

Do you know your Shepherd?
He knows you!



Day		Celebration	Psalter	Saint Michael's Masses		Saint Joseph's Masses	
Saturday	11		Ferial	6pm	Joe, Pat & Brendan Fortune	11-12	No Confessions
Sunday	12	4th Sunday of Easter	Week IV				
Special Day of Prayer for Vocations				11am	Brenda McKay First Holy Communion Mass	9am 5pm	People of the Parish Christine Mullaley
Monday	13		Memorial	9:15am	Ronald Lysaght	9:15am	Celebration of Word & Communion
Tuesday	14	St Matthias	Feast	9:15am	Celebration of Word & Communion	7pm	No Mass
Wednesday	15		Ferial	9:15am	Celebration of Word & Communion	9:15am	Christopher Doyle
Thursday	16		Ferial	9:15am	Celebration of Word & Communion	9:15am	Celebration of Word & Communion
Friday	17		Ferial	9:15am	Celebration of Word & Communion	9:45am	Requiem Mass Veronica Doughty
Saturday	18		Ferial	6pm	Olive Scot	11-12	No Confessions
Sunday	19	5th Sunday of Easter	Week I				
Pray for New Members of the Church, Vocations, The Right use of Media, the Church, Human Work.				11am	People of the Parish	9am 5pm	Margaret Duncan Harry Rylance

Father Chris writes.....

Welcome to this week's newsletter.

We are well and truly into the month of May, a month dedicated to the intercession of our Blessed Mother. During these days of May try and take some time to pray the rosary, the Angelus and other Marian Devotions. Ask Our Lady Help of Christians to intercede for your family and our parish communities, that we may be true to her Son's teaching and being others to know His loving Merciful presence.

This month is also a busy one for me with my Diocesan responsibilities. In the coming weeks I have national meetings in Leeds, London and Cardiff and several events across the diocese. I apologise that this will affect my presence in the parish, but please do keep me in your prayers for safe journeys and productive meetings. 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
St Michael's - Marie Gelling mobile 0771636925 & St Joseph's - Marie Fisher 01516701767

Good Shepherd Sunday: This Sunday is a special day of prayer for vocations, especially vocations to the priesthood. Please pray today and every day for an increase in vocations to the priesthood; may those being called respond with generous hearts, and may they know our loving support.

First Holy Communion: This Sunday at the 11am Mass our children from Saint Michael's will be making their First Holy Communion - please keep them and their families in your prayers. Saint Joseph's First Holy Communions take place next month and we keep them in our prayers too.

Saint Joseph's the Worker BBQ A thank you to all from both parishes who came along to make this a feast day of faith prayer and celebration last Monday. If you missed out then why not come to St Michael's for Fish 'n' Chips?

Saint Michael's Social A Fish & Chip Supper on Friday 17th May from 7pm in the School Hall bring your own drinks and be fed, and entertained by Blackthorn Root. Dancing and singing the night away. Tickets £6.50.

Work, Rest & Pray is a series of three evenings organised for our Deanery of Birkenhead and East Wirral to explore our call to holiness. The second evening is this Thursday in Saint John Plessington College from 7pm until 8pm. There will be a time to pray together, listen and share on the call to holiness at home, in work and in life. The evenings are free and an opportunity to come together and share our faith in a gentle but real way.

Rosary in May Following Morning Mass on Mondays in Saint Michael's Church there is an opportunity to join in Prayer as the Rosary will be said.

Youth Ministry Corner: Again, Jesus is not recognised straight away in the Gospel today, but when he is the disciples are overjoyed to be with him again. Jesus then speaks to Peter asking 3 times – 'Do you love me?' What would your answer be? Jesus then tells Peter to 'Look after and feed my sheep.' Who does this fall to today? Our Bishops, Priests and Deacons...yes...but us too! As followers of Jesus we need to share this love for him with others to lead them to encounter Him. How will you show this love this week?

The next youth event is Sunday 19th May 12 noon – 1:30pm – Park Trip. Consent forms will need to be filled in – contact Clare for a form.

Wirral Coastal Walk - 23rd June

Youth who wish to take part in the Wirral Coastal walk to raise money for the youth group please let Clare know. The first stopping point is after 4 miles – we should all be able to have a good go at this! If you think you can do more let Clare know. Sponsor forms available next week.

clare.williams@dioceseofshrewsbury.org
or 07803414669

The Marian Lamps: This week the Lamp at Saint Michael's burns for A young family with problems. The Lamp at Saint Joseph's burns for Families suffering the tragedy of suicide.

Deepening your faith Knowing Jesus better: Join us to watch the DVD, have a brew, and share in conversation about faith and our relationship with God. This is a six-week series looking at 'Knowing God Even Better' in Saint Joseph's in the Hazlehurst Room at 7:30pm and on Thursday's at 2pm in Saint Michael's Old Presbytery. Everyone is welcome.

'Battle Ready' Prayer Group Prayer group meets each Thursday at 4pm in Saint Michael's Old Presbytery. Everyone is welcome

Churches Together: In Saint Joseph's parish we are praying this week for those in the following roads: **Prentonwood Court, Prospect Rd, Pulford Ave, Spruce Close, St Catherine's Gardens, St George Ave & Stuart Rd.**

Major diocesan event: Conference on Holiness and the Mission of the Laity. OPEN TO ALL. Saturday 18 May at Hale Barns. 9:30am for 10am start, ends 3:30pm (Mass in the School Hall, 10am). Please bring packed lunch. No charge, contributions welcome. Registration by phone 0151 652 9855, or simply online at: www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/catholic-faith/the-new-evangelisation/registration

Deacon Owen Gallagher: Please keep Deacon Owen in your prayers as he approaches his ordination to the priesthood by Bishop Mark on Saturday 13 July at 11am in Saint Michael's church.

Advance notice - Pentecost Sunday: If you speak a foreign language and would be willing to read on this day, please speak to Deacon Gerard or Deacon John. Readings, prayers and music will be in different languages to reflect both the multicultural nature of our two parishes and the way the Apostles could be understood by people of all nationalities on that first Pentecost Day.

In order that it is a true day of feasting we are asking if any are prepared to bring along dishes traditional to your culture for a shared table from English Sausages to Zambian Chima and every nationality in between. Please let John or Gerard know what you are prepared to furnish for the table.

Remember! Masses that weekend will be Saturday 6pm at Saint Michael's, Sunday 10:30am at Saint Michael's and 5pm at Saint Joseph's. *There is no Mass at 9am or 11am that week.*

Linen Laundry: With volunteers who launder the linen at St Joseph's please collect a new rota from the Sacristy. Thank you for your reliable and loyal service.

Our School Children: This week, our Year 6 children embark on SATs week. During the week they will sit tests in Mathematics, Reading Comprehension, Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling. The tests are designed to assess their knowledge and understanding of these areas across all of their learning during the primary years. The SATs tests have been mentioned in the news recently as a bit of a political 'hot potato' with some party manifestos talking about scrapping them due to the pressures felt by some children. Please can I ask for your

Wirral Hospitals Catholic Chaplaincy Team: There will be a Mass and gathering for all team members, past & present, at St Anne's, Rock Ferry this Tuesday 14th May at 7.00pm. This is an opportunity to give thanks for the time and dedication the volunteers have shown to the sick of our community.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of:

Martha Veronica Doughty whose Requiem Mass will take place on Friday 17th May at 9.45am at St Joseph's.

prayers for our Year 6 children next week - we hope they know just how proud of them we are and that as children of God they are much more than a 'standardised score'. Whatever their test outcome, they are all wonderful, talented, amazing children and we couldn't be prouder of them. Mr Turner & Mrs Ralph.

What's on this week?

Sunday 12th Fourth Week of Easter

9am Mass @StJ

11am Mass First Holy Communion @StM

11am Baptisms @StJ

5pm Mass @StJ

Monday 13th

Mass 9.15 @ StM

Tuesday 14th

7pm NO Mass @ StJ

Wednesday 15th

8.30am Adoration @StM

9.15 Mass@ StJ

10am Craft Group in the Centre @StJ

4:30pm Junior Youth Club @StJ

7:30pm Knowing God Even better @StJ

Thursday 16th

9:15 No Mass @StM Service of Word & Communion

9.45am Church Cleaning @StM

10am No Art Group in the Centre @StJ

2pm Knowing God Even Better @ StM

4pm "Battle Ready" Prayer Group @StM

6pm Choir Rehearsal @StJ

7pm Work Rest & Pray @ St John Plessington

Friday 17th

9.45am Requiem Mass @StJ

7pm Fish'n'chip Supper @ StM

Saturday 18th

11 -12 NO Confessions @StJ

5pm Confessions @ StM

6pm Mass @ StM

Welcome to

Shay Michael William & Patrick Jacob Pinnington, who were baptised at St Joseph's last Sunday.







Readings at Mass

Entrance Antiphon	Ps. 32:5-6	<i>The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia</i>
Reading 1	Acts 13-14: 43-52	We must turn to the pagans.
Psalm	Ps 99: 1-3,5	We are his people the sheep of his flock.
Reading 2	Apoc 7:9, 14-17	The Lamb will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water
Gospel Acclamation	John 10: 14	I am the good shepherd, says the Lord, I know my own sheep and my own know me
Gospel	John 10: 27-30	I know my sheep and they follow me
Communion Antiphon		<i>The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock alleluia</i>

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 ☎ 0780 341 4669

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

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Saint Michael's Offertory Collection

Offertory £401.60
 Standing Orders £391.25 per month

Saint Joseph's Offertory Collection

Offertory £932.14
 Standing Orders £1366 per month

Saints Club Winners (April)

1st St Cajetan Rev Owen Gallagher £100
 2nd St Vincent de Paul Carolyn Caldicott £50
 3rd St Agatha Cath Boyle £20

Development Society 5th May

£100 347 Lesley McDaid
£50 127 Sue McGree

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, Oxtan CH43 5UT

Head Teacher: Mr. Alex Turner
 School Tel: 0151 652 6781

schooloffice@stjosephs-birkenhead.wirral.sch.uk