

# NEWSLETTER



**SAINT PHILIP NERI**  
CATHOLIC PARISH BIRKENHEAD

**Sunday 28 June 2026**

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

Day	Date	Celebration	Psalter	Mass Time	Mass Intention	Church
Saturday	27	Ferial		10.30am 11.00am 5.15pm 6.00pm	Pauline Tamm RIP Adoration & Confessions Confessions Philip Gaunt RIP	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>Ss Peter &amp; Paul</b>	<b>Week I</b>			
				9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	Parishioners Sandra Doyle RIP Otto Rehak	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's
Monday	29	Ferial		9.30am	Tony & Josephine Ghader RIP	Saint Michael's
Tuesday	30	Ferial		7.00pm	Margaret Anyon Anniversary	Saint Joseph's
Wednesday	1	Ferial		9.15am	Alan Burley 2 <sup>nd</sup> Anniversary	Saint Joseph's
Thursday	2	ferial		9.30am	Philip Gaunt RIP	Saint Michael's
Friday	3	St Thomas		9.15am	Father Anthony Wild intention	Saint Joseph's
Saturday	4	Ferial		10.30am 11.00am 5.15pm 6.00pm	Paula Rixon RIP Adoration & Confessions Confessions Patricia McNelis	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	<b>Week II</b>			
				9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	Parishioners Frankie Savage Jozef Rajcani	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's

## Canon Niall writes.....

Welcome to this week's newsletter. Today the Solemnity of the Apostles Saints Peter and Paul displaces the Thirteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time. Ss. Peter and Paul were two key figures in the story of the Church. Simon Peter was a fisherman from Bethsaida beside the Lake of Galilee. 'Shimon' is the Hebrew version of his name. He had the nickname of 'Cepha or Cephas' which meant 'Rock' or actually more like 'Rocky'! The Greek way of saying this is 'Petros' which became 'Petrus' in Latin leading to the English 'Peter'. St Paul came from a very different background. Not all Jewish People lived in the Holy Land, they were spread across the whole Roman World and beyond. Many of them had become well to do people, like St Paul's family lived in the city of Tarsus, in what is now South Eastern Turkey. They held Roman Citizenship by birth, and would be a family that was held in great respect. St Paul's Hebrew name was Saul, but like most Jewish people who were Roman Citizens he would have a Latinised version of his name to use in those circles; in this case the Latin version of Saul was Paulus, or Paul as we would say in English. St Peter in all his 'ups' and 'downs' became the focus of unity for the Church, and eventually as tradition teaches us, became the first Bishop of Rome, 'Pope' as we would say today. St Paul, after initially trying to destroy the first Christians, had a conversion experience which changed his entire vision to being one of the greatest Christian Missionaries that ever was! Both, in their own way are 'foundation stones' of the living body of the Church. They were to witness with their lives, and in doing so passed on to us the message of the Gospel. Others from them passed it on until we gather today to continue that journey today! When we look back to Peter & Paul it inspires us to look forward and play our part as the 'living stones' of God's Church, founded on the faith of the Apostles

*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 9am to 12.00 noon Monday – Friday*



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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 175<sup>th</sup> 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/>

**New Parish Office opening times:** The Parish Office opening times will normally be 9.00am to 12.noon.

**Father Anthony Wild:** Many parishioners have been concerned about Father Anthony Wild after he took ill the other week. Father Anthony is now back home, and receiving care and support there. He has asked to convey his gratitude for the concern, prayer and kind wishes that have been shown by so many. Please keep him in your prayers as he continues on the road to recovery.

**As part of the Jubilee Year and in preparation for the 800th anniversary of the death of St Francis of Assisi,** Franciscan churches have been designated as places of pilgrimage where the faithful may obtain a Plenary Indulgence under the usual conditions. We are therefore inviting parishioners from across the Diocese to join us for a special Pilgrimage Day at St Francis Church, Chester, on Thursday 17th September 2026, the Feast of the Stigmata of St Francis. **Please see poster in Church for more details.**

**Canon Niall** is resting and recuperating after his procedure and thanks everyone for their kind thoughts and prayers.

**QR Code and DONA Pay Stations:** Thank you to everyone who has let us know about the problems with the 'QR Code'. The code does connect to the web page for donations, takes card details but cannot proceed further. We have spoken to those who provide this service and they are aware of the cause of the problem, and hope to rectify it as soon as possible. The Digital Payment Station at St Michael's works occasionally, so do please try it. The Payment Station at St Joseph's is out of action for the time being. It is our hope we can get this all sorted before too long.

**The Marian Lamp:** burns each week in both our churches for particular prayer intentions. This week the Lamp in Saint Joseph's burns for **All Doctors and Nurses who care for our community**. The Lamp in Saint Michael's burns for **Tony & Josephine Ghader RIP**. 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.

**Tea/Coffee and cakes at St Joseph's 9.30am Mass:** There are no refreshments after the 9.30am Mass this Sunday but please continue to join us after the 9.30am Mass, usually the last Sunday of the month.

**We Believe Festival of Catholic Life** St Mary's College, Oscott, 24-27 July 2026. There is content for people of every age. Book a place here <https://www.webeliefefestival.com/>

**Churches Together:** In Saint Joseph's church we are praying this week for those in the following roads: **Bramwell Ave, Brecon Rd, Broxton Ave, Church Rd, Church Terrace, Clarence Rd & Convent Close.**

**Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra:** Elgar ~ **The Dream of Gerontius.** Saturday 4 July 2026 7:30pm Liverpool Philharmonic Hall

"This is the best of me," wrote Edward Elgar on the score of *The Dream of Gerontius*. So forget everything you thought you knew about religious music – and about Elgar. It's an experience like no other: the story of a lonely soul's journey towards eternity, told in music that'll break your heart. The Orchestra made the first ever recording of *The Dream of Gerontius*, but today, Andrew Manze, the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Choir and an unrivalled team of solo singers will bring their own, very personal perspective to this masterpiece of British music. BSL interpretation provided at this performance – call 0151 709 3789 or email [ticketing@liverpoolphil.com](mailto:ticketing@liverpoolphil.com) to book suitable seats. To book tickets and for more information: <https://www.liverpoolphil.com/whats-on/classical-music/elgar-the-dream-of-gerontius/9562>

**BBC Young Chorister of the year 2026 - A Songs Of Praise Special:** Songs of Praise and BBC Radio 2 would love to invite you to a very special recording of BBC Young Chorister of the Year 2026 from the iconic Hallé St Peter's in Manchester.

**Wednesday 8th July 2026 - Junior Semi-Final (doors open 10:30am)**

**Wednesday 8th July 2026 - Senior Semi-Final (doors open 4:00pm)**

**Thursday 9th July 2026 - Grand Final (doors open 11:30am)**

Age restriction: there is no minimum age for entry, all ages are warmly welcomed but children aged 17 and under should be supervised by a responsible adult at all times.

**WHERE:** Hallé St Peter's, Audience Entrance on Hood Street, Ancoats, Manchester, M4 6BF

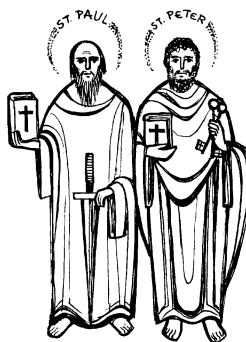
To book tickets phone 020 8530 8154 or <https://lostintv.com/tv-show?id=1436>

**Saturday 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 for a Saturday night (approximately a few months wait). If you are waiting for an intention you have specified for a Saturday evening but would like to change it to another day please contact the office.

**Would you like some company on a Tuesday afternoon?** A group of older people meet at the Laurie's Centre in Birkenhead every Tuesday from 1pm to 4pm for a cup of tea and a chat followed by a few games of Bingo and a raffle. You will be made most welcome and the Laurie's Centre is very convenient for most bus routes. Just come along or ring Pat Mayor on 07530377741

**Ordination to the Priesthood of Gerard Connett and Kevin Hogan:** This Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> June, at Shrewsbury Cathedral, Bishop Mark will ordain Deacon Gerard Connett to the Priesthood and the Saturday following, 4<sup>th</sup> July, also at Shrewsbury Cathedral, Bishop Mark will ordain Deacon Kevin Hogan to the Priesthood. Please keep them both in your prayers as they begin their ministry in our Diocese.

<https://educationshrewsbury.org/governance/>



*"For by your providence the blessed Apostles bring us joy: Peter, foremost in confessing the faith, Paul, its outstanding preacher"*

*(from the Preface of Ss Peter & Paul's Day Mass)*

**Please Pray for the Repose of the Soul of Marlene Robb 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>		<i>These are the ones who, living in the flesh, planted the Church with their blood; they drank the chalice of the Lord and became the friends of God</i>
<b>Reading 1</b>	Acts 12:1-11	<i>Now I am sure that the Lord has rescued me from the hand of Herod.</i>
<b>Psalm</b>	Ps 33:2-9 r. 5 or 8	<b><i>From all my terrors the Lord set me free.</i></b>
<b>Reading 2</b>	2 Tim 4:6-8, 17-18	<i>There is laid up for me the crown of righteousness.</i>
<b>Gospel Acclamation</b>	Matt: 16:18	<i>You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church. and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.</i>
<b>Gospel</b>	Matt 16:13-19	<i>You are Peter, and I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.</i>
<b>Communion Antiphon</b>	Cf.Mt 16:16,18	<i>Peter said to Jesus: you are the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus replied: You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church</i>

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

*Offertory Collection:* 21<sup>st</sup> June £704.01

Monthly Standing Orders: £1610

*Development Society Winner:* 21<sup>st</sup> June 2026 £50 214 Michael Braun

**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, 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