

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

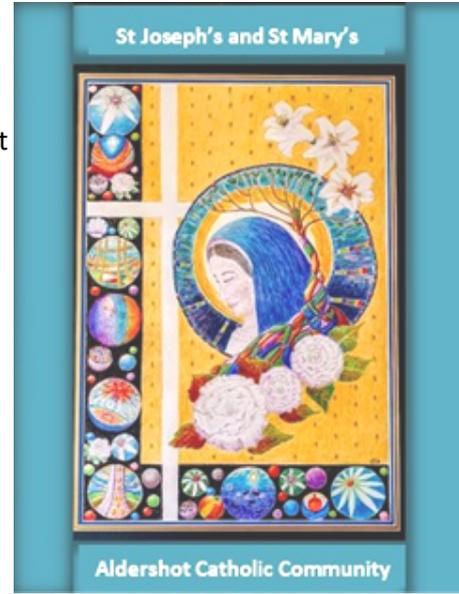
Twitter/Instagram:@AldstCatholics

Office Opening Hours

Monday - 10am - 2.30pm

Wednesday 10am - 2.30pm

Friday 10am - 2pm



Mass Times

5th Sunday of Lent

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.
4th April 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.

Sat	21st	StM	5.30pm		Paul Debono RIP
Sun	22nd	StJ	9.00am		People of the Parish
		StJ	10.30am		Holy Souls
Mon	23rd	StM	9.30am		Arron Jepp RIP
Tues	24th	StJ	9.30am		Sick of the Parish
Wed	25th	StM	9.30am	The Annunciation of the Lord	Holy Souls
		StJ	7.00pm	Holy Hour	
Thurs	26th	StJ	9.00am		Lorenza Piamonte Private
Fri	27th	NO MASS			
Sat	28th	StJ	12pm		Ronald & Ruby Jovan Private

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.

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Sat	28th	StM	5.30pm		Anita Grant Private
Sun	29th	StJ	9.00am		
		StJ	10.30am		People of the Parish



As we enter this Fifth Sunday of Lent, the atmosphere of our liturgy begins to shift. In many traditions, this day marks the beginning of "Passiontide." You may notice the crucifixes and statues are now veiled in purple cloth or removed. This veiling is not meant to hide the sacred, but to sharpen our focus. By obscuring the familiar, the Church invites us to hunger for the sight of our Lord, preparing our hearts for the moment those veils are stripped away at the Easter Vigil. To focus particularly on the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Our Gospel today brings us to a pivotal moment in the ministry of Jesus. We see him approaching Jerusalem. At his friends in Bethany when He shows God's power over life and Death by the raising of His friend Lazarus. The power that will shine forth ultimately at His own rising from the dead. His Resurrection which we enter Holy Week. The passion, the death and the resurrection of Jesus are not separate events but the fulfillment of God's promise. We are called to imitate this in our lives as the resurrection is what we all wish to share in. Of course, before that comes the passion and the death.

For many of us, this fifth week of Lent is where the "honeymoon phase" of our Lenten penance has long since faded. The fasting feels burdensome; the extra time in prayer feels dry; the resolutions we made on Ash Wednesday may feel like they are fraying at the edges. We might feel like that grain of wheat, pressed, buried, and forgotten in the dark soil.

But, my dear friends, do not be discouraged by the darkness of the soil. This is precisely where the miracle happens.

To "die to oneself" is the most difficult task of the Christian life. It means letting go of our need for control, our desire for recognition, and all our attachments to the comforts that keep us from God. We often think of Lent as a time of "giving things up," but the ultimate goal is not deprivation, it is transformation. Jesus did not die on the Cross simply to show us how to suffer; He died to show us how to love without reservation.

In these remaining days before Holy Week, I invite you to look at your life through the lens of that grain of wheat. What part of your ego still needs to "fall to the ground"? Is it a long-held grudge that prevents you from entering the Confessional? Is it a habit of gossip that poisons your workplace? Or perhaps it is a fear of the future that prevents you from trusting in God's providence?

The world tells us to preserve ourselves, to accumulate, and to stay on the surface where it is safe. Christ tells us to go deep. He promises us that the "death" of our old selves is the only way to experience the "life" of the Resurrection.

As your pastor, I am walking this path with you. I, too, feel the weight of the season and the call to deeper conversion. Let us pray for one another. Let us make a special effort this week to visit the Blessed Sacrament, even for ten minutes, to sit in the silence and ask the Lord for the courage to die to our selfishness so that we may rise with Him in glory.

The hour is coming. The veils are up. Let us walk these final steps toward Calvary not with dread, but with the quiet joy of knowing that the harvest is near.

May the peace of Christ be with 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

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.

Parish Brunch Saturday 21st March

Join us after the morning Mass on Saturday 21st March at 12.45pm - 2pm for a parish brunch. Come along, make new friends, and enjoy a bite to eat! Egg and bacon rolls, tea and coffee, and cake will be served. All donations will go to church funds and CAFOD

Refreshments After Church Cleaning Saturday 4th April

After helping clean the church on Saturday 4 March, stay for refreshments and enjoy good company. Soup and a roll, cake, tea and coffee will be served, donations to church funds. We're also holding an Easter raffle with prizes including Easter eggs, a cuddly toy, and wine. Tickets are £1 a strip, with the draw taking place after the church cleaning

ST. PATRICK'S at DAY St Joseph's Church



What a brilliant evening we had at our St. Patrick's music concert! The church was filled with music and joy as the Hart Male Voice Choir and St Joseph's School Choir delivered wonderful performances, creating a lively and uplifting atmosphere full of community spirit. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped make the evening such a success, supported our fundraising efforts, and came along to join us. Your generosity and presence made it truly special. It was a fun and memorable night.

Other News

Foundation Governor at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

We are seeking new foundation governors to join our Local Governing Body. Meetings take place once per term (around 2 hours) via Teams in the early evening, with optional opportunities to join additional committees. Please register your interest via, Mrs Zoe Lowe, Clerk to the Governors, at z.lowe@st-josephs.hants.sch.uk to arrange a meeting with the Headteacher, Mrs McNeill. If you have any questions before applying, please feel free to contact the school

Confirmation 2026

For adults returning to the Faith, those exploring becoming Catholic, and anyone aged 16+ preparing for Confirmation. Next session: **Sunday, 22 March 2026 at 3:00 PM in St Joseph's Hall (approx. 1 hour)**. Please keep our candidates in your prayers as they prepare for this important step in their faith journey.

Stations of the Cross During Lent

This Lent, join us for the Stations of the Cross a reflective devotion walking with Christ to Calvary.
Monday & Wednesday 9:30am: St Mary's
Tuesday & Thursday 9:30am: St Joseph's
And also Friday 9am: St Joseph's



Rest in Peace

With deep sorrow, we announce the death of Marie Theresa Robinson. Her Requiem Mass will be on Monday 30 March at 11:00am at St Joseph's Church. All are welcome to join in prayer for her and to support her family. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen.

Dairy Dates

Holy Week & Easter

Palm Sunday 29th March
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 2nd April
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 3rd April St Joseph's
9am Stations of the Cross
3pm Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

Holy Saturday 4th April 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 5th April
9am Mass - St Mary's
10.30am - Mass - Joseph's

Food Bank

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

Retrouvaille Marriage Support

If you are just in a rut or for more serious issues Retrouvaille could be the solution.
www.retrouvaille.org.uk +44 797 338 0443

**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 February First Collections

TOTAL:	5,515.44
Contactless	403.74
Direct Debits	480.00
Plate and envelopes:	2,224.44
Standing Orders	2,407.26

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

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

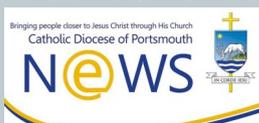
If you are unwell, can't come to Mass and would like
to receive the Sacraments at home, contact Fr Rob

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"

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.