Columba's Church, Plas Newton Lane, Chester CH2 1SA at 12.00noon. Church cleaning next thursday 29th May at St Michael's.

Tea, coffee and cakes, St Joseph's Thanks to the excellent bakers, we'll be able to enjoy tea, coffee and cakes on the last Sunday of each month, unless there is a Baptism planned. Watch the dates for your diary section of the newsletter

Offertory Envelopes ready for collection: There are still a few offertory envelopes that haven't been collected. Please let the office know if you no longer require one, Many thanks.

St Joseph's Church Grounds tidy up: Help is needed on Thursday 28th May from 10am onwards to tidy up the grounds and garden at St Joseph's Church. All help greatly appreciated and if you have your own gardening tools even better. Many thanks

Churches Together: In Saint Joseph's church we are praying this week for those in the following roads: [Chiltern Rd](#), [The Close](#), [Cornwall Dr](#), [Gorsefield Rd](#), [Grasville Rd](#), [Greenbank Rd](#) & [Greenway Rd](#).

Shrewsbury Lourdes Hospitality are holding a day of reflection on Saturday 23rd May at Shrewsbury Cathedral Chapter House. The day will include reflections from Father Sean Henry and Dr Kieran Moriarty. There will also be Mass and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. All Hospitality members and their guests are welcome to attend. Please confirm your attendance to:
E: secretary@teamshrewsbury.co.uk

Foundation Governor for St Joseph's Catholic Primary School: 'Foundation Governors' are appointed by Bishop Mark to help support the Catholic Identity of our Schools. In a Catholic School the majority of the Governing Body are Foundation Governors. One of our Parish Primary Schools, St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, are looking for a Foundation Governor. If you are a practising Catholic and would be interested to help, please contact the school for further information, please see the contact details on the back page of the Newsletter and see the link below....
<https://educationshrewsbury.org/governance/>

Cleaning at St Michael's: This coming Thursday 29th May is time for a dust and polish please join us after Mass if you can help.

Marian devotion, as we end the month of May.

In the 2nd century St Irenaeus described Mary as the one who undid the "knot of Eve's disobedience" through her perfect obedience to God. We can look upon Mary to patiently untie the knots created by sin, fear and human weakness in our lives and intercede for us. If family problems, spiritual confusion, emotional pain, anxiety or fear, relationship difficulties, financial struggles, addictions or impossible cases trouble you make a Novena of prayer including a short meditation a prayer asking Mary to undo your knots, include your personal intention then one Hail Mary and invoke: "Mary, Untier of Knots, pray for me."



Fundraising Events & Dates for your Diary

Friday 29th May 2026 SMAA – 7.30pm
Warrington Male Voice Choir Fundraising Concert
– see information above

Tea, Coffee and Cakes – St Joseph's Sunday 31st May
after 9.30am Mass
Sunday 28th June after 9.30am Mass Sunday 26th July
after 9.30am Mass



*"For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptised into one body."
(1 Corinthians 12: 12-13a)*

Welcome to

Dolci Doyle, Harper Doyle, Hudson Doyle, Teddy Doyle & Marley Doyle who were baptised in the Parish last weekend

Please Pray for the Repose of the Soul of Michelle Johnson, Margaret Ollerhead, Mary Minshall and all those who have died recently

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

Readings at Mass

Entrance Antiphon	WS1:7	<i>The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world and that which contains all things understands what is said. Alleluia</i>
Reading 1	Acts 2:1-11	<i>They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak</i>
Psalm	Ps 103: 1. 24. 29-31. 34 r. 30	<i>Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth or Alleluia!</i>
Reading 2	1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13	<i>In the one Spirit we were all baptised</i>
Optional Sequence		<i>Veni Sancte Spiritus Holy Spirit, Lord of light</i>
Gospel Acclamation		<i>Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love</i>
Gospel	John 20:19-23	<i>As the Father sent me, so am I sending you: receive the Holy Spirit</i>
Communion Antiphon		<i>They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke of the marvels of God</i>
Solemn Blessing		

Income: Thank you for your generosity.

Offertory Collection: 17th May £995

Monthly Standing Orders: £1610

Development Society Winner: 17th May 2026 282 Tim Kendal

DIGITAL DONATIONS : All banks have now significantly increased their handling charges for cash deposits made by the parish and our Wi-Fi connections here in church have proved problematic to us for some time now. For these reasons we are asking that if it is at all possible please use this QR Code with your mobile phones to make donations for your offertory rather than cash on the plate. The link will take you to Dona Donations Site used throughout the Diocese which enables us to also claim back 25p every time an individual donates £1 up to the value of £30 for each act of giving as GIFT AID



**OFFERTORY
PLEASE
SCAN TO MAKE
A DONATION**

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

0151 652 8487 evenings
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