



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

2ND COLLECTION
28TH JUNE 2026
PETERS PENCE

Mass Intentions

Request via the parish office phone or email: office@aldershot-catholics.uk. Mass intentions traditionally support the parish priest's income.

Confession

Saturday: St Joseph's 11–11.45am
 St Mary's 4.45–5.15pm Or contact the parish office on 01252 320956 to arrange a convenient time.

First Saturday Devotion.
4th July 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.

Votive Candles

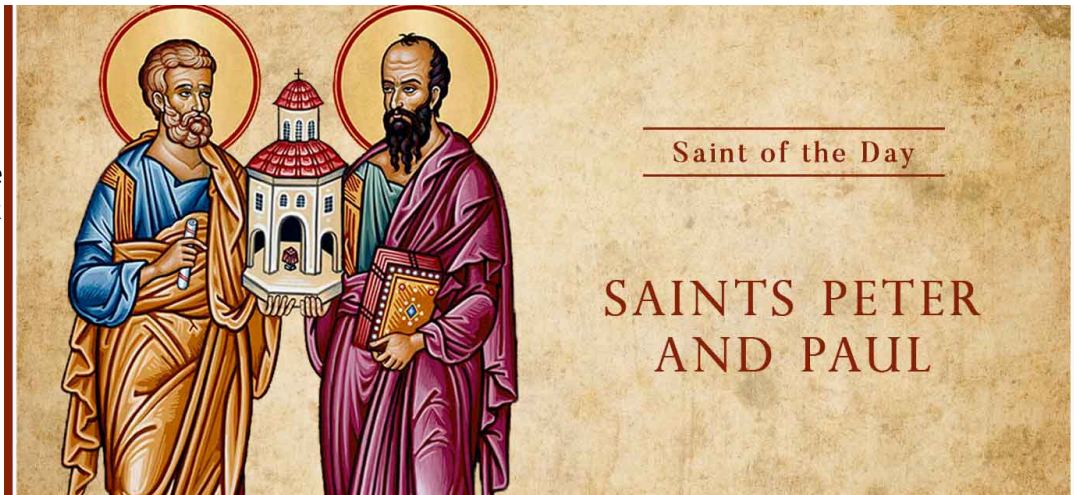
Please note that not all of the votive candle money boxes at St Joseph's are currently are not all operational. The boxes that have been repaired remain available for use the two one located at the back of the church in front of the Statue of Jesus, and chapel at the back of the church are non operational. At St Mary's, the votive candle money boxes are currently unavailable. Until repaired, parishioners are asked to use the payment machine when making offerings for votive candles.

Ss Peter & Paul

Sat	27th	StM	5.30pm		People of the Parish
Sun	28th	StJ	9.00am		
		StJ	10.30am		Wladzia Skorka RIP
Mon	29th	StM	9.30am	Feria	Pupils of St Joseph's sch lost in WW2 - PM
Tues	30th	StJ	9.30am	First Martyrs of the church of Rome	
Wed	1st	StM	9.30am	St Oliver Plunkett	Johny Collins
		StJ	7.00pm	HOLY HOUR	
Thurs	2nd	StJ	9.30am	Feria	
Fri	3rd			NO MASS	
Sat	4th	StJ	12.00pm		

14 th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sat	4th	StM	5.30pm		
Sun	5th	StJ	9.00am		People of the Parish
		StJ	10.30am		Nathaniel Cummings RIP



This week we celebrate one of the most profound solemnities in the liturgical year: the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul. You may notice something special about our celebration this year—it falls directly on a Sunday.

In the tradition of the Church, Sunday is always the Lord's Day, a weekly celebration of the Resurrection. Ordinarily, most saint feast days are omitted if they fall on a Sunday to keep our focus entirely on Christ. However, Saints Peter and Paul hold such a monumental place in salvation history that their feast is designated as a Solemnity. When a Solemnity falls on a Sunday, it is not displaced; rather, it merges with the day of Resurrection. This is a rare and beautiful alignment. It reminds us that the witness of Peter and Paul is inextricably linked to the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. They did not preach their own wisdom; they preached the Risen Lord. Celebrating them on a Sunday underscores that their lives, their missions, and their martyrdoms were entirely oriented toward the victory of Easter. As we should be, especially when struggling.

To understand the importance of this feast, we must look at how these two men serve as the dual pillars of the Catholic Church. They were vastly different men. Peter was a fisherman from Galilee, often impulsive, who famously denied Jesus three times during the Passion. Paul, originally named Saul, was a highly educated Pharisee who fiercely persecuted the early Christian Church. Yet, the grace of God transformed them both.

Peter was chosen by Christ to be the rock upon which the Church was built. He was given the keys to the kingdom, establishing the office of the papacy and ensuring the visible unity of the faith. Paul, after his dramatic encounter with the Risen Christ on the road to Damascus, became the Apostle to the Gentiles. He travelled tirelessly across the Roman Empire, establishing communities and writing the epistles that form the bedrock of our New Testament.

Together, Peter and Paul represent the fullness of the Church's mission. Peter represents the institutional structure, unity, and pastoral care of the flock. Paul represents evangelization, missionary zeal, and theological depth. Without Peter, the Church risks splintering into division. Without Paul, the Church risks becoming insular and stagnant. By celebrating them together on the Lord's Day, we honour the beautiful harmony of authority and mission, tradition and proclamation, that defines our Catholic faith.

How, then, do we emulate these great apostles as modern disciples in a challenging world?

First, we must emulate their capacity for conversion. Neither Peter nor Paul was perfect. Peter knew the shame of betrayal; Paul knew the guilt of persecution. Yet, neither allowed their past sins to define them. Instead, they allowed the mercy of God to recreate them. To be a disciple today means constantly turning back to Christ, frequenting the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and allowing God's grace to work through our human weaknesses.

Second, we must emulate their courage. Both Peter and Paul lived in a culture that was deeply hostile to the Gospel. We live in a culture where people are indifferent. They faced imprisonment, ridicule, and ultimately, martyrdom in Rome. Peter was crucified upside down, and Paul was beheaded. Today, we may not face physical martyrdom, but we often face the quiet martyrdom of social exclusion, cultural pressure, and indifference. Emulating these saints means standing firm in the truth of the Gospel, even when it is unpopular. It means speaking of Christ with love, clarity, and conviction in our workplaces, schools, and our town of Aldershot.

Finally, we must emulate their love for the Church. Peter governed the Church with a shepherd's heart, and Paul suffered deeply out of anxiety for the communities he founded. In a time when the Church is often criticized from the outside and divided from within, we are called to love the Church as our spiritual mother. We do this by praying for our Holy Father, the successor of Peter, and by actively participating in the missionary life of our local parish.

As we celebrate this Sunday, let us ask for the intercession of these two great giants of our faith. May the rock-solid faith of Peter ground us and may the fire of Paul's missionary zeal ignite our hearts. Go out to the whole world proclaim the good news.

May God bless you and your families,

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

We warmly welcome all visitors joining us for Mass today. We hope you feel at home in our parish community and pray that your time with us may be a blessing.

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.

**2ND COLLECTION
12TH JULY 2026
STELLA MARIS**

First Holy Communion Parents' Meeting

The next meeting for the First Holy Communion Programme will take place today Sunday 28th June at 3:00pm in the hall. As this is an important part of the programme, we ask that all parents attend. We look forward to welcoming you.

Father Away

Please note that Father will be away on the following dates:

13th–15th July

25th–31st July

There will be no weekday Masses during these periods.

Church Repairs

Following the unfortunate fire at the sanctuary, restoration work will begin shortly. The sanctuary will be redecorated and repairs to the altar carried out. We will keep you updated throughout the process and thank you for your patience, support, and understanding.

Gift Aid Reminder

If you are a UK taxpayer and do not yet Gift Aid your donations, please pick up a Gift Aid form from the back of the church or scan the QR code to complete the form online. Gift Aid enables the parish to reclaim an extra 25p for every £1 donated, at no extra cost to you.

If you have recently received a Gift Aid renewal form by email or post, we kindly ask you to complete and return it as soon as possible. This is required to comply with HMRC regulations and allows the parish to continue claiming Gift Aid on your donations.

Completed forms may be returned to the parish or handed to Fr. after Mass.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

Encyclical Letter of His Holiness Pope Leo XIV,

Please find the Encyclical Letter of His Holiness Pope Leo XIV, Magnifica Humanitas, on the safeguarding of the human person in the age of artificial intelligence here: <https://e.va/magnificahumanitas/>

Mass of celebration

A Mass of Celebration for Wedding Anniversaries, presided over by Bishop Philip, took place on Saturday 20th June at 11am at St Bede's Church, Basingstoke. It was a beautiful celebration, especially seeing couples who had been married for as long as 74 years. The celebration was for couples marking their 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th, or over 60th wedding anniversary. The Mass was followed by a buffet lunch and was a joyful occasion to give thanks for the vocation of Marriage. Congratulations to all the couples who took part in renewing their marriage promises and celebrating these wonderful milestones together.

Could You Help Someone Feel at Home?

A smile. A welcome. A short conversation.

Sometimes that's all it takes to help someone feel seen, return to church, find friendship, or even begin a journey of faith.

Every week people come through the doors of St Mary's and St Joseph's who are new, returning to church after many years, visiting the area, or simply looking for a place to belong. We want to ensure that nobody comes to Mass feeling unnoticed, uncertain, or alone.

Over the coming months we will be launching a simple Welcome Team and are looking for warm, approachable people who would enjoy helping others feel at home in our parish.

No special experience is needed, and there is no commitment at this stage—just an opportunity to find out more.

As well as helping others, many people find that serving in this way deepens their own sense of belonging, builds new friendships, and connects them more deeply to parish life.

If this might be something you'd like to explore, please email Jason Swan Clark at clark.jason@me.com.

I will also be sharing more about the Welcome Team at all Masses in the coming weeks, with an opportunity to speak with me in person afterwards.



Stella Maris Volunteer Needed

Stella Maris is looking for one volunteer to read a short appeal at the end of Masses for Sea Sunday (11/12 July). The appeal will be provided and will support the Church's annual prayer and collection for seafarers, fishers and their families. If you are able to help, please contact roland.hayes@stellamarismail.org.



Other News

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes – 6–10 July

The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes takes place from Monday 6 July to Friday 10 July, offering an opportunity to pray for the Church, for vocations, for peace, and for the sick of our Diocese. The pilgrimage includes accommodation at the four-star Hotel La Solitude (full board), visits to the places associated with St Bernadette, the Torchlight and Blessed Sacrament Processions, the International Mass, and opportunities to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Anointing of the Sick.

The cost is £949 per person sharing a room (£895 for youth pilgrims).

For further information or to book, contact Canon PJ Smith on 07780 221686 or write to St Edmund's House, Bishop Crispian Way, Portsmouth PO1 3QA.

Click here for a [booking form](#).

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

Parish Financial Support May First Collections

TOTAL:	7,714.29
Contactless	2,585.35
Direct Debits	480.00
Plate and envelopes:	2,201.14
Standing Orders	2,447.80

community grubhub Food Bank

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

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](#)

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

Catholic Association Pilgrimage to Lourdes, 21st - 28th August 2026

See promotional poster on noticeboard for further details. Come in procession and respond to Our Lady's son to love God and love our neighbours as ourselves.

Contact: frances@catholicassociation.co.uk

WeBelieve Festival at St Mary's College, Oscott. 24-27 July

An unmissable opportunity to discover the traditions and charisms that flow through the Church, to grow in authentic community, and to encounter the transforming love of God.

CURRENT JOB VACANCIES

Careers - Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

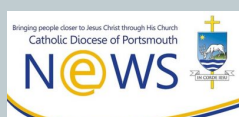
- [Organist, Winchester](#)
- [Receptionist, Winchester](#)
- [Parish Administrator, Southampton](#)
- [Housekeeper, Eastleigh](#)

Most parishes aim for 75% of income via standing orders — Aldershot isn't there yet. Please help by setting up a standing order (contact your bank directly) and signing up for Gift Aid. Forms are at the back of the church.

Our details: CDP Aldershot St Joseph
Sort Code: 30-93-04 | Account No: 00873072

Fundraising for St Joseph's & St Mary's

Our churches, hall, and presbytery need repairs please help us raise funds through any of the following: Donations & Gift Aid forms at the back of the church Give as You Live shop online with 6,000+ retailers and raise free donations at no cost to you. Supporters have already raised over £3,200 for our parish. Sign up free by scanning the QR code on leaflets available after Mass, visiting www.giveasyoulive.com/join, or searching "Give as You Live." Just some of the 6,000+ stores include:



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

Hospital & Home Visits

Going into hospital? Contact Frimley Park Hospital chaplaincy: 0300 613 4184

Unwell and unable to attend Mass? Contact Fr Rob to receive the Sacraments at home.

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