

# NEWSLETTER



**SAINT PHILIP NERI**  
CATHOLIC PARISH BIRKENHEAD

**Sunday 31 May 2026**

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

Day	Date	Celebration	Psalter	Mass Time	Mass Intention	Church
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
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>The Most Holy Trinity</b>	<b>Week I</b>	<b>OT Week IX Cycle A      Weekday Cycle II</b>		
				9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	Intentions of Pam McLoughlin Steve England Parishioners	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's
Monday	1	St Justin		9.30am	Clare Clarke – Successful treatment	Saint Michael's
Tuesday	2	Ferial		7.00pm	Eternal rest my Aunt & Uncle	Saint Joseph's
Wednesday	3	St Charles Lwanga & Companions		9.15am	Secular Clergy Fund June	Saint Joseph's
Thursday	4	Ferial		9.30am	Patricia Roper (Anniversary)	Saint Michael's
Friday	5	St Boniface		9.15am	Tom Anderson RIP	Saint Joseph's
Saturday	6	Ferial		10.30am 11.00am 5.15pm 6.00pm	Alex Murphy RIP Adoration & Confessions Confessions Philip Gaunt RIP	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ</b>	<b>Week II</b>			
				9.30am 11.00am  5.00pm	Parishioners Therese Mary Pedder Anniversary & Thomas Joseph Pedder birthday remembrance Sheila Pugh 10 year Anniversary	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's

## Canon Niall writes.....

Welcome to this week's newsletter. After the Solemnity of Pentecost last weekend we have moved back into the Church's 'Ordinary Time'. The Sunday following Pentecost is always the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity. Our understanding of the Holy Trinity arose from the lived experience of the first Christians. Jesus' first followers came from the Jewish background, and they had known the 'One God' the 'Father' of the Old Testament. They had later experienced God in Jesus among them, 'the Son' and then in their own lives through the Spirit 'The Holy Spirit'. This new dynamic relationship with God led to our understanding of God, the Father and source of life, God the Son, who gained that life for us, and God the Holy Spirit who was that life within us, the Holy Trinity. There are no trite explanations of the Holy Trinity, for we cannot explain God in our terms, but the lived experience of our faith leads the Church to proclaim the One God who is communicated to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. If that seems all 'out there' somewhere we remember that our understanding comes from lived experience. God the Father, who is the 'end' the completion of the journey, God the Son who is the 'Way' to the end, and journeys with us, and God the Holy Spirit who is the energy and fuel for the journey. This is only one image, and no one image completes the whole picture, but it shows us that the life of God is not 'static' but a living, joyous, pulsating thing, into which we are called, and by accepting that call, we can in our turn open the invitation to others

*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



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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)

**New Diocesan Website:** To mark our 175th Anniversary a new website has been launched for the Diocese of Shrewsbury. The renewed website is not merely a platform for information but offers a window on the life and witness of our Shrewsbury Diocese. The website can be accessed by clicking on: <https://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/>

**Pastoral Letter from Bishop Mark this weekend:**

This weekend of 30<sup>th</sup>/31<sup>st</sup> May we have a Pastoral Letter from Bishop Mark on Pope Leo's new Encyclical 'Magnifica Humanitas'; 'Magnificent Humanity'.

**Father Sam Thotamala Silver Jubilee:**

This weekend Father Sam Thotamala, who left here in autumn 2024, is celebrating the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood. Father Sam is still assisting Canon Phil Moor in Holy Apostles and Martyrs Parish in Wallasey. Our prayers and best wishes go to Father Sam on this special anniversary, and we wish him every blessing and happiness for the years ahead.

**Parish Youth to Lourdes Fundraiser:**

Thank you for your support of our 'Parish Youth to Lourdes' Fundraisers. Next Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> June, after the 11.00am Mass at St Michael's there will be an event where 'Bacon Butties' will be sold and a tombola to help raise funds for our young people who will be going to Lourdes with our Shrewsbury Diocesan Pilgrimage this summer. Do please come along and support this event if you can.

**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 **My Husbands Coronary Care**. The Lamp in Saint Michael's burns for **Anniversary remembrance John Hunt**. 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.

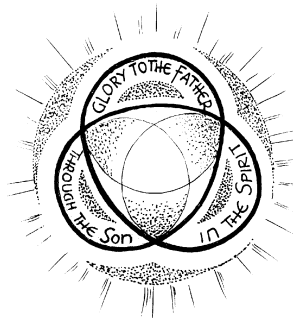
**Mass intentions St Michael's:**

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.

**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. 13<sup>th</sup> June 2026 at St Columba's Church, Plas Newton Lane, Chester CH2 1SA at 12.00noon.



*"The grace of the Lord  
Jesus Christ and the love  
of God and the  
fellowship of the Holy  
Spirit be with you all"  
(2 Corinthians 13: 14)*

**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

**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.**

**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/>

### Welcome to

Annabelle Leigh Naylor, Alice Maria Naylor, Sofia Lana Daker & Francis Thomas who were baptised in the Parish last weekend

**Please Pray for the Repose of the  
Soul of Michelle Johnson, Mary Minshall 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>	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>
<b>Reading 1</b>	Acts 2:1-11	<i>They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak</i>
<b>Psalm</b>	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>
<b>Reading 2</b>	1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13	<b><i>In the one Spirit we were all baptised</i></b>
<b>Optional Sequence</b>		<i>Veni Sancte Spiritus Holy Spirit, Lord of light</i>
<b>Gospel Acclamation</b>		<i>Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love</i>
<b>Gospel</b>	John 20:19-23	<i>As the Father sent me, so am I sending you: receive the Holy Spirit</i>
<b>Communion Antiphon</b>		<i>They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke of the marvels of God</i>

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

*Offertory Collection:* 24th May £1224.44

Monthly Standing Orders: £1610

*Development Society Winner:* 24th May 2026 325 Josie Cromwell

**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



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

**Saint Joseph's Parish Centre**  
0151 652 8487 evenings  
0345 241 2485  
bhj@ypcevents.com

**Saint Joseph's Catholic  
Primary School**  
Woodchurch Road, Oxtou 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