

NEWSLETTER



SAINT PHILIP NERI

Sunday 6 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	5	Ferial		10.30am 11.00am 5.15pm 6.00pm	Joseph Kivlehan Anniversary RIP Adoration & Confessions Confessions Philip Gaunt RIP	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
Sunday	6	Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	Week III			
During Ordinary Time (Summer) i.e. 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	Brian MacDonald 1 st Anniversary RIP Parishioners Robbie Williams RIP	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's
Monday	7	Ferial		9.30am	In thanksgiving	Saint Michael's
Tuesday	8	Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary		7.00pm	Secular Clergy Fund	Saint Joseph's
Wednesday	9	Ferial		9.15am	Ann Fazackerly RIP	Saint Joseph's
Thursday	10	Ferial		9.30am	Eileen O'Higgins 90 th Birthday Celebration	Saint Michael's
Friday	11	Ferial		9.15am	Gerald McGinn Birthday Remembrance	Saint Joseph's
Saturday	12	Ferial		10.30am 11.00am 5.15pm 6.00pm	Rosa Hughes Anniversary RIP Adoration & Confessions Confessions Mum & Dad	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
Sunday	13	Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Week IV			
				9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	Priscilla Hellon RIP Parishioners Ronnie Connors RIP	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's

Canon Niall writes.....

Welcome to this week's newsletter. This weekend's First Reading and the Gospel reflect a theme of our responsibility to care for one another. The Old Testament prophet Ezekiel is writing to the Jewish exiles in Babylon between the years 593 to 571 BC reminding them that God was not somewhere beyond them, or accessed only by rituals at a distance, but a vibrant 'living' God who was part of their whole lives. Ezekiel is reminded in today's reading that it is not just 'Ezekiel and God'; God cared for all, and if Ezekiel shared in God's vision, he too should be concerned for the well-being of others, offering the hope he had received. In today's Gospel we are reminded that we are never 'solo Christians' we need to help and serve one another, as we have received God's gifts, so we are called to share them; we have a responsibility to, and for, each other. Last Tuesday was the 'World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation' when we are reminded to care for each other and the gift of our world for the good, and well-being of all. In a time when we see the world around us involved in warfare, when some are drawing barriers, some marginalising others for their own ends, often with brutality and violence; we see some exploiting resources with no care for those who may suffer as a result, we once again seek to be 're-rooted' in the vision of Christ that sees the worth and dignity of all people, and challenges us to think once again about care for 'Our Common Home'

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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@stsjoeandmike



StMaAAandStJosephs



stphilipneribirkenhead

Live Stream: www.churchservices.tv/woodchurch

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

Please contact your MP to oppose the Assisted Suicide (End of Life) Bill this coming Friday:

Bishop Mark forwarded this message from the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales a couple of so weeks back: The Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill is back in the House of Commons and seeks to legalise assisted suicide. It will have its Second Reading and vote next Friday, 11 September 2026. Please write to your MP to make your voice heard and oppose the Bill. *"This bill is wrong in principle,"* says Archbishop Richard Moth, President of the Bishops' Conference, *"It is also deeply flawed and, if passed, could lead to vulnerable people feeling pressured into ending their lives. The Bill has a serious lack of protection for health and social care staff and risks putting many wonderful hospices and care homes in the position of no longer being able to operate. I urge you to write to your Members of Parliament to petition them to vote against the Bill at Second Reading."* You can support the Archbishop's call and contact your MP now as a matter of urgency. Even if you have already done so in the past, please speak up and voice your opposition. The charity Right to Life UK has a simple online mechanism to do this. It takes little more than a few minutes to enter your postcode, make sure the suggested text suits your viewpoint and submit your message to ask your MP to stop this flawed Bill progressing through parliament.

For more information and resources, please visit:

cbcew.org.uk/opposing-assisted-suicide

righttolife.org.uk/Sept11vote

There also postcards from the 'Not Dead Yet' Group of disabled people in public life who are opposing this Bill. These are available in our Churches this weekend and can be easily sent to MPs.

St Anselm's Open Evening: Thursday 10th September from 5-8pm (Headteacher's Talk at 6pm & 7pm)

The Dimensions of Love – Fr Tom's Pilgrimage: Many of you will know Father Tom Cunnah, he is the Parish Priest of St Winefride's in Neston, and is our Diocesan Chancellor and 'Juridical Vicar' who presides over the Marriage Tribunal. As I said last week, Father Tom was with me (Canon Niall) twice in Ellesmere Port whilst training for the Priesthood and has been a good and supportive friend to me. I had the privilege of 'Clothing' him at his Ordination to the Priesthood ten years ago last Thursday, 3rd September. To mark ten years of priestly ministry, starting last Thursday, Father Tom has undertaken a nine-day, 130-mile thanksgiving pilgrimage across the Diocese of Shrewsbury, from West Kirby to Ludlow and Shining Tor. Along the way, he will be praying for vocations and raising awareness and funds for the work of Caritas supporting families in need. Parishioners can follow his journey on Caritas social media. Please see posters at the back of Church for the QR code for donations. I know Father Tom wanted to mark his tenth anniversary with an act of service to promote vocations and help support the work and mission of 'Caritas Diocese of Shrewsbury'. There are some Novena Leaflets and Posters to Join Fr Tom in prayer and with a 'QR' Code to donate. I will also put out baskets in our Churches for any voluntary cash donations. Do please support Fr Tom in his 'pilgrimage'. Thank you

Tea, Coffee and Cakes at St Joseph's: Will be available after the 9.30am Mass on **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.

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.

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

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

The Marian Lamp: burns each week in both our churches for particular prayer intentions. This week the Lamp in Saint Joseph's burns **For the Care of Creation 'Our Common Home'**. The Lamp in Saint Michael's burns for **Father Tom Cunnah's 'Dimensions of Love' Pilgrimage'**. 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 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. In reality it may be until September when 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.

Churches Together: In Saint Joseph's church we are praying this week for those in the following roads: **Rosedale Rd, Rothesay Gardens, Roxburgh Ave, Shipton Close, Stanley Ave, Tudor Rd, Victoria Fields, Victoria Park Rd & Victoria Rd.**

Exciting new vacancies have arisen within the Diocese: The Shrewsbury Youth Mission Team (SYMT) are recruiting for a Programme Coordinator and Team Member; both roles are full time based in Stockport. The Curial office is also looking to recruit an Accounts Assistant, full time, based in Birkenhead. CV's to be sent to Pauline McCulloch recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org Closing date: Friday 18 September. Further details for all vacancies can be found on the Diocesan website using this link

<https://dioceseofshrewsbury.org/careers>

A vacancy has arisen within the Inter-Diocesan Fuel Management department based at the Curial Office, Birkenhead for an Administration Assistant. Salary: £27 to 28K depending on experience. Hours: 35 per week. Further details can be found on the Diocesan Website using this link www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/careers/administrator-for-inter-diocesan-fuel-management-limited Covering letter and CV should be sent to Pauline McCulloch recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org Closing date: 18 September 2026.

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

Pauline Book Centre: Saturday 19th September, 2pm. Monsignor Peter Fleetwood will be hosting a talk on the use of AI and what it means for Catholics to use AI whilst following the guidelines not only set by the Church but also outlined within Pope Leo XIV's recent encyclical "Magnifica Humanitas". Please sign up via Pauline Book Centre – Liverpool@pauline-uk.org or 0151 709 1328

New Statue of St Michael the Archangel: We have a new Statue of St Michael the Archangel at St Michael's kindly donated by Barry Miller and his Mum, Moira. This Statue will go in the side Chapel on the right side of the Church as soon as we have a plinth ready to put it on. This gift is greatly appreciated and will fit well into St Michael's Church



**Please Pray for the Repose of the soul of Mary Manchester and all those who have died recently
May they rest in peace,
in the arms of the Good Shepherd**

Welcome to Alice Allen-Miller, Arthur Maybury, Darcy Smith and Mason Bessell who were baptised in our Parish last weekend

Readings at Mass

Entrance Antiphon	Ps 118:137, 124	<i>You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love</i>
Reading 1	Ezek 33:7-9	<i>If you do not speak to warn the wicked, his blood I will require at your hand</i>
Psalm	Ps 94: 1-2. 6-9 r.7-8	<i>O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.</i>
Reading 2	Rom 13:8-10	<i>Love is the fulfilling of the law</i>
Gospel Acclamation	2 Cor 5:19	<i>God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation</i>
Gospel	Matt 18:15-20	<i>If he listens to you, you have gained your brother.</i>
Communion Antiphon	Cf. Ps 41:2-3	<i>Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God; my soul is thirsting for God, the living God</i>

Income: Thank you for your generosity.

Offertory Collection: 30th August £656.46

Monthly Standing Orders: £1610

Development Society Winner: 30th August 2026 £50 001 Mary Arch

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, Oxton 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