

# NEWSLETTER



**SAINT PHILIP NERI**  
CATHOLIC PARISH BIRKENHEAD

**Sunday 7 June 2026**

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

Day	Date	Celebration	Psalter	Mass Time	Mass Intention	Church
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>			
During Ordinary Time (Summer) ie up to September, we are asked to pray for these intentions: A deeper understanding between Christians and Jews: Human life, Those who Suffer Persecution, Oppression and Denial of Human Rights: Europe: Seafarers				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
Monday	8	Ferial		9.30am	Sandra Doyle RIP	Saint Michael's
Tuesday	9	Ferial		7.00pm	Soul of John Rimmer	Saint Joseph's
Wednesday	10	Ferial		9.15am 1.00pm	Noreen Murren Funeral Service for Mary Minshall	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's
Thursday	11	St Barnabas, Apostle		9.30am	Fran Bartley RIP	Saint Michael's
Friday	12	The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus		9.15am	Eternal rest My Aunt & Uncle	Saint Joseph's
Saturday	13	The Immaculate Heart of Mary		10.30am 11.00am 5.15pm 6.00pm	Baby Jimmy Recovery Adoration & Confessions Confessions Patricia McNelis	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	<b>Week III</b>			
				9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	Mary O'Shea RIP Leone Monaco Parishioners	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's

## Canon Niall writes.....

Welcome to this week's newsletter. This weekend we celebrate the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ, 'Corpus Christi', or more properly 'Corpus et Sanguis Christi'. This special day reminds us that as we journey back into the Church's Ordinary Time, all we celebrated and recalled in Holy Week and Eastertide, is available to us, and part of us in the gift of the Body & Blood of Christ to give us strength on the journey. As we recalled on Holy Thursday, when Jesus said 'This is my Body' he was not just referring to 'flesh and bone' but his 'totality', everything that made him who he was, all he had done, all he had achieved or would achieve, his whole 'story'. When he said 'This is my Blood' he was again, not just referring to 'red and white cells', 'plasma' and the like, but his whole 'life force'. Therefore when he said 'This is my Body, this is my Blood, do this to remember (recall) me', Jesus was inviting us to share his whole Life, Death, Resurrection, Ascension and Gift of the Holy Spirit; that his story becomes interwoven with our story, that as we receive the totality of God in Holy Communion, his Body & Blood, becomes part of our body & blood, enabling all of us together to be the Body of Christ in the here and now. Today we take fresh heart, that through our sharing in the Holy Eucharist, together with the whole Church throughout the world, we can be the living presence of Christ today!

*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*

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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/>

**Parish Fundraising Concert:** Many thanks to everyone who attended our Parish Fundraising Concert with the Warrington Male Voice Choir, which took place on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May at St Michael and All Angels Church. We raised an amazing total of over £1,000.00 from which we have made a donation to the choir as a thank you for their support. It was an enjoyable evening, with lots of lovely comments being made by those who attended. I have been asked by the Choir to say thank you on their behalf, they always look forward to performing for us. Thank you once again. Deacon Gerard

**Parish Youth to Lourdes Fundraiser:** Thank you for your support of our 'Parish Youth to Lourdes' Fundraisers. This 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.

**SVP Annual district Theatre night:** Is taking place at the Gladstone Theatre, Port Sunlight on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June to raise funds for the SVP Wirral Children's Camp in North Wales this Summer. The play is 'Blue Stockings' by Jessica Swales and is a funny, romantic & shocking look at a key episode in the battle for equality. Tickets are £12 from SVP members or pay on the door on the night. Doors open at 6.45pm for a strict 7.30pm start.

**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 **All who are awaiting the outcome of Hospital investigations.** The Lamp in Saint Michael's burns for **Remembrance Cath Burke.** 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 (approximately a few months wait) and Sunday morning, thank you.

**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: **Cheviot Close, Cheviot Rd, Cleehill Rd, Fountain St, Frodsham St, Gayton Ave & Glover St.**

**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/>

**LIVERPOOL WELSH CHORAL IN CONCERT  
ST ANDREW'S CHURCH WEST KIRBY  
CH48 5DN  
SATURDAY 13th JUNE 7.30**

One of the leading choirs on Merseyside are coming to the Wirral to present Vivaldi's *Gloria* and other wonderful choral classics

This choir, described as 'dynamic' includes choir members from across Merseyside and beyond- many are also choir members of our local churches- so do come and support them!

Tickets £20 from <http://www.lwcu.co.uk> or on the door.

**FEAST OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS CHRIST:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday after Trinity Sunday. This great feast promoted by many over the centuries including St. Gertrude, St.

Margaret Mary Alacoque, St. John Eudes, represents a

devotion to Jesus in His human nature, with particular reference to the heart as the seat of the emotions. St. Margaret

Mary Alacoque wrote: "since love makes lovers one in likeness,

if we love, let us model our lives on His". Devotion invites us to conform our hearts to Christ's, unite ourselves to His Heart and ultimately, lose ourselves in Him. Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen of Rochester USA maintained: "*the affection a human heart bears for another lessens as it multiplies the objects of its love, just as a river loses its fullness the more it divides itself into little streams. But with God there is no decrease of love with the increase of objects loved, any more than a voice loses its strength because a thousand ears hear it. Each heart can break His Sacred Heart all over again; each soul has within itself the potentiality of another crucifixion. No one can love as much as our Lord; no one therefore can suffer as much*". Worthy to note that St Margaret Mary Alacoque said that 12 promises were made by Jesus at the revelation of the Sacred Heart, including, '*divine consolation in all their troubles to devotees*'.

Pope Saint John Paul II established this Feast as the 'World Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests', so do please pray for your priests on this day.



*"The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ?"*

*(1 Corinthians 10: 16)*

Please Pray for the Repose of the Soul of Mary Minshall, Alice Lyons 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>	Cf. Ps 80:17	<i>He fed them with the finest wheat and satisfied them with honey from the rock</i>
<b>Reading 1</b>	Deut 8:2-3, 14b-16a	<i>He fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know.</i>
<b>Psalm</b>	Ps 147:12-15, 19-20 r. 12	<b><i>O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord!</i></b>
<b>Reading 2</b>	1 Cor 10:16-17	<i>Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body.</i>
<b>Gospel Acclamation</b>	John 6:51-52	<i>I am the living bread that came down from heaven, says the Lord. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live for ever.</i>
<b>Gospel</b>	John 6:51-58	<i>My flesh is true food and my blood is true drink.</i>
<b>Communion Antiphon</b>	Jn 6:57	<i>Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him, says the Lord</i>

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

*Offertory Collection:* 31<sup>st</sup> May £823.00

Monthly Standing Orders: £1610

*Development Society Winner:* 31<sup>st</sup> May 2026 015 Barbara Wood

**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](mailto:schooloffice@stmichael-allangels.wirral.sch.uk)

**Saint Joseph's Parish Centre**  
 0151 652 8487 evenings  
 0345 241 2485  
[bhj@ypcevents.com](mailto: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](mailto: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