

' My friend move up higher '



Day	Date	Celebration	Psalter	Mass Times	Intentions	Church
Saturday	31	Ferial		11-12 6pm	Confessions Andrew James Cairns	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's
Sunday	1	<b>22nd Sunday</b>	Week 2	<b>Ordinary Time</b>		
We pray for : A Deeper Understanding between Christians and others; Those who Suffer Persecution; Oppression and Denial of Human Rights, Europe; Human Life and Seafarers.				9am 11am 5pm	People of the Parish Bernard Campbell Agnes McGinn	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's
Monday	2	Ferial		9:15am	NO MASS	Saint Michael's
Tuesday	3	Saint Gregory the Great	Memorial	7pm	NO MASS	Saint Joseph's
Wednesday	4	Saint Cuthbert	Memorial	9:15am	Christley Family	Saint Joseph's
Thursday	5	Ferial	Memorial	9:15am	NO MASS	Saint Michael's
Friday	6	Ferial	Memorial	9:15am	NO MASS	Saint Joseph's
Saturday	7	Ferial		11-12 6pm	NO CONFESSIONS Andrew James Cairns	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's
Sunday	8	<b>23rd Sunday</b>	Week 3	<b>Ordinary Time</b>		
We pray for : A Deeper Understanding between Christians and others; Those who Suffer Persecution; Oppression and Denial of Human Rights, Europe; Human Life and Seafarers.				9am 11am 5pm	John . M. Sullivan People of the Parish Michael Flynn	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's

### *Father Chris writes .....*

*Welcome to this week's newsletter.*

*As August draws to a close, our schools return from their summer holidays and so do the many groups and organisations of our two parishes. It would be fantastic if each parishioner - you - joined a new group this autumn. What a grace filled opportunity that would be! Watch out for details in our newsletter of the many existing groups and new groups that serve our two great parishes. Please also pray for the teachers, staff and pupils of Saint Michael & All Angels Primary School and Saint Joseph's Primary School as they return refreshed and renewed for the new academic year.*

*Wishing you a blessed week ahead.*

### *Prayer to the Holy Spirit*

*Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle 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 by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful,  
grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations,  
Through Christ Our Lord, Amen*

**The Safeguarding Representatives for our parishes are**  
**Saint Michael's - Marie Gelling mobile 0771636925 & Saint Joseph's - Marie Fisher 01516701767**

**The Marian Lamp** burns each week in both our churches for particular prayer intentions. This week the Lamp at Saint Michael's burns for The God given skills of Transplant Surgeons and the Lamp at Saint Joseph's burns *In Memory of my Parents may they rest in peace*. Please keep both of these intentions in your prayers. If you would like the lamp to burn for a particular prayer intention then please write your intention out and place it with an offering (we suggest £5) in an envelope marked "Marian Lamp". We ask Our Blessed Lady to carry these prayers to her Son and to intercede for us. This also helps raise some much needed funds for our parishes.

**Father Owen** has now moved out and taken up his appointment at Shrewsbury Cathedral. We wish him every blessing in his first appointment as a priest of our Diocese of Shrewsbury. Please also remember all those priests taking up new parish appointments in the coming weeks. May they soon settle into their new roles, and may they know the loving support of their new parishioners. We remember too, those priests who are entering their retirement.

**Father Tom Cunnah**: It feels like one out and one in! Father Tom serves as a priest in Shropshire and is also Vice Chancellor and the Judicial Vicar (head of the Marriage Tribunal) for the Diocese. Father Tom will be resident at Saint Joseph's most weeks from Monday to Wednesday as he fulfils his Diocesan responsibilities. Please do make him welcome.

**Holidays**: Father Chris is on holiday from Monday (2<sup>nd</sup> September) and will be back in the parish on Monday 23 September. As you know Father Antony Lazar was due to cover for the whole period Father Chris is away, but unfortunately, due to a change in the rules his Visa application was not granted. A huge thank you to Father Roger who has stepped into the breach and will be covering Sunday Masses and one mid-week Mass for us. Please keep an eye on the newsletter for Mass times and venues.

**Becoming a Catholic**: Have you thought about becoming a Catholic? Has your wife, husband, fiancé expressed an interest in being received into the full Communion of the Catholic Church? Want to know more? Our RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) course will be starting in October - watch this space for more details.

**Baptism**: Have you recently had a child? Congratulations! To have your child baptised in Saint Joseph's or Saint Michael's we invite you to a Baptism Preparation meeting on the first Wednesday of the month (except August and January) at Saint Joseph's. The next meeting is this coming Wednesday and 7pm. Please ring the Joint Parish Office on 01516525767 to book your place.

**Saint Michael's Day Grand Draw**: We are looking for donations of whisky, gin, wine etc to use as prizes for our Saint Michael's Day Draw. Tickets will start to go on sale next week after Mass, the top prize will be £50, the draw will take place at our Saint Michael's Feast Day Celebrations on 29th September.

**Churches Together**: In Saint Joseph's parish we are praying this week for those in the following roads: **Elm Rd, Elmswood Rd, Ennerdale, Fairways, Holborn Sq, Holly Grove, Holt Hill & Holt Rd.**

**Shrewsbury Youth Mission Team (SYMT)**: The Roman Catholic Diocese of Shrewsbury is looking to recruit a Youth Mission Team Member to engage with young people in schools and parishes across the Diocese. The Shrewsbury Youth Mission Team (SYMT) comprises of full-time employees and lay & clergy volunteers. The full-time employee will be a key member of the team led by the Director. The successful candidate will be faithful practising Catholic, happily living their faith and willing to give positive witness to young people and to serve as a representative of the Bishop and Diocese of Shrewsbury. Full details and application forms can be found at <http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/curia/vacancies> Completed applications should be returned to [recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org) Closing date Friday 13 September 2019

**Shrewsbury Lourdes Hospitality**: AGM to be held Sunday 8th September 2019 at 2pm at Saint Thomas More Catholic High School, Dane Bank Avenue, Crewe, CW2 8AE. Please follow the signs for visitor carpark. Refreshments will be provided. Please send any questions or apologies to [secretary@teamshrewsbury.co.uk](mailto:secretary@teamshrewsbury.co.uk)

**Bereavement Support Group**: On the last Monday of every month between 1:30 and 2:45 pm there is an opportunity for those of you who are bereaved and perhaps struggling with your situation, to come along to the Hazlehurst Room in Saint Joseph's Presbytery for a cuppa and a chat. Be with those who find themselves in the same situation and realise that you are not alone. Remember that in Matthews gospel the Lord tells us 'I am with you always.' Please contact us on 0789569209 if you want to know more.

**Heritage Open Days. September 13 -22:** Heritage Open Days is England's largest festival of history and culture, bringing together over 2,000 organisations, 5,000 events and 40,000 volunteers. Every year in September, places across the country throw open the

doors to celebrate their heritage, community and history. It's your chance to see hidden places and try out new experiences. Saint Michael & All Angels will be open to the public on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> September from 10am until 4pm why not come along and find out more about your own church?

**Youth Ministry:** Have you noticed how most celebrities like to take centre stage, possibly we know other people like that too – they need to be at the front and to make sure that they are seen by everyone. Today's Gospel reminds us that no matter who we are at the banquet of the Lord we are all equal. We shouldn't shout about what we've done for others but just go about doing good when we can and it will not be unnoticed by the people who we help and certainly not by our Lord who invites us to join him at the banquet each week. What good deed will you do for others this week?

#### **Confirmation 2019/2020**

Confirmation preparation will be starting on Wednesday 25th September with a meeting for all those in Year 8 and above (from September) who wish to be confirmed and their parents/guardians at 7pm in Saint Joseph's Parish Centre.

If you wish to help with Confirmation Preparation please contact Father Chris or Clare.

#### **Faith in Action**

If you're in Year 6 or above from September we will be starting the Faith in Action Awards from September – a chance to, as the title suggests, put your faith in to action in the Parish and local area and work towards pin, bronze, silver and gold badges! Sandy Fairley, the Director of Shrewsbury Youth Mission Team, is coming to tell us more on Thursday 12th September 7pm in Saint Michael's Parish Room

#### **Youth Volunteer Meeting**

There will be a meeting for all volunteers and those who wish to volunteer, to look at the year ahead for our youth on Thursday 5th September 7 pm at Saint Michael's. We can never have enough volunteers to help our Youth so if you feel that the Spirit is calling you to help, please come along to the meeting or contact Clare

**Mass Intentions:** Every Mass that is celebrated is offered for the Universal Church, but a second intention for a particular need is usually included. There are always things we need to pray for, and what better prayer is there than the Mass? A priest is not allowed to celebrate more than one intention at any particular Mass. We will always try and celebrate the Mass intention on the day you request, but some Mass times are more popular than others. Requiem Masses always take priority but other celebrations need to be planned around. The more notice you can give the Parish Office for a particular date the better. We may not be able to celebrate the Mass Intention on the Sunday, but the intention will be celebrated during the following week.

**Water Well Appeal:** Thank you to everyone who has contributed so far at St Joseph's to the Water Well Appeal. As last year, the Well has now moved to Saint Michael's for September. This is an opportunity as parishes together to continue with our charity towards those in other countries.

#### **Funeral Arrangements for Fr Frank Rice:**

**Vigil Mass:** 7pm on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September. St John the Evangelist, Bebington Road, New Ferry CH62 5BJ

**Requiem Mass:** 12 noon, Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, Cavendish Street, Birkenhead

**After the summer break our parish groups start to return refreshed and invigorated.**

**Craft Group:** The summer is over and the Craft Group returns on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> at 10am in St Joseph's Parish Centre. Why not come along and pass your skill onto someone else, learn a skill you always wanted, or just pick up some tips from others. A time to chat, a time for tea, a time to work and a time for company.

**Saint Joseph's Ladies' Group:** will meet on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September for an evening of "Belly Dancing".

**Saint Michael's Ladies' Group:** will meet on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September for an evening of entertainment, cheese and wine.

## WHATS ON THIS WEEK

### **Saturday 31<sup>st</sup>**

11 -12 Confessions @StJ

5.15pm Confessions @StM

### **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup>**

11am Baptism @StJ

12 noon Tea 'n' Toast @StM

### **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup>**

7pm Parish Bingo @StJ Centre

### **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>**

### **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>**

10am Craft Group @StJ

7pm Baptism Preparation @ StJ

8pm Ladies Group @ StJ Centre

### **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>**

9.45am Church Cleaning @StM

5pm Clergy Team Meeting @StJ

7:30pm Ladies Group @ StM

### **Friday 6<sup>th</sup>**

9.45am Church Cleaning @StJ

### **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>**

5.15pm Confessions @StM

### **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>**

11am Baptism @StJ

12 noon Tea 'n' Toast @StM

Please not for your diaries  
On the weekend of

14th- 15th September  
because of construction work  
at Saint Joseph's  
**MASS WILL ONLY BE  
HELD IN  
SAINT MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS  
6pm Sat & 11am Sun**

### **Welcome to**

**James David Baker**

**Jaxson Elijah Shirley**

**& George William Davies**

who were baptised at  
Saint Joseph's last weekend.

## Readings at Mass

<b>Entrance Antiphon</b>	Ps 85:3,5	<i>Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you, all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.</i>
<b>Reading 1</b>	Ecclesiasticus 3:17-20. 28–29	<i>Behave humbly, and then you will find favour with the Lord.</i>
<b>Psalm</b>	Ps 67:4-7. 10-11 r.11	<i>In your goodness, O God, you prepared a home for the poor.</i>
<b>Reading 2</b>	Heb 12:18-19, 22-24	<i>You have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God.</i>
<b>Gospel Acclamation</b>	John 14:23	<i>If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.</i>
<b>Gospel</b>	Luke 14:1, 7-14	<i>Everyone who exalts himself will be humble, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted.</i>
<b>Communion Antiphon</b>	Ps 30:20	<i>How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.</i>

**Words to reflect.....will you be first to be chosen or are others more deserving?**

Read the gospel carefully today. Would you invite Jesus to Sunday Dinner? The Pharisee's have done so three times in our recent scriptures and things haven't gone too smoothly for the hosts. Jesus is that guest we all don't like having – he is hard work, he speaks his mind and upsets other guests! But the awkward stories Jesus tells are designed to make us think and to reflect upon our own lives and attitudes. Is what we want that which God wants of us? Have you invited Jesus into your home?

### PARISH TEAM:

Parish Priest: Reverend Father Christopher Matthews  
 In Residence: Reverend Father Joseph Anchanictal Sebastian (SyroMalabar Chaplain)  
 Deacons: Revs Gerard Boyle, Patrick Regan, Les Arch, Paul D'Ambrogio & John Birch  
 Parish Sisters: Sister Catherine Bibby FCJ & Sister Mary Hill SCN  
 Youth Ministry: Clare Williams ✉ [clare.williams@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:clare.williams@dioceseofshrewsbury.org) ☎ 0780 341 4669

Parish Office: **The Parish Office is usually open 10am to 3pm Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday.**

10 Willowbank Road Birkenhead Wirral CH42 7JY  
 0151 652 5767 0151 522 0231  
 ✉ [stjosephsbh1@hotmail.com](mailto:stjosephsbh1@hotmail.com) [saintmichaelandallangels@hotmail.com](mailto:saintmichaelandallangels@hotmail.com)  
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 🐦 @stsjoeandmike 📘 StMaAAandStJosephs

### Saint Michael's Offertory Collection

Offertory £355.08  
 Standing Orders £391.25 per month

### Saint Joseph's Offertory Collection

Offertory £670:00  
 Standing Orders £1366 per month

### Saints Club Winners (July)

1<sup>st</sup> St Bede Eileen McDaid £100  
 2<sup>nd</sup> St Michael Chris Woods £50  
 3<sup>rd</sup> St Joseph Barbara Fitzsimmons £20

### Development Society 25<sup>th</sup> August

£100 ... ..  
 £50 ... ..

### Saint Michael & All Angels Catholic Primary School

New Hey Road, Woodchurch, Wirral CH49 5LE  
 Head Teacher: Mrs. Susan Ralph  
 School Tel: 0151 677 4088  
 schooloffice@stmichael-allangels.wirral.sch.uk

### Saint Joseph's Parish Centre

Greenbank Road Birkenhead  
 Manager: Mrs Marge Penrose  
 0151 652 8487 (after 7pm)

### Saint Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Woodchurch Road, Oxton CH43 5UT  
 Head Teacher: Mr. Alex Turner  
 School Tel: 0151 652 6781  
 schooloffice@stjosephs-birkenhead.wirral.sch.uk