

Open our hearts O Lord  
to do your will



Day	Date	Celebration	Psalter	Mass Times	Intentions	Church
Saturday	21	St Matthew, Apostle	Feast	11-12 6pm	NO CONFESSIONS Edward Bevan	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's
Sunday	22	<b>25th Sunday</b>	Week 1	<b>Ordinary Time</b>		
Special Day of Prayer for the Harvest				9am 11am 5pm	NO MASS or Service Anne Whatling NO MASS or Service	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's
Monday	23	St Pius of Pietrelcina	Memorial	9:15am	Seculary Clergy Fund	Saint Michael's
Tuesday	24	Our Lady of Walsingham	Memorial	7pm	Patricia Davis	Saint Joseph's
Wednesday	25	Ferial		9:15am	Madaleine Smith	Saint Joseph's
Thursday	26	Ss Cosmos & Damian		9:15am	Bernard Campbell	Saint Michael's
Friday	27	St Vincent de Paul	Memorial	9:30am	Pupils & Staff of St Josephs	In Saint Joseph's School
Saturday	28	Ferial		11-12 6pm	Confessions Edward Bevan	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's
Sunday	29	<b>Feast of St Michael</b>	Week 2	<b>Ordinary Time</b>		
Feast of St Michael				9am 11am 5pm	Mary Howat Anne Whatling Ian Kelly	Saint Joseph's Saint Michael's Saint Joseph's

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

Welcome to this week's newsletter.

Next Sunday we keep the feast of Saint Michael the Archangel, the patron saint of one of our churches. As well as recalling this great saint (who is mentioned in the scriptures alongside his fellow three Archangels), it is a great opportunity to celebrate all the great things that happen within our parish family. Next Sunday all the Masses will be of the feast in both our churches, but the 11am Mass at Saint Michael's will be the highlight followed by a joint parishes BBQ. During the BBQ there will also be an opportunity to find out what the Parish Pastoral Council has been up to on your behalf during the last twelve months. Come and join us and celebrate being Catholic Christians in this part of Birkenhead, and give thanks to God for all His great gifts and blessings.

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**

**Saint Joseph's Exterior works:** The work continues at St Joseph's but we return to church for our usual Mass Times of 9am and 5pm on Sunday next week

**The Marian Lamp** burns each week in both our churches for particular prayer intentions. This week the Lamp in St Joseph's church burns for In remembrance of George, Muriel and Joseph. The lamp in St Michael's burns for The community of Woodchurch. 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.

**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.

**Churches Together:** In Saint Joseph's parish we are praying this week for those in the following roads: **Cotswold Rd, Curzon Rd, Dell Court, Guy Close, Hampden Grove, Hampden Rd, & Harley Ave.**

**Bereavement Support Group:** Next Monday, between 1:30 and 2:45pm, 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 07895869209 if you want to know more.

**Craft Group:** The summer is over and the Craft Group returns every Wednesday 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's Draw:** Due to unforeseen circumstances the August draw will take place, either on the 21st September, or at the same time as the September draw on the 28th the last Saturday in the month.

**MISSIO Boxes:** The time of year has come to empty your Missio Boxes would Parishioners of St Michael's please bring their boxes into church before the end of September to be emptied. Many thanks.

**St Michael's Feast Day BBQ:** We will be celebrating St Michael's Feast Day after Mass on Sunday 29th September with a BBQ and a shared table, in the school, everyone is welcome. We will be providing burgers and hotdogs, please bring something to share. We will also be drawing our Grand Draw on this day.

**St Michael's Ladies Group:** Theatre Trip on Thursday, 3rd October, for those ladies that have bought tickets. Please meet at the Gladstone Theatre between 7.00 and 7.15. There will be no meeting in the Presbytery in October. Our next meeting will be on Thursday 7th November.

**Concert in St Michael's:** Be entertained at St Michael's on Tuesday evening, 1st October, at 7.30pm, there is an opportunity to listen to some favourite songs and music of stage and screen. An enjoyable evening is the name of the game. Colouring sheets to keep the children entertained. Tickets are £5 each and £10 for a family ticket. On sale this weekend and next after Mass, or on the door.

**Communicating:** Have you logged on to the parish websites or our Twitter or Facebook postings lately? We are trying to make information about the parishes and news of the functions that are happening readily available. The calendars for both parishes and joint functions are live on the websites. Why not log on to twitter and receive notifications.

**First Holy Communion Preparation:** If your child is in year 3 or above and does not attend either of our parish schools and you wish for them to be prepared to receive their First Holy Communion next spring then please either email their detail and yours to the parish office or hand in written details after mass. There will be a meeting held at the beginning of December for parents and children together. Please watch the newsletter for further details.

### **A day of recollection for families affected by mental health issues:**

The day will be led by Bishop Richard Moth, who is responsible to the Bishops' Conference for the ministry to those with mental health issues. The day will be held at St Columba's, Newhall Road, Plas Newton, Chester CH2 1SA on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2019 from 11am to 5pm and will include Mass and the anointing of the sick. Tea and coffee will be served from 10.30 am and at lunchtime. Please bring your own lunch.

**Thank You!** Last week, Matthew Edward's from Saint Michael and All Angels held a cake sale to help raise funds for his upcoming trip to the Holy Land with Bishop Mark and the Diocese. Thank you to everyone who donated some cakes to sell, bought cakes or did both – he raised £183.05! The fundraising is continuing after Mass the next couple of weeks with 'Guess the Number of Sweets in the Bucket' why not have a go as you leave Mass!

### **Youth Ministry:**

In our second reading today St. Paul tells us there should be prayer for everyone. In prayer it can be easy to ask for things for ourselves, our family or our friends, but I'm sure there are people who we don't get on with or who we disagree with – is it as easy to pray for them? Probably not but we have to ask God to take care of them too. As well as prayer of petition, asking for things it's also important to thank God – even for the simple things in life. This week try to remember in prayer those who you don't always get along with and also remember to say thank you!

### **Confirmation 2019/2020**

Confirmation preparation will be starting this Wednesday 25th September with a meeting at 7pm in Saint Joseph's Parish Centre. We invite those young people in Year 8 or above along with their parents/guardians to come to this first session. Please contact Clare if you have any queries.

**Could you be a School Governor?:** Being a school governor is a challenging but hugely rewarding role. It will give you the chance to make a real difference to young people, give something back to your local community and use and develop your skills in a board-level environment. Schools needs and benefit from a range of professional knowledge on their governing body including education, finance, human resources, legal, marketing and public relations, property and estates management, and organisational change. At St Joseph's we have vacancies for both Foundation Governor and also Parent Governor. If as a Parent you are interested then please contact Mr Turner through the School Office, as a parishioner if you could offer your skills then please speak to Fr Chris or Deacon Les in St Joseph's Parish or Fr John or Georgie Cragg-James in Holy Name Parish.

## WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

### **Saturday 21st**

**10am – 4pm Heritage Day @ StM**

11am – Noon NO Confessions @ St J

5.15pm No Confessions @ StM

### **Sunday 22nd**

12noon Tea & Toast @ StM

### **Monday 23rd**

7pm Parish Bingo @ StJ Centre

### **Tuesday 24th**

2pm Young Wives @ S J

7:30pm PPT @StJ

### **Wednesday 25th**

10am Craft Group

4:30 pm Youth Club

7pm. Confirmation Programme @StJ

### **Thursday 26th**

9.45am Church Cleaning @ StM

5pm Clergy Team Meeting

### **Friday 27th**

### **Saturday 28th**

11am – 12noon Confessions @ St J

5.15pm Confessions @ StM

### **Sunday 29th**

11am Baptism @ St J

12noon@StM

St Michael's Feast Day BBQ

St Michael's Youth Group event

All are welcome

## Readings at Mass

<b>Entrance Antiphon</b>		<i>I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.</i>
<b>Reading 1</b>	Amos 8:4-7	<i>Against those who 'buy up the poor for money.'</i>
<b>Psalm</b>	Ps 112: 1-2. 4-8 r.1. 7	<i>Praise the Lord, who raises the poor. Or Alleluia!</i>
<b>Reading 2</b>	1 Tim 2:1-8	<i>There should be prayers offered for everyone to God, who wants everyone to be saved.</i>
<b>Gospel Acclamation</b>	cf. Acts 16:14	<i>Open our hearts, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son</i>
<b>Gospel</b>	Luke 16:1-13	<i>You cannot be the slave both of God and of money.</i>
<b>Communion Antiphon</b>	Ps 118: 4-5	<i>You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.</i>


### *Words to reflect.....good stewardship.*

The gospel readings this weekend and next are really all about stewardship, the way we conduct ourselves. There is a saying that money is the root of all evil, that is not the case. It is what we do or do not do with our wealth that can be evil or gloriously good. Christ teaches how to behave and use our money, whilst Amos reminds us that the Lord will never forget a single thing you have done. Part of our stewardship is to the church, part to the community and part to those less fortunate than ourselves. Over the coming weeks there are numerous appeals for financial support from a variety of concerns. Show your generosity not only financially but in your physical support for those less fortunate than yourself.

### **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)  
 💻 [www.stjosephsbirkenhead.co.uk](http://www.stjosephsbirkenhead.co.uk) [www.stmaaa.co.uk](http://www.stmaaa.co.uk)  
 🐦 @stsjoeandmike  StMaAAandStJosephs

### Saint Michael's Offertory Collection

Offertory £397.84  
 Standing Orders £391.25 per month

### Saint Joseph's Offertory Collection

Offertory Collection still to be counted  
 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 15<sup>th</sup> Sept

£100 125 M Hesterson  
 £50 716

### **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](mailto: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](mailto:schooloffice@stjosephs-birkenhead.wirral.sch.uk)