NEWSLETTER

SAINT PHILIP NERI
CATHOLIC PARISH BIRKENHEAD

Sunday 22 November 2026

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

Day	Date	Celebration	Psalter	Mass Time	Mass Intention	Church
Saturday	21	**Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary**		10.30am 11.00am 5.15pm 6.00pm	Benjamin O'Connell Adoration & Confessions Confessions Parishioners	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
Sunday	**22**	**Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**	**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	Agnes McGinn Anniversary Noah Woods (RIP little Man) Mrs Maria Rehakova RIP remem Anniv	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's
Monday	23	**Ferial**		9.30am	Anne McManus birthday remembrance	Saint Michael's
Tuesday	24	**Ss Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions**		7.00pm	Vincent McMullin Anniversary	Saint Joseph's
Wednesday	25	**Ferial**		9.15am	Briame Reatus RIP Anniversary	Saint Joseph's
Thursday	26	**Ferial**		9.30am	Family & Friends of Bridget Cruise who have died. May they Rest in Peace	Saint Michael's
Friday	27	**Ferial**		9.15am	Bulla & Peter D'Costa RIP	Saint Joseph's
Saturday	28	**Ferial**		10.30am 11.00am 5.15pm 6.00pm	Holy Souls Adoration & Confessions Confessions Parishioners	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
Sunday	**29**	**First Sunday of Advent**	**Week I**			
During Advent and Christmastide we are asked to pray for these intentions: Openness to the word of God: Migrants and Refugees, Expectant Mothers				9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	Pat Gallimore RIP Samuel Pickering RIP 50 Years Ronnie Connors RIP	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's

Canon Niall writes…..

Welcome to this week's newsletter. This weekend is the Solemnity of 'Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe' or 'Christ the King' as it is sometimes known. It is the last Sunday of this Church Year, before we begin again next weekend on the First Sunday of Advent. The Church Year remembers 'recalls' the promise of God, then the Birth, Life, Death, Resurrection, Ascension and Gift of the Holy Spirit of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and our call to live all that we have called to mind in the Church year. The Kingdom of God whose culmination we celebrate on Christ the King is not just something for the future, not a 'country' or a 'place' but an attitude of heart that breaks into our 'here and now'. We find the clue in the preface of today that speaks of "a kingdom of truth and life, a kingdom of holiness and grace, a kingdom of justice, love and peace". Whenever we seek to live those values, the Kingdom of God breaks in and touches lives. It is about all of us; so many have sought to live and make those values real and present over these months. We are encouraged today that every one of us can make the Kingdom of God alive and present 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

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*
10 Willowbank Road Birkenhead Wirral CH42 7JY
0151 652 5767
admin@saint-philip-neri.co.uk
www.saint-philip-neri.co.uk
@stsjoeandmike StMaAAandStJosephs stphilipneribirkenhead
Live Stream: www.churchservices.tv/woodchurch
Parish YouTube Channel: via www.saint-philip-neri.co.uk

QR Code and DONA Pay Stations Update: Both the Contactless Payment Stations at St Joseph's and St Michael's are now working again. The Contactless Payment Station at St Joseph's is now by the door to the Sacristy by the old votive stands. The QR Code on the Newsletter, Cards and Website is also accepting payments again. Thank you to all who have helped get these back up and running again, and thanks to everyone for your understanding

The Marian Lamp: burns each week in both our churches for particular prayer intentions. This week the Lamp in Saint Joseph's burns for '**Lawrence Sullivan birthday remembrance'.** The Lamp in Saint Michael's burns for **' All who are suffering from anxiety and sadness, May Our Lady watch over them'.** 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.

Churches Together: In Saint Joseph's church we are praying this week for those in the following roads: Mount Rd, Millington Close, Mount Rd, Mountwood Rd, North Rd, Oakdene Rd, Olive Crescent.

Christmas Cards: Charity Cards from Transform Trade and CAFOD will be available to buy at St Joseph's from this weekend, 22nd November. Please bring cash. The packs containing 10 cards will be £4 and £5 also packs of 20 cards for £8.

St Michael's Church Cleaning: This Thursday 26th November after the 9.30am Mass. All help greatly appreciated. Thank you

Vacancy in the Diocesan Finance Office: A vacancy has arisen within the Diocese for a Fundraising and Planned Giving Manager. Hours: Full time. Rate of pay: Competitive, commensurate with experience. Further details can be found via the Diocesan Website:
https://dioceseofshrewsb27ury.org/careers/fundraising-and-planned-giving-manager-2
Closing date: 27 November 2026. Please contact Pauline McCulloch:
recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org for an application form.

PARISH CAROL SERVICE, SUNDAY 13th DECEMBER 2.30 p.m. ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS CHURCH

We held a very successful and well attended Carol Service at St Joseph's church last year. The Service will be held in St Michael's church this year. Do come along with your families and friends to gather together with our whole parish community to share readings, music and refreshments after the service.

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 are now on sale at the back of Mass £1 a strip,** the draw will take place at the beginning of December.

Advent: This is the season of preparation for the coming of the Lord but how ready are you for Advent? Have you examined your Prayer life? Have you thought about reflecting upon the scriptures for the season?

Art and Bric A Brack Sale: Next Saturday, 28th November, 12.noon to 3.00pm in St Joseph's Social Centre in aid of a pilgrimage to Padre Pio's Shrine in Italy. Festive Crafts and Refreshments will be available. Free Admission, but donations welcome

Dates for your diary

Sunday 13th December
2.30 pm Parish Carol Service at St Michael's Church

Christmas Services:

Thursday, 24th December – Christmas Eve
5.30pm Vigil Mass for Christmas at St Michael's
9.00pm Vigil Mass for Christmas at St Joseph's

Friday, 25th December – Christmas Day
9.30am Mass at St Joseph's
11.00am Mass at St Michael's

Saturday, 26th December – St Stephen's Day Mass
12.noon at St Joseph's

Tranmere Rovers Carols on the Kop: Tuesday 15th December From 4pm with real reindeer, festive activities, food stalls and a very special visitor all the way from the North Pole. Inside, we have a player signing session with the Tranmere Rovers squad from 4pm to 5.30pm, get photos and have your programme, shirt or Christmas card signed. At 6pm we head to the Kop for the main event: an hour of the carols you know and love, sung together under the lights. Visit carolsonthekop.co.uk to book your free ticket and for further details.

Stay Connected with Our Diocesan Family; Keep up to date with news, events, inspiring stories and opportunities to grow in faith across the Diocese of Shrewsbury. The diocesan e-newsletter brings together the latest news from parishes, schools and communities, alongside reflections, upcoming events and ways to deepen your faith.
Sign up to receive the newsletter directly to your inbox and stay connected with all that is happening across our diocesan family.
Subscribe at: http://eepurl.com/SZQOAtiYCi

Shrewsbury Lourdes Hospitality invite everyone to join them at Mass to celebrate the feast of The Immaculate Conception at 7.00pm on 8th December at St Hugh and St John Timperley - car park post code WA14 5HL

November List:
Book of Remembrance (Last full week)

If you would like names of friends or family members entered into the book this year then please make an offering and request using the envelopes provided at the back of church or write Month of the Holy Souls on an envelope with the names of those you wish to be included and place them on the usual offertory collection. Mass will be offered each week during the month of November for all whose names have been placed in the envelopes under the title of 'Holy Souls'. (**Those whose funerals have been held in our Parish over the last year will already be included in the book)**

Handel's Messiah at Manchester Cathedral Saturday 28th November 2026 at 7pm. Mark the beginning of Advent with Manchester Cathedral Choir and Manchester Baroque, performing on period instruments under the direction of Christopher Stokes. Hear Handel's setting of the Christmas story and the promise of resurrection, from 'For unto us a Child is born' to the famous 'Hallelujah' chorus. To book tickets www.manchesterbaroque.co.uk/whats-on
We're very happy to offer a 25% discount on 'red' seats for our performance of Handel Messiah, using the promo code 'hallelujah'



'Then the righteous will answer him saying, saying "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?" And the King will answer them, "Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one the least of my brothers and sisters you did it to me"' (Matthew 25 1: 37 - 40)

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

Readings at Mass

Entrance Antiphon	Rv 5:12; 1:6	*How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour. To him belong glory and power for ever and ever*
Reading 1	Ezek 34:11-12, 15-17	*As for you, my flock, I judge between sheep and sheep.*
Psalm	Ps 22:1-3. 5-6 r.1	***The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.***
Reading 2	1 Cor 15:20-26, 28	*Christ delivers the kingdom to God the Father, that God may be all in all.*
Gospel Acclamation	Mark 11:10	*Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!*
Gospel	Matt 25:31-46	*He will sit on his glorious throne and he will separate men one from another.*
Communion Antiphon	Ps 28:10-11	*The Lord sits as King for ever. The Lord will bless his people with peace*

Income: Thank you for your generosity.

Offertory Collection: 15th November £879.20 Monthly Standing Orders: £1654

Development Society Winner:15th November £50 432 Tom Heaney

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

OFFERTORY PLEASE SCAN TO MAKE A DONATION

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