NEWSLETTER

SAINT PHILIP NERI
CATHOLIC PARISH BIRKENHEAD

Sunday 15 November 2026

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

Day	Date	Celebration	Psalter	Mass Time	Mass Intention	Church
Saturday	14	**Ferial**		10.30am 11.00am 5.15pm 6.00pm	Patsy Williams RIP Adoration & Confessions Confessions Francis & Sharmila Wedding Anniv	Saint Joseph's Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Michael's
Sunday	**15**	**Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**	**Week I**			
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	Gerald McGinn Anniversary Deceased Brothers & Family Members of Catenians Parishioners	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's
Monday	16	**Ferial**		9.30am	Gill Gaunt 80th birthday intention	Saint Michael's
Tuesday	17	**Ferial**		7.00pm	Bosco & Swenny birthday blessing	Saint Joseph's
Wednesday	18	**Ferial**		9.15am	Holy Souls	Saint Joseph's
Thursday	19	**Ferial**		9.30am 12.noon	Special intention for Carmel McGillan Funeral Service for Doreen Coleman	Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's
Friday	20	**Ferial**		9.15am	Caroline Burley 2nd Anniversary	Saint Joseph's
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**			
				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

Canon Niall writes….. Welcome to this week's Newsletter: As we approach the end of the Church's year with the Feast of Christ the King next weekend the scriptures begin to focus on what 'endures forever' the completion of creation. There are many misunderstandings about the 'end of the world', especially in times when there is conflict, division and suffering among peoples. The 'end' some see almost as a great cosmic explosion when everything ceases to exist, and the lucky souls get carried off to heaven. This is not the 'end' the scriptures speak of; the 'end' here does not refer to the 'finish' but rather the 'completion' of something; becoming fully what it was meant to be from the beginning, 'achieving its purpose'. In today's Gospel Jesus tells a story about three people who were entrusted with gifts; two used their gifts to good effect within their ability, one just hides their gift, their 'talent' away afraid to use it. In the story the only one condemned is the one who did nothing. A 'talent' in the story refers to a unit of currency, but in English is does double up to mean a gift or ability. We each have our part in building up the Body of Christ, the 'Church'; sometimes, when we are not those who are called to be in the forefront or leading roles, by our taking part in the community of faith, as best we can, we are 'building up the interest' of support by our encouragement and prayer for one another. Our hope should encourage us to play the fullest part in this world, sharing the gifts of God's life that open that way that leads to what is eternal; we plant now the seeds that will flower into eternity

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

November Service of Remembrance for all the Faithful Departed this Thursday: The Annual Service to Remember our loved ones in this month of the Holy Souls will take place this coming Thursday, 19th November, 7.00pm at St Michael's Church. There will be scripture reading, reflection, and then you will have the opportunity to write the names of those who you are remembering, then these will be brought up, placed in a basket, and then you can light a candle for them. We will then pray together for those we specially remember.

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 '**Anthony Sullivan Anniversary'.** The Lamp in Saint Michael's burns for **'Claire Clarke'.** 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: Moss Grove, Moss Lane, Northwood Rd, Olive Mount, Parkbridge Rd, Parkend Rd & Parkhill Rd.

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.

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

On behalf of Iona Waterson from SVP ST Werburgh's. A huge thank you to St Josephs parishioners for their support for the SVP Christmas toy appeal which helps families in the Birkenhead area. Donations raised £190 following the cake and coffee event after last Sundays Mass. This is a fantastic amount and special thanks goes to Margaret and Cathie for their fabulous baking, Thank you for your continued support. God Bless.

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: There will be an Art and Bric A Brack Sale on 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

Thursday 19th November – 7pm St Michael's Church
Bereavement Service, All welcome

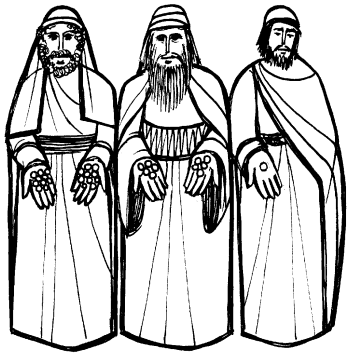
Sunday 13th December – 2.30pm St Michael's Church
Parish Carol Service

Tranmere Rovers Carols on the Kop: Tuesday 15th December From 4pm, the fun starts outside the ground 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.

November List:

Book of Remembrance

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)**



"Well done, good and faithful. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master." Matthew 25

Please Pray for the Repose of the soul of Doreen Coleman, Stephen Lysaght and all those who have died recently
May they rest in peace,
in the arms of the Good Shepherd

Readings at Mass

Entrance Antiphon	Jr 29:11,12,14	*The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place*
Reading 1	Prov 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31	*She works with willing hands*
Psalm	Ps 127:1-5 r.1	***Blessed are all who fear the Lord.***
Reading 2	1 Thess 5:1-6	*Do not let the day of the Lord surprise you like a thief.*
Gospel Acclamation	John 15:4. 5	*Abide in me, and I in you, says the Lord. Whoever abides in me bears much fruit.*
Gospel	Matt 25:14-30	*You have been faithful over a little, enter into the joy of your master*
Communion Antiphon	Ps 72:28	*To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord*

Income: Thank you for your generosity.

Offertory Collection: 8th November £1069.00 Monthly Standing Orders: £1654

Development Society Winner:8th November £50 512 Val Carlisle

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