

NEWSLETTER



SAINT PHILIP NERI

Sunday 11 October 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	10	Ferial		10.30am 11.00am 5.15pm 6.00pm	Pat Collins RIP Adoration & Confessions Confessions Parishioners	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
Sunday	11	Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Week IV			
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	Kim Rothwell birthday remembrance Epifania Rubina Anniversary RIP Pauline Tamm RIP	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's
Monday	12	Ferial		9.30am 12.30pm	No 9.30am Mass this morning Funeral Mass for Margaret Barlow	Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
Tuesday	13	Ferial		7.00pm	Sacred Heart prayers answered	Saint Joseph's
Wednesday	14	Ferial		9.15am	Christine Malone RIP	Saint Joseph's
Thursday	15	St Theresa of Avila		9.30am	Special intention for Katie & Liam	Saint Michael's
Friday	16	Ferial		9.15am	Intentions of Griselda Appleton	Saint Joseph's
Saturday	17	St Ignatius of Antioch		10.30am 11.00am 5.15pm 6.00pm	Deceased members & Benefactors of St Joseph's & St Michael's S.V.P conferences Adoration & Confessions Confessions Parishioners	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
Sunday	18	Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Week I			
				9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	Francis & Catherine Reynolds Des Butler Barney McCartan 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 Gospel reflect a theme of the welcome into God's people 'the kingdom of God' being opened to all peoples, not just the 'superior select few'. Both the Prophet Isaiah and St Matthew use the image of a banquet which is laid open to all. This comes from the Old Testament belief that God's 'Anointed One' the 'Messiah' would host a great Banquet, the 'Messianic Banquet' as a sign of who he was. In St Matthew's Gospel today Jesus tells a story about a king who hosts a banquet for his son's wedding. But none of those expected to come accepted the invitation! So the king brings in anyone he can find! This was a warning to those who considered themselves the 'elite', and 'entitled', represented by those initially invited in the story. These people rejected Jesus' teaching and thought that he was opening the 'kingdom of God' 'too easily' to those they considered 'beneath them'. Jesus' teaching brought hope to the poor, the and needy and outcasts, represented by those brought in off the streets in the story. The trap of the 'elite' and the 'entitled' and criticising others who are getting things 'too easily' is one it is so easy to fall into! We are seeing it all happening over our world, both near and far. If we are honest, maybe we can see traits of it in ourselves. Today we are challenged to see each other and all that we have and are as a gift of God, and by allowing Christ to be our light, so that refreshed in his vision we can be clothed in God's mercy, love, compassion, care and respect and welcome others into the wedding feast of eternal life, the Messiah's Banquet

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

CAFOD Autumn Family Fast Day Collection: Thank you to everyone who donated to the CAFOD Family Fast collection last weekend. As a Parish so far we have raised £565.50. We are waiting for any additional contributions this weekend before sending off the final sum.

QR Code and DONA Pay Stations Update: The QR Code is now accepting payments. We cannot get the Contactless Payment Station at St Joseph's to work yet due to the poor internet connection in the Church. Please use the QR Code for now until a solution can be found. The Contactless Payment Station at St Michael's is still working.

Father John Marsh CSsR Funeral Arrangements: The funeral arrangements for Father John Marsh will take place on Tuesday, 20th October, 12.00pm here at St Joseph's, North Road. Please keep Father John and all who mourn for him in your prayers. May he know the joy and peace of God's presence.

A Message from the Diocesan Finance Office: The Diocese is aware that an overseas priest who previously served in the Diocese has been seeking financial support for work in Nepal. While we recognise the desire to assist those in need, the Diocese would not recommend responding to fundraising requests of this nature. Those wishing to support relief efforts in Nepal are encouraged instead to donate through CAFOD's emergency appeal, which is supporting the work of Caritas Nepal. Any contribution would be gratefully received. <https://cafod.org.uk/give/donate-to-emergencies>

From the Headteacher, St Joseph's: I am just writing to let my Parish family know that after 10 happy years, I am leaving St Joseph's to take up a Headteacher post at a school in Chester. I have been Headteacher at St Joseph's since 2016, having served initially as Deputy (and of course as a pupil!). It has been an honour and a privilege to lead the school and to work alongside such a dedicated and committed team. An opportunity arose to take on the Headteacher post at a school in Chester, and so last Summer I interviewed and was successful. I start there in January so this is my last term at St Joseph's. The process for recruiting the next St Joseph's Headteacher will begin in the Spring term. I want to thank the Parish for all your support and prayers over the years, and ask that you continue to pray for the children of St Joseph's. I am looking forward to my next steps and will always have fond memories of the school, the children, the staff and Parish and I am sure all who are part of the St Joseph's and St Philip Neri family will continue to flourish and live life to the full. Best wishes, Mr Turner

Confirmation 2027 – We will be starting the preparation sessions for this year's confirmation programme for any young person who is in Year 8 or above on Thursday 5th November at 7pm in Our Lady's. Information cards with all the times & dates will be available in the next couple of weeks.

Churches Together: In Saint Joseph's church we are praying this week for those in the following roads: [Prenton Rd West](#), [Prenton Village Rd](#), [Prenton Way](#), [Singleton Ave](#), [Snowdon Rd](#), [South Rd](#) & [Southwick Rd](#).

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

The initiative came from retired thoracic surgeon Professor Ray Donnelly, MBE FRCS, Founder and President of the Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation. He was supported by numerous Cancer Charities across the Northwest, including Marie Curie Cancer Care, The Linda McCartney Centre, Macmillan Cancer Support and Clatterbridge Centre for Oncology NHS Trust. The ecumenical service was first held in 1999 in Liverpool Cathedral and since then services have been held right across the country, including Chester, where St Joseph's Choir first became involved. The very committed Chester group are sadly now unable to lead the service, and it was suggested that Wirral take up the idea, holding the service at St Michael and All Angel's Church. The Pause for Hope Ecumenical Service has been a tremendous support over the years for hundreds of people affected by cancer- either themselves or family and friends. With one in two people now affected by cancer in some way, perhaps now more than ever do we need a moment when we can come together to pause, and hope.

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/>

Christmas Raffle: We will be holding a Christmas Raffle in December to raise money for Parish funds. We would be grateful for donations of Spirits, Wine, Chocolates and boxes of biscuits for raffle prizes. Please leave at the back of St Michael's or in the Sacristy at St Joseph's. Many thanks for your generosity. Tickets will be on sale at the beginning of November, the draw will take place at the beginning of December.

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!

The Marian Lamp: burns each week in both our churches for particular prayer intentions. This week the Lamp in Saint Joseph's burns for **In loving Memory of Neil**. The Lamp in Saint Michael's burns for **Those preparing for reception into the Church**. 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.

Liverpool Welsh Choral- one of the leading choirs in the North West is back on the Wirral after their sell out concert at St Andrew's West Kirby in June. MOZART REQUIEM and other classic pieces at CHRISTCHURCH PORT SUNLIGHT Saturday 17th October 7.30. Tickets £22.50 online lwcu.co.uk or at the door. A number of LWC members also sing in our local parish choirs- come and support them!

"Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find." And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So the wedding hall was filled with guests (Matthew 22: 9-10)



Welcome to Albie McCarthy and Oscar Healey who were baptised in the Parish last weekend

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

Readings at Mass

Entrance Antiphon	Ps 129:3-4	<i>If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But with you is found forgiveness, O God of Israel</i>
Reading 1	Isa 25:6-10	<i>The Lord will make a feast, and he will wipe away tears from all faces.</i>
Psalm	Ps 22 r.6	<i>In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for length of days unending.</i>
Reading 2	Phil 4:12-14, 19-20	<i>I can do all things through him who strengthens me</i>
Gospel Acclamation	cf. Eph 1:17.18	<i>May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, enlighten the eyes of our hearts, so that we may know the hope to which he has called us.</i>
Gospel	Matt 22:1-14	<i>Invite to the wedding feast as many as you can find.</i>
Communion Antiphon	Cf. Ps 33:11	<i>The rich suffer want and go hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing</i>

Income: Thank you for your generosity.

Offertory Collection: 4th October £869.39

Monthly Standing Orders: £1654

Development Society Winner: 4th October £50 134 Daria McCusker

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