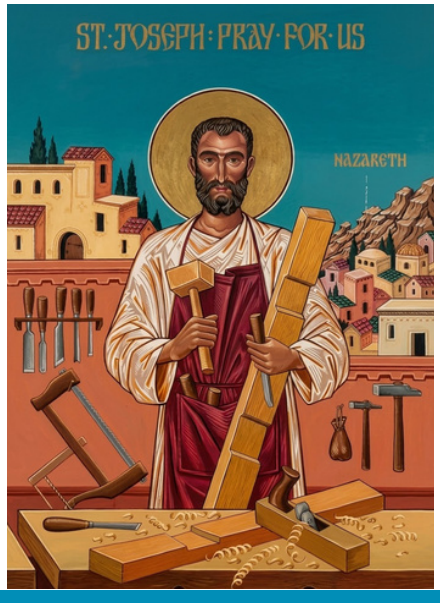
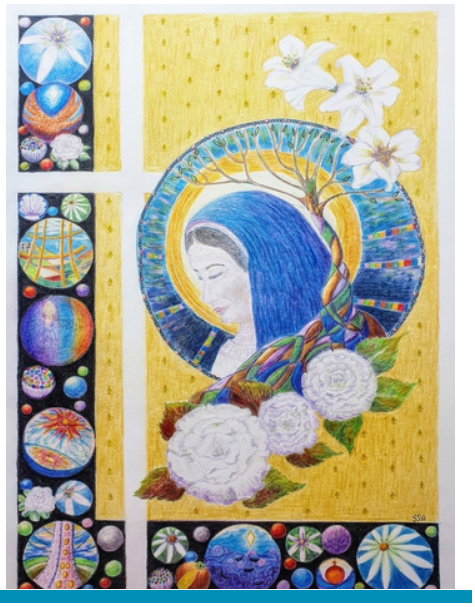


St Joseph's
Queens Road Aldershot
GU11 3JB

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
15TH NOVEMBER 2026
PRIESTS' RETIREMENT FUND

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

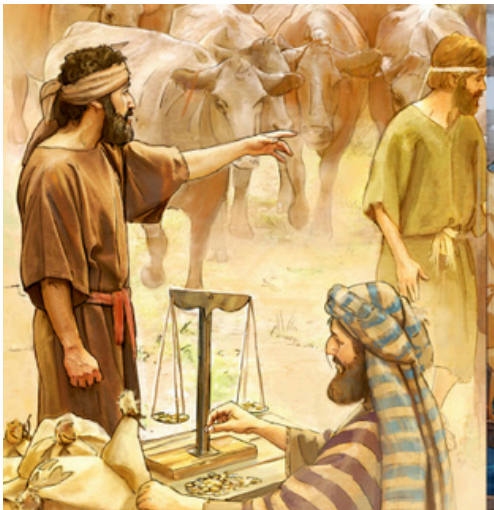
Some votive candle money boxes are temporarily out of service. Please use the contactless payment machine for your votive candle offerings until repairs are completed. Thank you for your understanding.

Mass Times
33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sat	14th	StM	5.30pm		People of the Parish
Sun	15th	StJ	9.00am		Bincy Philip
		StJ	10.30am		Anthony Kane RIP
Mon	16th	StM	9.30am	St Edmund of Abingdon	World Peace
Tues	17th	StJ	9.30am	Feria	Fiijac Family RIP
Wed	18th	StM	9.30am	Dedication of te Basilicasof St Peter &St Paul, Rome	
		StJ	7.00pm	**HOLY HOUR**	
Thurs	19th	StJ	9.30am	Feria	Collins Family
Fri	20th			**NO MASS**	
Sat	21st	StJ	12.00pm	The Presentation of The Blessed Virgin Mary	Davis RD RIP

Christ the King

Sat	21st	StM	5.30pm		
Sun	22nd	StJ	9.00am		People of the Parish
		StJ	10.30am		Bonifacio Parrozo RIP





This Sunday's readings invite us to think about what we do with the life and gifts entrusted to us. They speak of work, watchfulness and responsibility. Read together, they also raise a question about fear; does it help us live with care and love, or does it hold us back from doing the good we could do? The Catechism of the Church distinguishes between two sorts of fear. The first is servile fear, which is the fear of a slave frightened of punishment and is not the mature Christian motivation for obedience, it is the fear that is exemplified by the third servant in the Gospel. The second sort of fear, filial fear, is driven by love. It is not a fear of punishment but a fear of offending the one we love and of being unable to respond appropriately to one who has loved us first. This is the fear of the perfect wife in the first reading and of the first two servants in the Gospel, and as the psalm tells us this is a great blessing.

The readings do not ask us to become extraordinary people. They ask us to be faithful in the ordinary opportunities before us: to notice someone in need, to use our abilities generously and to stay awake to God's call. That kind of faithfulness can begin with one small step.

In the first reading, the perfect wife is praised for what she does. She works with skill, provides for her household and reaches out to the poor and needy. Her worth is not measured by appearance or status, but by the faithful care she gives and the good she brings about. Her perfection is not a claim that she never makes a mistake. It is seen in a life shaped by devotion, generosity and reverence for God. Scripture tells us that the Church, and therefore all its members, is the bride of Christ. This reading can be seen as a call for us to find holiness in ordinary things so that Jesus may recognise the Church as a bride worthy of praise at the gateways of heaven.

- Where do you see faithful care making a difference in your everyday life?
- Is there someone in need whom you could notice or support this week?

In the second reading, St Paul writes about the day of the Lord coming unexpectedly, like a thief in the night. His message is not that Christians should live anxiously, scanning the horizon for danger. He encourages them to live as people of the light: awake, alert and ready. To be awake in this sense is to pay attention to how we are living now. The reading reminds me of a story about a group of terrified monks who go running to their abbot asking for advice because they believe they have seen signs of the Second Coming. The wise advice of the abbot is to "look busy"! The story makes us smile, but Paul's message is more serious: readiness is not about looking busy. It is about being awake to God and to one another, today.

- Do we have the same sense of urgency as St. Paul in our spiritual lives?
- Are we putting off until later the things we should be doing now?

In the Gospel the generous master, who represents God, entrusts his servants with vast amounts of wealth before going away. Two servants put what they have received to work. The third, afraid, buries his talent in the ground. The master is extraordinarily generous; a single talent corresponds to over fifteen years of wages. When he returns, he doesn't come to collect the money, in fact he declares the money to be a small thing. The master is more interested in faithfulness; he is not looking to punish but looking to extend a beautiful invitation for his servants to enter his joy.

Despite this generosity, the third servant describes the master as harsh. His fear seems to have shaped how he sees the master, and that view shapes what he does: he hides the gift rather than using it. The parable invites us to notice how fear can work in our own lives. Our challenge is to overcome the fear that prevents us from moving forward and instead look for opportunities to share the love of the Father.

- Can I identify one opportunity to do something good that I am avoiding because of fear?
- What is one small step I could take this week to use my gifts in the service of someone else?

Let us become people who are more afraid of missing an opportunity to love than of risking failure. And may we too one day hear those wonderful words: "Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master."

Many blessings,

Deacon Paul

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
29TH NOVEMBER 2026
PACT

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!

Volunteers Needed for Christmas

With Christmas fast approaching, we are still looking for three volunteers to help welcome people to our parish during this very busy and special time of year.
A friendly face and a warm welcome can make such a difference, especially to those who may be visiting us for the first time.
We have one Mass on Christmas Eve and two on Christmas morning, and would be very grateful for anyone who could spare some time to help at one of these services.
If you are able to help, please contact the parish office by email or telephone. Thank you for your support in helping us make everyone feel welcome this Christmas!

Advent Media & Storytelling Project (Starting Sunday 29 November)

During the four Sundays of Advent and Christmas, we will be capturing discreet photography and video across our parish to celebrate our liturgy and community life, and to build a media library for parish outreach. All filming will be carried out reverently and unobtrusively. Clear signage and a designated camera-free seating area will be available at every Mass for anyone who prefers not to appear on camera.

Join the Parish AV Team: Are you interested in photography, video, or media editing? We would love to form a small parish audio-visual team. Please text or WhatsApp Jason Clark on 07973 461611 (or say hello after Mass), or contact the parish office at office@aldershot-catholics.uk.

🎧 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!**

RCIA – Adult Confirmation

The next RCIA session will take place on **Sunday 22nd November 2026 at 3pm in the church.**
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.

Funeral Mass for Fr David Mahy

The Funeral Mass for David M will be held on Monday, 30th November 2026, at 12.15 pm at St John's Catholic Cathedral, Bishop Crispian Way, Portsmouth, Hampshire, PO1 3HG.
Family and friends are warmly invited to come together to celebrate his life and pray for the repose of his soul. May he rest in peace

Parish Office Closure

The parish office will be closed during the week commencing 15th, as Frances will be away. Please do not hesitate to send an email if you have any queries, and these will be dealt with on her return. Thank you for your understanding.

Leeks for Leaks
Raising £500 for the repair of St. Joseph's hall roof

We found a leak above the hall,
The drippy sort - no leek at all!
It wasn't fit for Sunday lunch;
We've fixed it now, it cost a bunch!
Donate some good fresh leeks today,
And watch our funding gap fade away.
Donate a leek's worth, big or small,
To help us keep our parish hall!



£28 = 10 kg of leeks
10 donors needed

£14 = 5 kg of leeks
10 donors needed

£6 = 2 kg of leeks
15 donors needed

Scan Here to Donate

Every little helps, give whatever you can, and please tick the Gift Aid option if you are eligible

Hire Our Church Hall

LLooking for a welcoming space for your next event? Our church hall is available to hire for meetings, coffee mornings, family activities, celebrations, dance groups, baby showers, christenings and more.

Scan the QR code to complete the request form



Upcoming Christmas Masses

As we look forward to celebrating the joy of Christmas, please make a note of our upcoming Mass times at St Joseph's:

Thursday 24th December – Christmas Eve
Midnight Mass
Friday 25th December – Christmas Day
9:00 am Mass
10:30 am Mass
Saturday 26th December – Feast of St Stephen
11:00 am Mass

Everyone is warmly invited to join us as we celebrate this special and joyful season together.

General News

Gift Aid – Further Details

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 Oct First Collections	
TOTAL:	6006.88
Contactless	607.50
Direct Debits	480
Plate and envelopes:	2,400.38
Standing Orders	2,519.00

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 · COMMUNITY GRUB HUB

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"