

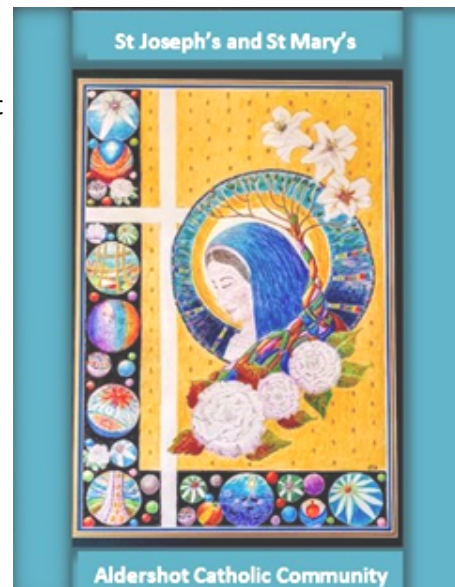


St Joseph's
Queens Road Aldershot GU11 3JB

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
Thurs 10am - 2pm



Mass Times 26th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sat	26th	StM	5.30pm		Simon Gracias & Myra Fernandes TG
Sun	27th	StJ	9.00am		Irene Chaudhary RIP
		StJ	10.30am		People of the Parish
Mon	28th	StM	9.30am	Feria	Jamie Donnelly RIP
Tues	29th	StJ	9.30am	Th Holy Archangels Michael, Gabriel & Raphael	Michael Joseph Mackey RIP FM
Wed	30th	StM	9.30am	St Jerome	Kevin Carvalho A Sanifa Wed. Anniv
		StJ	7.00pm	HOLY HOUR	
Thurs	1st	StJ	9.30am	St Teresa of the Child Jesus	Jonny Collins
Fri	2nd		NO MASS		
Sat	3rd	StJ	12.00pm	Our Lady on Saturday	Jessica Fernandes BDay

27th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sat	3rd	StM	5.30pm		People of the Parish
Sun	4th	StJ	9.00am		Joanna Cunha BDay
		StJ	10.30am		Helen Mulvey RIP

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.

3rd October 2026

Confessions available from 10 am at St Joseph's during the first Saturday prayers and readings. Mass at noon, concluding with final prayers at 11am
All are welcome.

Votive Candle Offerings

Some votive candle money boxes are temporarily out of service. Please use the contactless payment machine for your votive candle offerings until repairs are completed. Thank you for your understanding.



Jesus is calling us today to narrow the gap between our words and our actions through true humility and continuous conversion.

In today's Gospel from Matthew 21:28-32, we encounter two sons. The first son initially refuses his father's command but later changes his mind and goes to work in the vineyard. The second son quickly says, "Yes sir," but fails to follow through. Through this parable, Jesus reminds us that the spiritual life is not measured by the outward holiness of our promises, but by the concrete obedience of our hearts. He praises the tax collectors and prostitutes, not because they sinned, but because they heard the call to righteousness, humbled themselves, and changed their lives.

This aligns beautifully with our first reading from Ezekiel 18:25-28, which highlights that God's justice is always paired with infinite mercy. God does not anchor us to our past mistakes. When a person turns away from past wrongdoing to do what is right and just, they choose life. Our past does not define us; our current choice to turn back to God defines us.

If there is one central truth Jesus wants us to implement this week to draw closer to Him, it is this: True discipleship requires the humility to change our minds and align our daily actions with God's will. It is easy to say the right prayers at Mass, but much harder to live them out when we leave the church doors. Jesus wants us to shed the spiritual pride of the second son, who looked obedient but did nothing. Instead, He calls us to imitate the humility outlined by St. Paul in Philippians 2:1-5, to take on the mind of Christ, putting aside selfish ambition and treating others as better than ourselves.

To implement this today, we can begin by practising a daily examination of conscience to honestly look at where our actions contradict our faith. We must also embrace the Sacrament of Reconciliation, never letting pride convince us that we are good enough without God's mercy. Finally, we should prioritise hidden obedience by looking for one concrete way to serve someone else this week without seeking recognition, choosing Christ-like self-sacrifice over self-glorification. Let us pray for the grace to be a people of authentic action rather than empty words, trusting that it is never too late to turn back to the Father's vineyard.

Fr Rob



THE PRAYER FOR ENGLAND

O Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God
and our most gentle Queen and Mother,
look down in mercy upon England, thy Downry,
and upon us all who greatly hope and trust in thee.
By thee it was that Jesus, our Saviour and our hope,
was given unto the world; and He has given thee
to us that we might hope still more.
Plead for us thy children, whom thou didst receive
and accept at the foot of the cross, O sorrowful Mother,
intercede for our separated brethren, that with us
in the one true fold they may be united
to the Chief Shepherd, the Vicar of thy Son.
Pray for us all, dear Mother, that by faith, fruitful

in good works we may all deserve to see and praise God, together with thee in our heavenly home.

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
4TH OCTOBER 2026
CAFOD**

RCIA – Adult Confirmation

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) will commence on Sunday 27th September at 3pm in the church hall

If you are an adult who has not yet been Confirmed, or would simply like to deepen your understanding of the Catholic faith, RCIA is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about our faith and what it means to live as a Catholic.

It is a welcoming opportunity to ask questions, grow in faith, and prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation. If you are interested in taking part, or would like to find out more, please speak to Father and register your interest.

Harvest Festival Dinner – Saturday 24th October

Join us for a Harvest Festival Dinner with jazz and blues entertainment from local singer-songwriter Joely Ryan. Come on your own or with friends for a relaxed evening of good food, music and fellowship, while helping to raise funds for our churches.

Menu: Vegetable cheesy crumble or cottage pie, followed by fruit crumble or fruit pie with custard. Fruit juice, tea and coffee provided — or bring your own drinks.

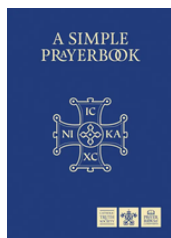
Arrival 7.15pm | Dinner 7.30pm | £20 per person

Booking sheets will be available at the back of each church.

We hope you can join us!

Repository

Visit the Repository after Mass and browse our selection of books, rosaries, medals, candles, prayer cards, and other devotional gifts. Every purchase supports our parish while helping to deepen your faith.



This week we are featuring The Simply Prayer Book, a helpful guide to prayer for everyday life. It offers simple prayers and reflections to help us make time for God, bring our hopes and concerns before Him, and grow closer to Him in faith.

Hire Our Church Hall

Looking for a welcoming space for your next event or gathering? Our church hall is available to hire for meetings, coffee mornings, family activities, celebrations, dance groups, baby showers, christenings and more. For more information or to enquire about availability, please contact 01252 320 956 or hallhire@aldershot-catholics.uk.



Diocesan Catechist Day – Portsmouth Diocese

Saturday 10 October | 9:30am–1:30pm | St Bede's, Basingstoke

Whether you are a parish catechist, sacramental preparation leader, RCIA team member, children's liturgy volunteer, youth catechist, or involved in any faith formation ministry, you are warmly invited to the Portsmouth Diocese Catechists' Formation Day.

To register your interest please go to

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/RFGROzEzDh> or email

Meghan on ffm@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Saturday 17th October: Formation Day for Readers:

It is not too late to sign up for the Formation Day for Readers being organised by the Diocesan Liturgy Team at the Pastoral Centre in Winchester. All the details can be found on the attached PDF. Anyone wishing to attend is kindly asked to email liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org

Saturday 31st October, 9:30am – 1:30pm: Portsmouth Diocese Parish Evangelisation Cell Formation Day at Christ the King, Reading. To register and to get more information please click here, or email ffm@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

Saturday 14th November - Charity Mass and Networking day, St Bede's Church, Basingstoke. The theme is 'The Lord is the refuge of the poor' (Psalm 14:6). An event for anyone engaged in or interested in finding out more about social action. See this [flyer](#) for more information. Please [register your interest](#) so we can send more details closer to the time. Keep up to date by signing up to receive our [newsletter](#), or put love into action and become a [Caritas Representative](#) in your parish.

Other News

Farnborough Hill – Open Morning

Families are warmly invited to the school's Open Morning on Thursday 1 October at 9.00am. This is an excellent opportunity for parents and girls to experience life at Farnborough Hill, with interactive lessons and activities across the curriculum. Families will

also hear from Headmistress Mrs Maria Young and have the opportunity to explore the school, including its magnificent chapel.

Salesian College Autumn Open Events

College Open Evening - Wednesday 21 October, 5pm -7pm

Families will be able to tour the College, meet staff and students, and gain a flavour of life at Salesian through our warm Salesian welcome.



Retrouvaille

MARRIAGE IN A RUT? Or need help with deeper issues? Retrouvaille has helped thousands of couples find hope and healing in their marriage. Next dates: 2nd - 4th Oct.
www.retrouvaille.org.uk/info Tel: 0788 7296983

Preparing Together Marriage Course

Corpus Christi Catholic will be hosting a new in-person Preparing Together Day on Saturday 17th October 2026
60 Sturges Road, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG40 2HE
For more information, please visit their website.
If you know couples who may struggle to access the course due to low English/literacy, Traveller community needs, or financial difficulties, please ask them to call our Appointments Service on 0800 389 3801, Monday–Thursday, 9am–6pm, to book.

General News

Gift Aid – Further Details

As mentioned in this week's newsletter, if you are a UK taxpayer, please consider signing up for Gift Aid. The parish can reclaim 25p for every £1 you donate, at no extra cost to you. Gift Aid forms are available at the back of both churches, or simply scan the QR code to complete one online.

If you give by contactless, please remember to register your donation for Gift Aid.

Thank you for helping your donation go further and supporting our parish.



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

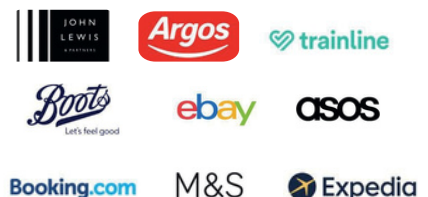
Don't just give the leftovers to God... be generous in your giving

Most parishes aim 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:



Parish Financial Support August First Collections

TOTAL:	5,485.84
Contactless	544.49
Direct Debits	480.00
Plate and envelopes:	2,277.35
Standing Orders	2,184.00



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

<https://www.aldershot-catholics.uk/>

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

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



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