

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

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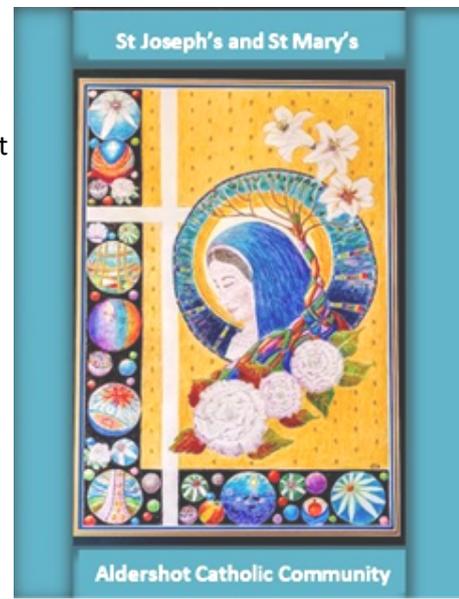
Twitter/Instagram:@AldstCatholics

Office Opening Hours

Monday - 10am - 2.30pm

Wednesday 10am - 2.30pm

Friday 10am - 2pm



2ND COLLECTION
14TH FEBRUARY 2026
PAX CHRISTI PEACE SUNDAY

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.

First Saturday Devotion.

7th March 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.

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.

This week Holy Hour is on Thursday due to Ash Wednesday,

This marks the beginning of the Lenten season.

We invite you to join us as we observe this important day of reflection, prayer, and renewal.

Mass Times

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat	14th	StM	5.30pm		John Ryan RIP
Sun	15th	StJ	9.00am		People of the Parish
		StJ	10.30am		Eugenia & Marian Grzeszczuk RIP
Mon	16th	StM	9.30am	No Mass	
Tues	17th	StJ	9.30am	Feria	Piedade & Basilio RIP
Wed	18th	StM	9.30am	ASH WEDNESDAY	Private Intention
Wed		StJ	7.00pm	ASH WEDNESDAY	
Thurs	19th	StJ	9.30am	Feria	Paul & Penny Hill RIP
Thurs		StJ	7.00pm	Stations of the Cross & Holy Hour	
Fri	20th	No Mass			
Sat	21st	StJ	12pm		Vocations

1st Sunday of Lent

Sat	21st	StM	5.30pm		People of the Parish
Sun	22nd	StJ	9.00am		Stefan Hrabcak RIP
		StJ	10.30am		George Bonnelame RIP



Ash Wednesday marks the start of the season of lent. We receive the ashes on our foreheads and hear those sobering words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." With this striking gesture, we enter the Holy Season of Lent a forty-day journey into the heart of the desert, modelled after the retreat of Our Lord Jesus. As a child I saw lent as a "sad" season and used to wish it would end quickly but that was a misunderstanding of its purpose. Lent is not a season of gloom, but a season of spiritual Spring cleaning. Just like a Spring clean the season of Lent invites us to clear the clutter of our souls to hear God more clearly. It is a time for "metanoia" a profound change of heart and orientation of the soul. The Church gives us three traditional pillars to support this during the season, prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Prayer

The devotional prayer of the stations of the cross is generally practiced. This will be said communally after each Mass with the exception of the Sunday 9.30am Mass and also on Wednesday evenings before adoration during lent. This season I would like to encourage you to spend 15 minutes a day in prayer before the crucifix contemplating Jesus and his passion in silence and stillness allowing us to receive what God has to say to us. To spend some time each week in front of the Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle. To this end St Joseph's Church will remain open until 7pm each night.

Fasting.

There are many ways to fast. The important thing is to offer up the self-denial whatever it is. An expression to God that we Love Him more than these things. A fast day as a minimum should include one full meal a day with two smaller meals which do not add up to one whole meal. This can be done on Wednesdays and/or Fridays, or inside for the forty days. Other ways of fasting include just eating bread and water. This fasting you can eat as much bread and as much water as you need. You could also fast by not eating for twenty-four hours. Pray for the grace to able to fast and then bite the bullet and fast. If you are not used to fasting, I promise it is not as daunting as you think. It has a profound spiritual effect especially when tackling addictions we may have.

Almsgiving.

This has to be something that we feel not just giving loose change which we have spare but a sacrifice and loosening of our attachments to the ways of the world. Best practice would be to keep all of this between God and you. As Our Heavenly Father sees all that is done in secret.

If once having set your spiritual goals, you find you fall or fail to keep them. Don't dismiss the effort just simply start again.

Finally, the importance of confession during this season is essential. Don't be afraid of confession you are not being judged see it rather as medicine for the sick. A reminder if it has been over a year since our last confession then we fall outside the precepts of the Church. It is important in this season that are predisposed to receiving the Grace that God wishes to lavish on us.

God Bless you all.

Fr Rob.

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, 1st March 2026

CAFOD

Join us for tea and coffee and a friendly chat in the hall after Mass.

Tuesdays and Thursdays after the 9:30 am Mass, and Sundays after the 10:30 am Mass.

Rest in Peace

With deep sorrow, we announced the death of Adam Kinghorn. His Requiem Mass will be celebrated tomorrow, **Monday 23rd February at 11:30am at St Joseph's Church**. All the faithful, relatives, and friends are invited to come together in prayer, commending his soul to God's mercy and offering comfort to the bereaved family.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace.

CAFOD Family Fast Day – Friday 27th February

CAFOD is the official aid agency of the Catholic Church in England and Wales, supporting communities worldwide to overcome poverty and hardship.

Family Fast Day will take place on Friday, 27th February 2026. We are invited to fast, pray and give generously in solidarity with those facing hunger, climate challenges and poverty.

To help us prepare, Tracy Ryan will give a short talk on Saturday 21st February and at both Masses on Sunday 22nd February.

Votive Candles

Please note that due to the money boxes for the votive candles being broken into, a dedicated tab has been created on the payment/donation machine at the back of the church for candle payments.

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.

Other News

Knock Pilgrimage

Escorted Tour to Westport, Knock & Co Mayo, 08th March 2026. £899.00 pps. Price includes flight from Heathrow or Luton, 10kg hold luggage, 5 nights' in 4* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. Full use of leisure facilities. All entertainment, excursions and transport included. Visit Knock Shrine, Ballintubber Abbey, Fr. Peyton Centre & Kylemore Abbey. Irish music nightly. Single supplement on Enquiry. Contact 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com.

RCIA – Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion

All RCIA catechumens and candidates are reminded that the Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion will take place at **11:00am on Saturday, 21st February at St John's Cathedral, led by Bishop Philip Egan**.

Attendance is required for all catechumens and candidates. Please register at the Cathedral Discovery Centre between 9:30am and 10:30am, accompanied by your godparent or sponsor, who will present you during the ceremony. The sacraments of initiation will be bestowed on our catechumens at the Easter Vigil on **Saturday, 4th April at St Joseph's Church. By Fr Rob at 8pm**

Confirmation 2026

We are pleased to announce that all young people and children who are preparing for Confirmation this year will receive the **Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday, 25th April at St John's Cathedral**.

Further details, including timings and practical arrangements, will be published in due course. Please keep our Confirmation candidates in your prayers as they prepare for this important step in their faith journey.

First Communion Parents' Meeting

There will be an important meeting for all parents of children preparing for First Holy Communion on **Saturday, 28th February at 12:30pm** in the St Joseph's Church. The meeting will cover the preparation programme, key dates, and what to expect in the coming months. It will also be a chance to ask questions and ensure everyone is ready for this special milestone in your child's faith journey.

At least one parent or guardian is strongly encouraged to attend. Your support is an essential part of your child's preparation. We look forward to seeing you there.

St Patricks Day Fund raising music concert

We are pleased to announce that Hart Male Voice Choir will perform at St Joseph's RC Church on Tuesday 17 March 2026 at 6.00pm, joined by St Joseph's School Choir.

All proceeds will support our church and school. Please see the poster on the notice board at the back of the church for full details.

**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 January First Collections

TOTAL:	5,429.08
Contactless	457.38
Direct Debits	480.00
Plate and envelopes:	2,748.70
Standing Orders	1,743.00

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.



Aldershot Catholic Community logo in the top left. Give as you Live Online logo in the top right. Text: "Generate free donations for us at over 6,000 online stores. It's completely free thanks to our partner, Give as you Live Online!". A large QR code in the center. Text below QR code: "Simply scan the QR Code with your mobile phone to sign up for free! Just some of the 6,000 stores paying free donations:". Logos for M&S, Booking.com, ebay, Expedia, Brio, trainline, ASOS, and Argos at the bottom.

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

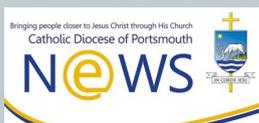
If you are unwell, can't come to Mass and would like to receive the Sacraments at home, contact Fr Rob

**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"