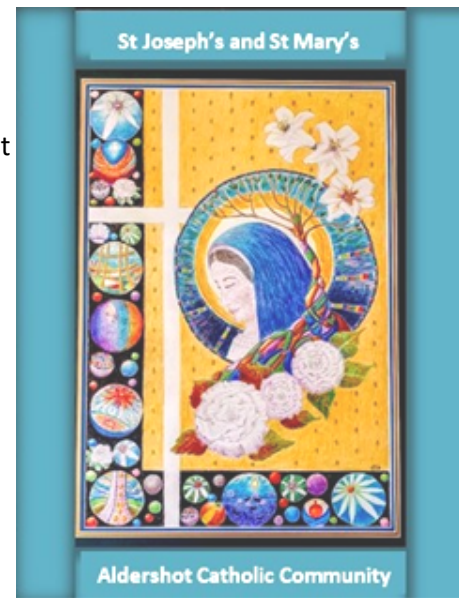


St Joseph's
Queens Road Aldershot
GU11 3JB

St Mary's
Belle Vue Road Aldershot
GU12 4RX

T: 01252 320956
E: office@aldershot-catholics.uk
W: www.aldershot-catholics.uk
Facebook: /AldershotCatholics
Twitter/Instagram: @AldstCatholics

Office Opening Hours
Monday - 10am - 2.30pm
Wednesday 10am - 2.30pm
Friday 10am - 2pm



2ND COLLECTION
1ST FEBRUARY 2026
RACIAL JUSTICE

Mass Intentions

Request Mass Intentions at the Parish Office phone, or email: office@aldershot-catholics.uk. Father will announce names during Mass - please be patient with pronunciations as he honours each person with care. Mass intentions traditionally support the parish priest's income. Contact the parish office to arrange.

Confession

On Saturday, St Joseph's 11-11.45am & St Mary's 4.45 - 5.15pm. Alternatively, please contact the Parish Office on 01252 320956 to arrange a time convenient for you.

First Saturday Devotion.

7th February 2026

Confessions available from 11 am at St Joseph's during the first Saturday prayers and readings. Mass at noon, concluding with final prayers at 12:45 pm. All are welcome.

Mass Times
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat	31st	StM	5.30pm		Holy Souls
Sun	1st	StJ	9.00am		People of the Parish
		StJ	10.30am		Angelo AJ Nunes RIP
Mon	2nd	StM	9.30am	No Mass	
Tues	3rd	StJ	9.30am	Feria	Sick of the Parish
Wed	4th	StM	9.30am	Feria	Private Intention
Wed		StJ	7pm	Holy Hour	
Thurs	5th	StJ	9.30am	No Mass	
Fri	6th	No Mass			
Sat	7th	StJ	12pm	Our Lady on Saturday	Future of the Parish

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat	7th	StM	5.30pm		Albert King RIP
Sun	8th	StJ	9.00am		People of the Parish
		StJ	10.30am		Witold Grzeszczuk RIP

**"so that,
as it is written
"Whoever boasts,
should boast **in the Lord.**"**

-1 Corinthians 1:31

It's Your Funeral.

Although it may be some way off, we will all have a funeral. This reality is uncomfortable for many. How we view it depends on how we see death. Many see it as the end of existence. For Catholics we know and believe that in death life is changed and not ended. It is but a transition in a breath. For us the orientation of the Soul at that moment is our primary concern. There are two ways death is experienced, either personally or by witnessing the loss of another. They are radically different experiences. The one we have experienced so far is that of loss. Missing and yearning their loss from our lives. A most natural reaction but no way related to their experience.

From the earliest times the prayer for the deceased soul has been vital. The Church has always prayed for the dead and the souls in purgatory and sought the intercession of the Saints in Heaven. The highest and best prayer the Church has to offer is the Catholic Mass. The Sacrifice of Jesus Christ to the Father opening for all of humanity the way to eternal salvation.

Therefore, the celebration of the requiem mass for the deceased is essential and always will be. Only in extreme circumstances can a funeral be held outside of the mass. Think of times around Covid.

I bring this to your attention because in my experience relatives who are not practicing Catholics can have little understanding of this. It is important that you communicate your wishes, and helpful to leave written instruction.

One of the hardest experiences of this was with a woman dying of cancer that I visited about twice a month for just over a year and a half, as her health was failing. In one of my later visits to her she had asked that I would do her funeral mass and went further and made me promise. Come the time to meet with the family after her passing the family refused to have anything to do with God at the funeral.

This unfortunately is becoming more and more common. I ask you to communicate your wishes to your family. Start now, if they're anything like my family they will need more telling more than once.

God Bless you all.

Fr Rob.

Unexpected Stay in Hospital.

Many of us are waiting for hospital appointments, for various reasons, tests, investigations, ongoing treatment or medical procedures. Quite often however people can end up in hospital with little or no warning. This could happen to any of us this week. Both Hospitals in are area either Frimley Park or the Royal Surrey in Guildford. Both Hospitals are served by Chaplaincies which can arrange the Catholic Sacraments. The Eucharist, Confession and the sacrament of the sick.

Thank God this doesn't happen too often but there have been times when someone has sadly passed and the priest is contacted only to find that they have been in hospital for some time. When the sacraments could have been celebrated. Please make sure your friends and family are aware of this news just in case. All wards can contact the chaplaincy department, or you can contact them direct

Similarly, if you know when you are going into hospital you could arrange these before you go. Contact me, Fr Rob I would be happy to celebrate the sacraments with you. The sacraments assist and support us by these encounters with Jesus Christ Himself through His Church throughout our life including in times of need.

We have lost a few traditions over the years in the West. I hope that this is not one of them because they are essential particularly when the soul needs care nearing the end of life.

Parish News

Please send any information you would like to be included in parish news to the parish office by Tuesday lunch time for consideration. Thank you

2nd Collection, 15th February 2026

PAX Christi - Peace Sunday

Sacraments

Thank you to all who have sent in their details — these have now been added to the list. If you have missed the registration deadline for either sacrament, please speak to Fr Rob after Mass.

Confirmation: Confirmations will take place at the Cathedral on 25th April.

First Communion: The First Communion programme will begin in February. There will be an initial meeting for parents before the programme starts. As there are currently no First Communion catechists in the parish, children will need to be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Confirmation & RCIA: The Easter Vigil will take place on Saturday 4th April, when Confirmation will be celebrated. The next meetings are at 3pm in St Joseph's Hall on Sunday 1st February and Sunday 22nd February

Curtains for the Presbytery

Can you help? The presbytery is in need of curtains, preferably thermal ones.

Do you have any curtains you no longer need, or are you someone who could help with a sewing machine? Some of the windows are longer than standard, so curtains may need to be lengthened or shortened. If you are able to help in any way, please reply to the parish office and I will contact you.

Thank you very much for your help.

Kind regards, Mary-Ann Warren

Tea & Coffee

Join us for tea and coffee in the hall after Mass — on Tuesdays and Thursdays following the 9:30 am Mass, and on Sundays after the 10:30 am Mass. It's a lovely opportunity to share a chat and some fellowship.

Food Bank

St Joseph's Parish supports the Aldershot Community Grubhub. Please donate non-perishable food and essential items (food, toiletries, and household basics). Donation boxes are at the back of the churches and the Hall entrance. Thank you for supporting our local community.

No Mass

Please note that there will be no Mass on Monday and Thursday this week.

Raffle Prizes

We still have several raffle prizes waiting to be collected.

The winning numbers are displayed in the hall. Please check your number and collect your prize as soon as possible.

Rest in Peace

The Funeral Mass of Carol Pritchard will take place at St Michael's and St George's, Aldershot, on Tuesday 3rd February at 12 noon. Carol was a member of the choir and music group, mainly at St Mary's.

Please continue to pray for the families of those who have died. We remember Adam Kinghorn, who passed away recently; his Requiem Mass will be on Monday 23rd February at 11:30am at St Joseph's Church.

We also pray for the repose of the soul of Louis Guembes, a pupil of All Hallows, who tragically died recently. Please keep Louis and his family in your prayers.

Holy Hour – Wednesday at 7:00 PM

All parishioners are invited to a Holy Hour this Wednesday at 7:00 PM in the church. Join us for a peaceful time of prayer, reflection, and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Come spend this sacred hour with the Lord and find renewal in His presence.

Marriage Help

LAST CALL for online marriage programme.

Does your marriage need some TLC? Need help with communication and trust? Retrouvaille helps marriages. It can bring hope and healing to relationships.

Next date: 12th February 2026.

www.retrouvaille.org.uk Tel: 07887 296983

**SENSIBLE
GIVING**

Sign up today
to make your
donation worth
25% more
with Gift Aid

**STABLE
GIVING**

Set up a regular
monthly
donation
through a
Standing Order
to support your
parish

**SERIOUS
GIVING**

Don't just give
the leftovers to
God...
be generous in
your giving

Most parishes aim to receive 75% of their income from monthly standing orders to give stability to parish collection income. Aldershot has a long way to go, and Fr. Rob will be working with us on this in the coming months. Please support our parish by donating via standing order and signing up for gift aid

Forms are available at the table at the back of the church

Parish Financial Support December First Collections

TOTAL:	7,395.92
Contactless	1,363.26
Direct Debits	1,279.89
Plate and envelopes:	2,670.03
Standing Orders	2,082.74

Our parish bank details:

CDP Aldershot St Joseph

Sort Code: 30-93-04

Account No: 00873072

Please set up your standing order by
contacting your bank yourself

Parish Priest: Fr Rob Stewart T: 01252 320956

Parish Administrator: Frances Grant T: 01252 320956,

E: office@aldershot-catholics.uk

Bookkeeper: Marianne Amano E: accounts@aldershot-catholics.uk

Gift Aid Officer: Jimmy Chung, E: giftaid@aldershot-catholics.uk

Safeguarding Team: Michelle Berman T: 07908 101 487

Marian Momoh T: 07376 737 897

E: safeguarding@aldershot-catholics.uk

Portsmouth Diocese Safeguarding Coordinator:

Ruth Attfield T: 023 9421 6486 E: rattfield@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

We need to raise much-needed funds to help maintain our parish churches of St Joseph's and St Mary's, along with the hall and presbytery, where several repairs are needed.

In addition to donations, Gift Aid, and volunteering, you can support the parish through your everyday online shopping. Give as you Live Online allows you to raise free donations for the Aldershot Catholic Community when you shop with over 6,000 retailers, at no extra cost to you.

Simply sign up for free, choose Aldershot Catholic Community, and shop as normal via the app, website, or browser reminder. Supporters have already raised over £3,200 for our parish.

Visit www.giveasyoulive.com/join

search online for Give as you Live, or scan the QR code on the leaflets available after Mass.




Generate free donations for us at over 6,000 online stores. It's completely free thanks to our partner, Give as you Live Online!



Simply scan the QR Code with your mobile phone to sign up for free!

Just some of the 6,000 stores paying free donations:










Schools

St Joseph's Primary Academy

Bridge Road, Aldershot GU11 3DD

T: 01252 350583 E: admin@stjosephs.hants.sch.uk

All Hallows Catholic School

Weybourne Road, Farnham GU9 9HF

T: 01252 319211 E: admin@allhallows.net

If you are unwell, can't come to Mass and would like to receive the Sacraments at home, contact Fr Rob

If you are going into hospital, please get in touch with the relevant chaplaincy service:

Frimley Park Hospital, Portsmouth Road,
Frimley GU16 7UJ T: 0300 6134184

Parish website

The site is being refreshed, but you can download newsletters from: [St Joseph's & St Mary's Aldershot](#), [St Joseph's & St Mary's Aldershot - Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth](#).

Lots more information about what's on in the Diocese from [e-News - Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth](#)



Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth (reg. Charity no 1199568)
Bringing people closer to Jesus Christ through His Church"