

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

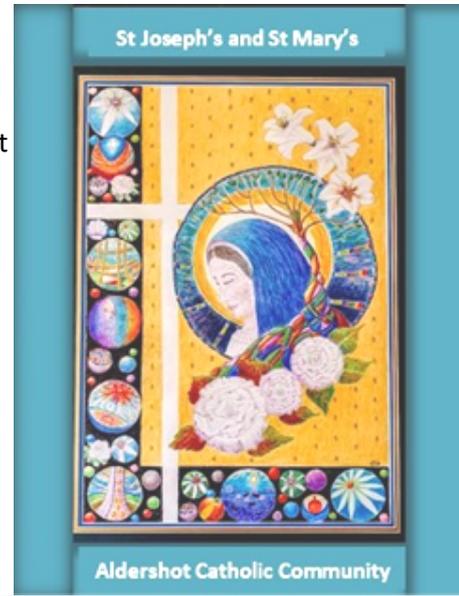
Twitter/Instagram:@AldstCatholics

Office Opening Hours

Monday - 10am - 2.30pm

Wednesday 10am - 2.30pm

Friday 10am - 2pm



**2ND COLLECTION
1ST MARCH 2026
CAFOD**

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.

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.

**Mass Times
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
Mon	23rd	StM	9.30am	No Mass	
Tues	24th	StJ	9.30am		Robert Steer RIP
Wed	25th	StM	9.30am		Lorenzo Piemonte Private
Thurs	26th	StJ	9.30am		Ronald & Ruby Joven Private
Fri	27th	No Mass			
Sat	28th	StJ	12pm		Sick of the Parish

2nd Sunday of Lent

Sat	28th	StM	5.30pm		Future of the Parish
Sun	1st	StJ	9.00am		People of the Parish
		StJ	10.30am		Dariusz Skorka RIP



Having received the Ashes on Wednesday the season of Lent was proclaimed to us all. "Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return". This is not said to depress us rather to remind us of the reality that all seasons of the church should be lived in the reality that this life is fleeting and that the supernatural reality of eternal life should be the aim and goal of this life. Hence Jesus reminds us that we are to be not of this world but of the reality that he has revealed to us.

It calls us to true Humility, which simply is living in the reality Jesus Christ has revealed to us. The Ashes remind us this life is fleeting. However, they are in the shape of the cross that reminds us by virtue of our baptism we are living our eternal life now.

It is easy in this season to be introverted and self-focusing, spiritually at least. Especially if our fasting and self-denials are difficult. It is hard not to focus on the extra self-control required and how difficult it can be. This is only half of the discipline. The second part having made the sacrifice is to offer it up. Whatever it is small or large, we have to offer it up to God. Just make a spiritual aside at that time of saying "God this is for you" or Jesus, I love you more than this". Rather let it be an expression of love. For Our Father sees all that is done in secret.

In Today's Gospel the devil meets Jesus in the desert and puts three temptations before Christ, who is not tempted being of perfect nature. His response is similar to His prayer to the Father in the garden. "Your will be done". We however are far from perfect. Do not be surprised in this season if certain temptations increase either around your Lenten disciplines or repeating sins. Don't panic. This is quite normal. You can have a busy day realise you haven't eaten and have to squeeze it in as another thing to do. We've all had days like that. Yet when we are fasting, we know we are not having that next meal we get hungry and stomach rumbles from about 9am onwards!

God will allow temptations so that in choosing Him over and over our wounds are strengthened and healed. This is why the sacrament of confession is essential during this season.

If you do struggle or fail. Don't despair just start again the Lord will use everything we offer Him this season. Particularly the Humility to realise everything depends on Him.

Wishing you all a happy and rich Lent.

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, 15th March 2026

Diocesan Clergy Assistance Fund

**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.**

RCIA

All RCIA catechumens and candidates are reminded that 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.

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.

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.

St Joseph 19th March 2026

A special Mass will be celebrated at St Joseph's Church on 19th March for the Solemnity of Saint Joseph, husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary and patron of the Universal Church.

This important feast honours Saint Joseph as a model of faith, humility, and strength. All parishioners and visitors are warmly invited to join in prayer and thanksgiving as we seek his guidance and protection

Dairy Dates

Holy Week & Easter

Palm Sunday

Saturday - St Mary's

4.45-5.15pm Confessions

5.30 Mass

Sunday - St Joseph's

9am Mass

10.30 Mass

3.30pm Holy Hour

Maundy Thursday - St Joseph's

8pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Followed by watching at the Alter of Repose until Midnight

11.50pm Compline

Good Friday - St Joseph's

9am Stations of the Cross

3pm Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

Holy Saturday - St Joseph's

9am Office of Readings &

Morning Prayer

Followed by preparing

the Church for Easter

8pm Easter Vigil

First Mass of the Resurrection

Easter Sunday

9am Mass - St Mary's

10.30am - Mass - Joseph's

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, Boots, 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

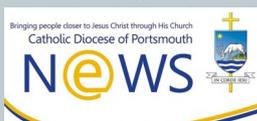
If you are unwell, can't come to Mass and would like to receive the Sacraments at home, contact Fr Rob

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"