

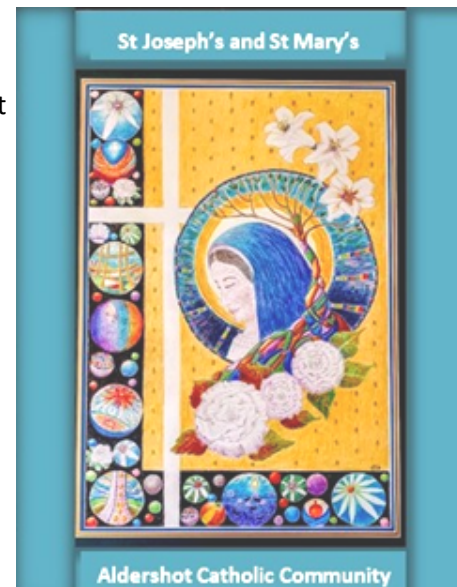


St Joseph's
Queens Road Aldershot GU11 3JB

St Mary's
Belle Vue Road Aldershot GU12 4RX

T: 01252 320956
E: office@aldershot-catholics.uk
W: www.aldershot-catholics.uk
Facebook: /AldershotCatholics
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Office Opening Hours
Monday - 10am - 2.30pm
Wednesday 10am - 2.30pm
Thurs 10am - 2pm



2ND COLLECTION
4TH OCTOBER 2026
CAFOD

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.

Mass Times

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
Mon	5th	StM	9.30am	St Faustina Kowalska	Collins Family
Tues	6th	StJ	9.30am	Feria	Cruz & Sophia Silveira TG
Wed	7th	StM	9.30am	Our Lady of the Rosary	Hayden Pereira BDay
		StJ	7.00pm	HOLY HOUR	
Thurs	8th	StJ	9.30am	Feria	Kenzen Vaz TG
Fri	9th		NO MASS		
Sat	10th	StJ	12.00pm	Feria	Melba Cruz Bday

28th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sat	10th	StM	5.30pm		Benedita & Felicidade Fernandes RIP
Sun	11th	StJ	9.00am		People of the Parish
		StJ	10.30am		Thomas Dunlop RIP



Today we listen to a powerful and challenging parable from the Gospel of Matthew. Jesus speaks to us of a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. He leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time came, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves, beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Finally, he sent his son to them, saying, "They will respect my son." But the tenants saw the son and plotted to kill him to inherit his estate.

This scripture is a mirror held up to our own hearts and our own world. God is the landowner, and this beautiful, fragile world, along with our very lives, is the vineyard he has meticulously prepared and entrusted to us. He did not leave us empty-handed. He gave us everything we need to thrive, to grow, and to bear good fruit. Yet, the tragedy of the human condition, which this parable exposes so rawly, is our persistent tendency to forget that we are merely tenants, not owners.

In our daily lives, this forgetfulness manifests in how we treat our blessings. We easily slip into the mindset that our time, our talents, our wealth, and even the people in our lives belong entirely to us. We build our own kingdoms, guard our boundaries, and hoard our resources. When God sends his messengers to us, perhaps in the form of the poor, the lonely, or the voice of our own conscience, we often reject them. We close our hearts because we do not want to give up what we have convinced ourselves is ours.

The next effort of the landowner in this parable is the sending of the son. In our Catholic faith, we know this son is Jesus Christ. God loved the world so much that he sent his only Son, knowing how humanity treats his messengers, yet offering him anyway out of radical, unconditional love. We crucify him anew whenever we reject the truth, whenever we choose hatred over love, and whenever we live as though God does not matter.

Jesus concludes this teaching with a sobering warning: the kingdom of God will be taken away from those who do not produce its fruits and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. This is where the Gospel demands a change from us. It is a direct call to look closely at our lives and ask ourselves: what kind of fruit am I producing? If God were to come today to collect the harvest of my life, what would he find?

To live as God calls us to live based on this Gospel, we must undergo a profound shift in perspective. We must move from a mindset of ownership to one of stewardship. Stewardship means recognising that everything we have is a gift on loan from God, meant to be used for his glory and the good of others. We are called to look at how we use our time, treasure and talents.

What might we have to change? First, we may need to change our relationship with material possessions and status. If we are clinging to our wealth or our comfort at the expense of charity and justice, we are acting like the unfaithful tenants. We need to open our hands and share generously. Second, we may need to change how we spend our time. Are we dedicating time to prayer, to our families, and to serving our community, or are we consuming all our hours on self-preservation and entertainment? Finally, we must change how we treat the modern-day prophets God sends into our lives. When someone challenges us to be more forgiving, more patient, or more just, do we shut them out, or do we listen with humility?

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
18TH OCTOBER 2026
MISSIO - WORLD MISSION

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/RFGR0zEzDh> 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.

Simply Prayers Books

We are very grateful to a kind parishioner who has purchased and generously donated these Simply Prayers books for use within the church.

The books can be found at the back of the church and are available for everyone to use during their time here. Please do not take them away from the church, as they have been donated for the benefit of all our parishioners.

If you would like your own copy, you can purchase one from the Repository, where you will also find a wide selection of other religious books, cards, gifts and resources. Thank you for helping us to keep these books available for everyone to enjoy and use.



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.

You can also make payment via the machine at the back to the church. We hope you can join us!

RCIA – Adult Confirmation

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) the next session will be on Sunday 11th October 2026 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.

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.



Other News

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.

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.

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

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"

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.



Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth - Gift Aid Declaration Form



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

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:













