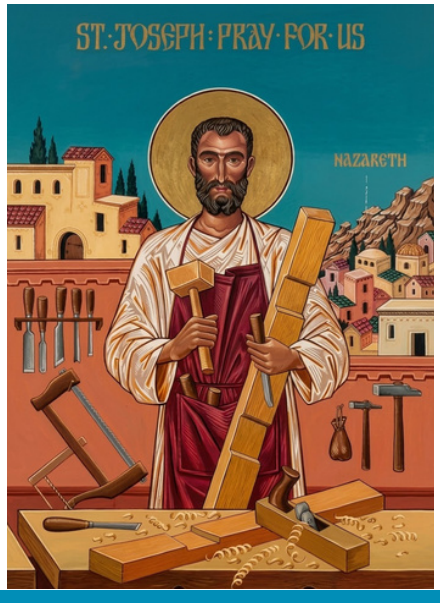
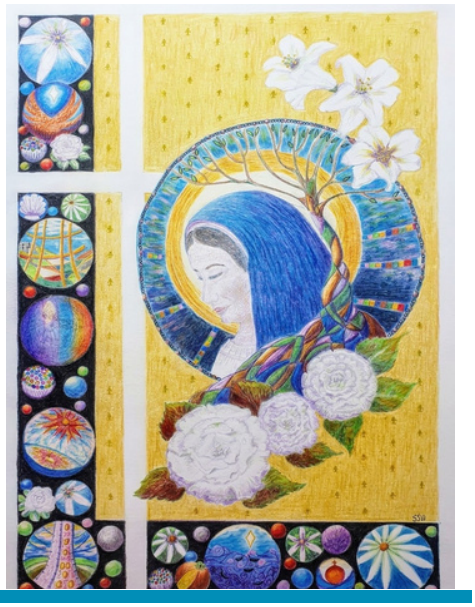


St Joseph's
Queens Road Aldershot
GU11 3JB

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



2ND COLLECTION
1ST NOVEMBER 2026
BAMENDA

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
5th December 2026

Confession adoration introductory prayers and rosary from 11am
Followed by Mass 12 and then final meditation

Votive Candle Offerings

The votive candle money boxes in St Joseph's are now repaired, but those in St Mary's are temporarily out of service.
Please use the contactless payment machine for your offerings.
Thank you for your understanding.

Mass Times
All Saints

Sat	31st	StM	5.30pm		Leia Vaz BDay
Sun	1st	StJ	9.00am		People of the Parish
		StJ	10.30am		All Hallows Sch FM
Mon	2nd	StM	9.30am	Commemoration of ALL SOULS	Pupils of St Joseph's Sch lost in WW2 PM FM
		StJ	7.00pm	Commemoration of ALL SOULS	
Tues	3rd	StJ	9.30am	Feria	Gareth Pereira BDay
Wed	4th	StM	9.30am	St Charles Borromeo	George & Antoynette Hunt RIP
		StJ	7.00pm	**HOLY HOUR**	
Thurs	5th	StJ		**NO MASS**	
Fri	6th			**NO MASS**	
Sat	7th	StJ	12.00pm	Our Lady on Saturday	Hendry Cunha BDay

32nd Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sat	7th	StM	5.30pm		Eldrin & Fatima TG
Sun	8th	StJ	9.00am		Patricia Jordan RIP
		StJ	10.30am		People of the Parish



As we enter the month of November, the liturgy guides our hearts toward a profound and beautiful mystery of our faith. On November 1st, we celebrate the Solemnity of All Saints, followed immediately on November 2nd by the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed, commonly known as All Souls' Day. These two days are not independent calendar events. They are inextricably linked, serving as a powerful window into the reality of who we are as the Mystical Body of Christ.
To understand these days is to understand the three stages of the Church, which, though separated by death, remain in constant, living interaction with one another.

First, there is the Church Militant. That is us, the living faithful here on earth. We are called militant because we are still in the arena, fighting the daily spiritual battle against sin, working out our salvation, and running the race of this earthly life.

Second, we look to the Church Triumphant. These are the saints in heaven whom we honour on All Saints' Day. They have finished the race. They have fought the good fight and now gaze upon the beatific vision of God.

Third, we remember the Church Suffering. These are the holy souls in purgatory whom we commemorate on All Souls' Day. They died in God's friendship but are undergoing a final, merciful purification, stripping away earthly attachments so they may enter the perfect holiness of heaven.
The beautiful truth is that death does not break our bond in Christ. Through the Communion of Saints, a divine economy of prayer flows freely among these three stages. We are radically connected.
Consider the Church Triumphant. The saints in heaven do not sit idly by, detached from our struggles. They are like spectators in a grand stadium, leaning over the railings, cheering us on in our race toward eternal life. They will us to succeed because they love us. Because they are securely home, they are in the perfect position to help us. They intercede for us constantly, bringing our prayers, our weaknesses, and our tears before the throne of the Almighty. When you feel overwhelmed by the trials of this world, remember you have a vast cloud of witnesses lifting you up, praying for your victory.

But this spiritual traffic is a two-way street, and that brings us to our duty on All Souls' Day. Just as the saints intercede for us, we have the immense privilege and solemn obligation to intercede for the souls in purgatory. The holy souls can no longer merit or pray for themselves; they rely entirely on the charity of the Church Triumphant and the Church Militant.

Our prayers can directly assist those on the brink of heaven. Through our actions, by offering the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, praying the Office of the Dead, visiting cemeteries, and gaining indulgences, we can ease their purification and hasten their entry into glory. When we pray for them, we extend a helping hand across the chasm of death, showing a love that is stronger than the grave. And rest assured, when those souls finally enter heaven, they will never forget the prayers we offered for them; they will become our lifelong intercessors before God.

Let us not presume that our departed loved ones instantly bypassed this purification, nor let us despair that they are lost to us. Instead, let us act. I encourage you all to attend Mass on both of these days. Bring the names of your deceased family and friends to the altar. Let us stand firmly in our place as the Church Militant, grateful for the prayers of the saints above, and fiercely committed to praying for our brothers and sisters awaiting their final home.

May the eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. Amen

Fr Rob

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.

Thank You, Fr Jeremy

A sincere thank you to Fr Jeremy, who will be celebrating our Masses this weekend while Fr Rob is away. We are very grateful to him for his kindness and generosity in helping us and ensuring that our parish community continues to be well cared for.

Please note that there will be no Mass on the 5th, as Father will be attending the Clergy Mass at the Cathedral. Thank you for your understanding.

A Huge Thank You – Harvest Dinner

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who attended our Harvest Dinner and helped make it such a wonderful and enjoyable occasion.
We are delighted to share that we **raised £944.69 towards our church funds.** Thank you all for your generosity and support.
A special thank you to everyone who worked so hard behind the scenes to make the day a success, to all the young people who so willingly helped with serving, and to Joely Ryan for providing the entertainment and helping to make the day so enjoyable.
We would also like to thank Mary-Ann Warren and Dee Chalmers for all their help and hard work.
We are truly grateful to everyone who contributed in any way. It is wonderful to see our church family and community coming together, sharing fellowship and supporting our church.
Thank you all for making the Harvest Dinner such a success**!**

Save the Date – Christmas Bazaar! 🎄

Join us on **Sunday 29th November 2026, from 11.30am to 1.30pm** for our Christmas Bazaar!
Come along, enjoy a cuppa and a bacon, sausage or veggie roll, and share some festive cheer with the Aldershot Parish community.
Donations welcome! Please start gathering brand-new or nearly-new gifts, toiletries, bottles, chocolate, Christmas items and toys.
Donation boxes will be available at both churches.
Thank you for your support. We look forward to seeing you there!

Charity Mass and Networking day

Saturday 14th November, 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.

Grave Blessings

November is traditionally a time when we remember our loved ones who have died and gone before us. Each year, around the feasts of All Saints and All Souls, we gather to pray for the faithful departed and to bless their graves. Unfortunately, I will be away this year during the usual weekend of remembrance. Instead, the blessing of graves will take place at **Redan Road Cemetery on Sunday, 8 November, at 12 noon.**
If you would like the grave of a loved one to be blessed individually, please come along and meet me at the cemetery. All are welcome to join us as we remember our loved ones in prayer.

Fr David Mahy RIP

Please pray for the soul of Fr David Mahy who passed away peacefully on Wednesday morning. He had a rich life of service as a priest of Portsmouth Diocese and was the Parish Priest in Aldershot from 2000 to 2012. May He rest in peace.

RCIA – Adult Confirmation

The next RCIA session will take place on **Sunday 8th November 2026 at 3pm in the church hall.**
If you are an adult who has not yet received Confirmation, or would like to deepen your understanding of the Catholic faith, RCIA offers a welcoming opportunity to learn, ask questions and grow in faith as you prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation.
If you are interested in joining or would like further information, please speak to Father and register your interest.

Volunteers Needed for Christmas

We are looking for three volunteers to help welcome people to our parish at Christmas, when our Masses are especially busy.
A warm, friendly welcome can make all the difference! We have one Mass on Christmas Eve and two on Christmas morning.
If you can help at one of these Masses, please contact the parish office by email or telephone.
Thank you for helping make our parish welcoming to everyone this Christmas!

🎧 Missed Sunday's Homily? Want to Listen Again?

Our Sunday homilies are available to listen to anytime! Catch up on something you missed, revisit a message that spoke to you, or share it with a friend. Listen on our parish website or through Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Amazon Music and YouTube Music.
👉 **Listen here: https://www.aldershot-catholics.uk/podcast Take Sunday's message into the rest of your week!**

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.

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.









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|AccountNo: 00873072

Parish Financial Support Sept First Collections	
TOTAL:	**6,835.20**
Contactless	**713.00**
Direct Debits	**480.00**
Plate and envelopes:	**3,138.20**
Standing Orders	**2,504.00**

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:

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"