

NEWSLETTER



SAINT PHILIP NERI

Sunday 27 September 2026

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

CATHOLIC PARISH BIRKENHEAD

Day	Date	Celebration	Psalter	Mass Time	Mass Intention	Church
Saturday	26	Ferial		10.30am 11.00am 5.15pm 6.00pm	Maureen & Leslie Boyd RIP Adoration & Confessions Confessions Miller Family intentions	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
Sunday	27	Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Week II			
During Ordinary Time (Autumn) i.e. from September to Christ the King, we are asked to pray for these intentions: Students and Teachers; The Spread of the Gospel; the Harvest; the fruits of Human work, and the Reverent Use of Creation; Justice and Peace in the World; All Victims of War; Young People; Prisoners and their families				9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	John Michael O'Sullivan Anniv RIP Parishioners Thomas Elcock RIP birthday remem	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's
Monday	28	Ferial		9.30am	St Michael's School Welcome Mass	Saint Michael's
Tuesday	29	Ss Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, Archangels		7.00pm	Alvarino Viegas & Joseph Pereira RIP	Saint Joseph's
Wednesday	30	St Jerome		9.15am	Pat Collins RIP	Saint Joseph's
Thursday	1	St Theresa of the Child Jesus		9.30am 12.noon	Special intention for healing Funeral Mass for Patricia Collins	Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's
Friday	2	Guardian Angels		9.15am	Joe Sanders RIP	Saint Joseph's
Saturday	3	Ferial		10.30am 11.00am 5.15pm 6.00pm	Patti Rixon RIP Adoration & Confessions Confessions Anne McManus 2 nd Anniversary	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
Sunday	4	Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time	Week III			
				9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	Pat Eaton RIP Anthony Whitehead Anniversary RIP Parishioners	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's

Canon Niall writes..... Welcome to this week's newsletter. The readings of this weekend are, once again, inviting us to share in God's vision and heart. We can all fall into the trap of just 'going through the motions' and 'keeping up conventions' to be acceptable. In the parable of the two sons Jesus was challenging those who thought that by just going through the motions, looking, and doing the right things that God would almost 'owe them something'. They despised, and were resentful when Jesus offered God's compassion, love and mercy to those they considered 'beneath them' who hadn't 'earned' God's gifts as they considered they had. In this story the first son says "no" to his father, but then thinks better of it and does what he asks; the second would look good to any watching when said "yes" to his father, but when his father and any watchers weren't looking he did nothing! He just 'went through the motions'. As I say, this was a challenge to those who considered themselves 'righteous' to see that those who might have led 'sinful' lives before, had by meeting God in Jesus, thought better of it and made a new start. If I ask myself which son from the story best reflects me, if I am honest I can see bits of them both at work in me! That is why we need to come to Mass, the Sacraments, make time for prayer and reflection to keep us tuned in to God's heart and vision, to have our understanding and vision cleared that as we receive God's gifts, so we can generously share them, and be that welcome to those who seek a new hope, and new beginning

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 Poulse (*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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@stsjoeandmike



StMaAAandStJosephs



stphilipneribirkenhead

Live Stream: www.churchservices.tv/woodchurch

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

CAFOD Autumn Family Fast Day Collection: Next Weekend of 3rd/4th October is the CAFOD Autumn Family Fast Day Collection, and there will be a Retiring Collection after all Masses that weekend. Envelopes are available this weekend; please take one and place it in the second collection next weekend. If you have the opportunity to Gift Aid then there are details with the envelopes as to how you can do so.

Father John Marsh CSsR - RIP: Many people have been calling about the Funeral Arrangements for Father John Marsh, a Redemptorist Priest, originally from Birkenhead, who died last week aged 78. We do not know as yet where or when his Funeral will be as arrangements are still being made. Please keep Father John and all who mourn for him in your prayers. May he know the joy and peace of God's presence.

Tea, Coffee and Cakes at St Joseph's: Will be available after the 9.30am Mass this **Sunday 27th September**. All proceeds will be going to MacMillan Cancer Support Charity. Please be as generous as you can and come and enjoy the company of your fellow Parishioners for this worthwhile cause. Many thanks.

Bacon Butties in honour of St Michael! This coming Tuesday, 29th September is the Feast Day of the Archangels. So after the 11.00am Mass at St Michael's this Sunday, 27th September, in honour of St Michael, there will be 'Bacon Butties', Cake, Tea and Coffee available. Any Donations for the Bacon Butties, say £2-00 will for the 'Youth to Lourdes' Fund.

St Joseph's Missio red boxes: If anyone has red boxes from St Joseph's can you please bring them back to Church for collection, Many thanks.

SVP Fundraiser: Friday 9th October at 7.30pm, St Joseph's Social Club, North Road. Dance the night away with the fabulous Neil Cooper. Light refreshments included. Tickets £8 from Phil after the 9.30am Mass at St Joseph's or behind the bar in St Joseph's Club. See poster at back of Church for phone number to also book tickets. All monies raised will go towards helping families in Birkenhead with food vouchers and toys.

Get ready to race some pigs!: The Knights of St Columba, together with Deacon Les Arch, are holding a fun-filled Charity Pig Race Evening in aid of the RNLI at St Joseph's Hall, Upton, on Friday 16th October. Single tickets are £3 family tickets at £10, doors open at 6:30pm and the first race begins at 7:00pm. BYOB, and there will also be a raffle on the night. Come along, have a few laughs, cheer on your favourite pig and help us raise money for the RNLI at the same time. Everyone is welcome, and let's make it a fantastic night for a great cause!

Pause for Hope - An ecumenical service for anyone in anyway affected by cancer. Sunday 18th October at 3:30pm in Saint Michael & All Angels Church, New Hey Road, Woodchurch. www.pauseforhope.org.uk

Churches Together: In Saint Joseph's church we are praying this week for those in the following roads: [Queens Dr](#), [Raby Gr](#), [Reservoir Rd Nth](#), [Sycamore Rd](#), [Tatton Rd](#), [The Dell](#), [Thornton Ave](#).

The Marian Lamp: burns each week in both our churches for particular prayer intentions. This week the Lamp in Saint Joseph's burns for **Matthew's intentions**. The Lamp in Saint Michael's burns for **Pope Leo's intentions**. 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.

St Joseph's Church Cleaning: This Thursday 1st October from 9.30am onwards. All help greatly appreciated, thank you.

St Joseph's Ladies Group: Wednesday 7th October at 7.30pm, St Joseph's Parish Centre. A talk on the Birkenhead Priory.

St Michael's Church Cleaning: This Thursday 1st October after the 9.30am Mass. All help greatly appreciated, thank you.

CAFOD Emergency Appeals: We have seen in the News the devastating Earthquakes in Columbia and Venezuela, and now sadly the effects of the floods in Nepal. CAFOD had an emergency fund, and to contribute please go to: www.cafod.org.uk

Neston Flower Society flower arranging workshop: Neston Flower Society are pleased to invite all Church Flower Arrangers and any congregants who may be interested in flower arranging, to a creative Flower Arranging Workshop that will be held on Tuesday, 13th October and Tuesday, 20th October 2026 between 1pm and 3pm. We have already held 2 very successful Church Flower Arranging Workshops within the last 12 months, offering practical demonstrations using sustainable materials and advising on the use of inexpensive materials to create exciting designs for use in Church, as well as your own home. This time we will be demonstrating a wire bouquet support or Meadow style for a window/choir stall - the choice is yours. For further information on the sessions, what to bring etc. then please do not hesitate to contact Barbara Fisher Secretary, Neston Flower Society
MOB:- 07919983209

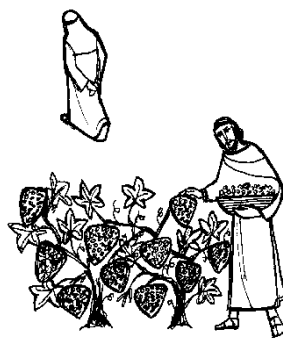
St Joseph's book stall: We are now able to take paperback books for our book stall as we have sold quite a few, many thanks.

QR Code and DONA Pay Stations Update: Our computer equipment and software were recently updated. Sorry for the delay in getting in getting these sorted. It will be a little while yet until we can get the Digital Payment Stations and QR Codes back up and running again. We will keep you posted and thank you again for your understanding.

CAFOD school volunteers needed! Could you visit your local Catholic school to **talk about the work of CAFOD**? We are looking for **volunteers** to deliver school assemblies and workshops and inspire children and young people to make a difference and take action. For further information please contact Anna Letizia on **07710 094449** or email aletizia@cafod.org.uk

Development Society Envelopes: If you are in the Development Society and make use of box envelopes, they are now at the back of Church.

"Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people, 'What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." And he answered, "I will not", but afterward he changed his mind and went. And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, "I go, sir", but did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you.'"
(Matthew 21: 28-31)



Welcome to Pippa Grace Lightfoot who was baptised in our Parish last weekend

Please Pray for the Repose of the soul of Patricia Collins, Father John Marsh CSsR and all those who have died recently
May they rest in peace,
in the arms of the Good Shepherd

Readings at Mass

Entrance Antiphon	Dn 3:31, 29, 30, 43, 42	<i>All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments, but give glory to your names and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy</i>
Reading 1	Ezek 18:25-28	<i>When a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed, he shall save his life</i>
Psalm	Ps 24:4-9 r.6	Remember your compassion, O Lord.
Reading 2	Phil 2:1-11	<i>Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus.</i>
Gospel Acclamation	John 10:27	<i>My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord, and I know them and they follow me.</i>
Gospel	Matt 21:28-32	<i>He changed his mind and went. The tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you.</i>
Communion Antiphon	Cf. Ps 118:49-50	<i>Remember your word to your servant, O Lord, by which you have given me hope. This is my comfort when I am brought low</i>

Income: Thank you for your generosity.

Offertory Collection: 20th September £773.63

Monthly Standing Orders: £1654

Development Society Winner: 20th September 2026 £50 183 Stella McGann

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



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

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's Church Tour Video view on the website or the QR codes on the posters at Church