

St Aldhelms Roman Catholic Church



St. Aldhelm's Newsletter

Father Thomas Kulandaisamy MSFS
Deacon Steve Boughton

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26 Cross Hayes, Malmesbury, Wilts, SN16 9BG

I Sunday of Lent, 9 March 2025

Live Webcam Link for all our Masses

churchservices.tv/malm

To Make your Weekly Contribution Online

<https://www.saintaldhelms.com/donate>

New Parish Hall Project

saintaldhelms.com/new-


Wednesday Word


www.wednesdayword.org

St Joseph's School Website

[st-josephs-malmesbury.](http://st-josephs-malmesbury)



 [Rosary prayers
Oct24.docx](#)

 [Reflections for the
Mysteries of The Rosary
Oct24 \(1\).docx](#)

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Aldhelm's,

We hope you are ok wherever you are. We are delighted to be in touch with you through this newsletter.

We extend a warm welcome to all visitors and thank you for joining us in celebrating the Lord's love for us in the Holy Eucharist. There are no strangers here, just new friends you have not yet met!

Readings Summarised

The first reading describes the Jewish ritual of presenting first fruits during the harvest festival to thank God for His deliverance and strength. The Responsorial Psalm (Ps 91) reflects Satan's temptation of Jesus in the desert. In the second reading, St. Paul urges early Christians not to return to Jewish laws but to embrace salvation through the risen Jesus. Scholars believe the temptations of Jesus in the Gospels represent His inner struggle against temptations throughout His life. The devil sought to stop Jesus from fulfilling His mission of saving humanity through sacrifice, tempting Him to misuse His power and avoid suffering.

Contactless card machine in porch

A few parishioners have reported problems with the contactless machine. We contacted the DCP people. They replied that there was an issue that occurred with our digital collection plate (DCP). It appears that from 26th January to 1st March, the device was operating in offline mode, meaning that any donations made during this period were stored but not immediately processed.

When the DCP reconnected to the internet on 1st March, all previously stored donations were synced and processed at once. As a result, some donors may have noticed multiple charges on their bank accounts. They assured us that these are not duplicate payments but rather donations made earlier that had not yet been collected. The system is now operating correctly, and all future donations should be processed in real time. If you are still experiencing any issues, please do not hesitate to contact Tony or Sheila, who will be happy to assist you.

Spring Raffle

As you are aware, our next fundraising effort is spring raffle 🌸🎡. Thanks to our generous donors, we have some fantastic prizes. On 22nd & 23rd March, we'll distribute envelopes after Mass, each containing 3 books of raffle tickets (£10 per book / £2 per ticket). Sell what you can—every ticket helps! Please return money, stubs, and unsold tickets by Sunday, 11th May. The Grand Draw takes place on Sunday, 18th May after the 10am Mass. More details will be shared soon.

Collection

Loose £225.02

Env NGA £ 20.00

Env GA £ 26.00

SECOND COLLECTION - CAFOD Lent Fast Day Collection (16 March 2025)

CAFOD (Catholic Agency for Overseas Development) is the official overseas development and relief agency of the Catholic Church in England and Wales. Cafod state: "As a member of the Caritas International Federation, we play a vital role in the world's largest network of relief and development organisations, which enables us and our supporters to make a real and lasting difference. The cornerstone of CAFOD's income is the funding we receive from the Catholic Community whose generosity and compassion makes it possible for us to help many thousands of people to transform their lives. CAFOD's two Fast Days – at Lent and Harvest – are times when the whole of the Catholic Community joins together and with CAFOD stands alongside people in need, sharing resources and uniting in prayer to build a better, fairer, and more compassionate world."

www.cafod.org.uk/

Pray for Pope Francis

Please keep Pope Francis in your prayers as he faces illness, asking the Lord to grant him strength, healing, and comfort. Let us pray that he recovers swiftly and is blessed with the grace to persevere in his service to God's people.

Spiritual Adoption

The Spiritual Adoption is a powerful prayer for those children who are in danger of death in the womb of their mothers. The Adoption starts with the oath taken in church usually on (or close to) Annunciation Day and lasts for nine months till Christmas. In this time you say one decade of the Rosary each day and a daily prayer for your adopted child. You can also decide to do some extra spiritual exercise or an additional resolution, but this is optional.

We do not know who our child is or where she or he might live. Only God knows his or her name. (You can give your child a name of your choice though, so that you feel closer.) Everyone can adopt a child - men and women of every walk of life, even children - providing they are mature enough to keep praying for 9 months.

The Spiritual Adoption has started in our parish three years ago and we would like to keep up this good work. This year we will take the oath on 23rd March at 10.00 Mass. If you would like to volunteer and save a life or you just need more information please contact Dora Smereczynska on 07448573976 or e-mail: dorota.smer@gmail.com.

You can also see our parish website to learn more about the subject:

saintaldhelms.com/even

'Where are you staying?'

John 1:38

COME AND SEE WEEKENDS 2025

Friday 30th May to Monday 2nd June
Friday 8th August to Monday 11th August



We are **CISTERCIAN NUNS** at
HOLY CROSS ABBEY,

Whitland, Pembrokeshire, SA34 0QX,

inviting single Catholic women ages 25 — 45
who are discerning a vocation, to experience our monastic life
during one of the above weekends.

www.hcawhitland.co.uk

**Any enquiries and registration, please email us at
comeandseehca@gmail.com**

Welcome to Diocesan Curia Day! Join us on Sat, Mar 29, 2025 at St Brendan's Sixth Form College for a day filled with learning, networking, and enjoyment. Doors open from 9:30am with pastries and refreshments. The event will begin at 9.45am and finish at 2.30pm.

The event is for parishes and volunteers to meet with members of the Curial departments and attend a variety of presentations and workshops.

When registering, please select one workshop in each slot that you wish to attend, so that we can manage numbers.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to expand your knowledge and make new friends. See you there!

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/diocesan-curia-day-tickets-1204885267269?aff=oddtcreator>

Annual Pilgrimage to Glastonbury: Sunday 7th September 2025:

“Mary, Woman of Hope”

This year's pilgrimage will take place on Sunday, 7th September 2025 and will be centred around the theme of 'Mary, Woman of Hope', aligning with the Jubilee Year's theme of “Pilgrims of Hope.”

As well as the usual Rosary Procession around Glastonbury town centre in the afternoon, there will be an additional Procession in the morning to celebrate the Jubilee from the Abbey grounds to the top of Glastonbury Tor.

cliftondiocese.com/new

2025 Lourdes Pilgrimage

The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from Friday 22nd August to Friday 29th August 2025.

As usual, we shall be part of the Catholic Association Pilgrimage. Tagney tours will be dealing with bookings, hotels and flight bookings. Details are yet to be finalised, but we shall be travelling from Birmingham airport direct to Tarbes-Lourdes airport.

These dates are confirmed, but please check back here soon for booking details.

If you would like to contact Fr Eugene about the pilgrimage, please do so here:

lourdes@cliftondiocese

The Pilgrimage will have a full programme including:-

Mass each day, including Mass at the Grotto Massabielle

Visits to the Grotto

Service of Reconciliation

Visit to the Baths

Water Gesture

Jubilee 2025 Meditation Walk

Stations of the Cross

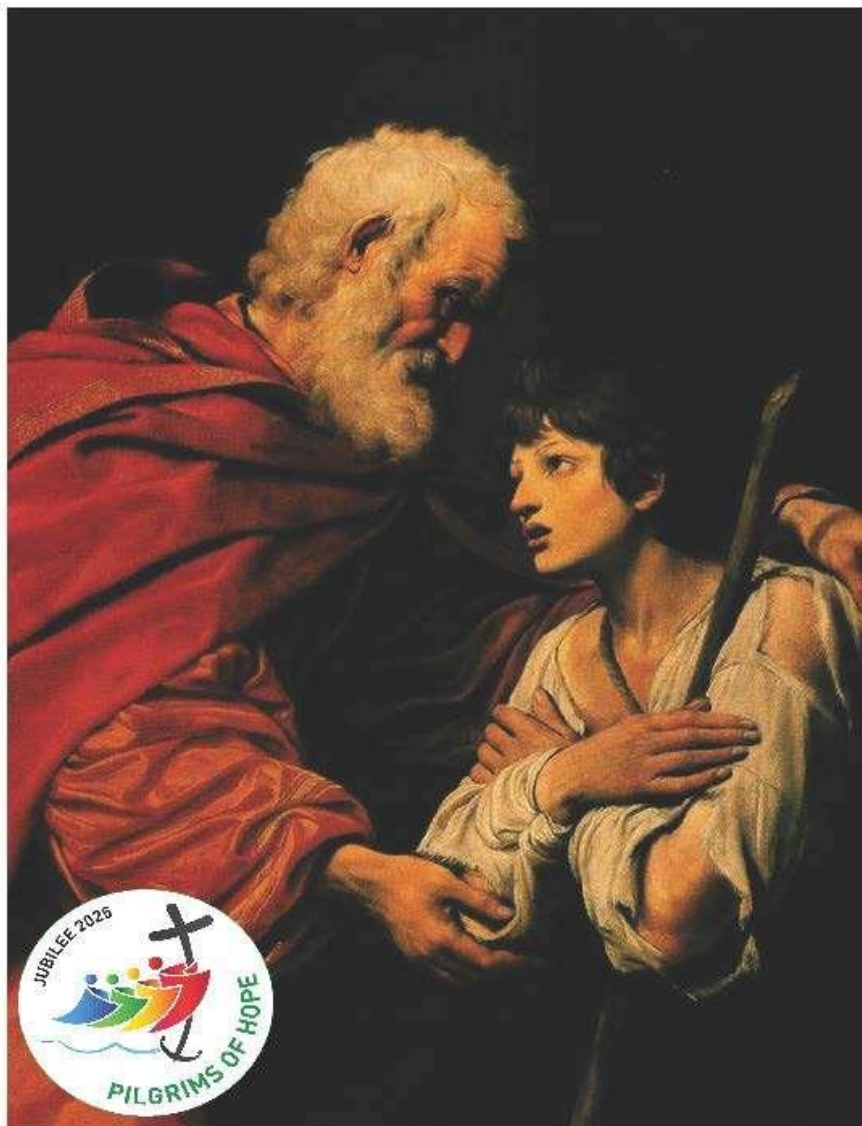
Diocesan Day to Bartres

Blessed Sacrament Procession

Torchlight Procession

This pilgrimage will also give an opportunity to gain the Jubilee Year Plenary Indulgence, as the Rosary Basilica is a designated 'Jubilee Church'.

LENT 2025



RECONCILIATION

CELEBRATING THE FATHER'S MERCY



A FUTURE full of

HOPE

LENTEN reconciliation

'It is the same compassion with which the Lord comes to meet each one of us. He does not ignore us, he knows our pain, he knows how much we need help and comfort. He comes close and never abandons us.'
Pope Francis, General Audience, 27 April 2016

Bishop Bosco invites you to join him during this season of Lent to celebrate the abundant mercy of God through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Join him at one of the five venues across our diocese as part of your Lenten Pilgrimage.

RECONCILIATION LITURGIES

Thursday 13 March
Immaculate Conception, Stroud

Thursday 20 March
St Peter, Swindon

Thursday 27 March
St Gregory the Great, Cheltenham

Thursday 3 April
St George, Taunton

Thursday 10 April
St Francis, Nailsea

Each Liturgy will start at 7pm



CAR PARKING AT ST PETER'S SWINDON FOR THE PASTORAL AREA PENITENTIAL SERVICE 20th MARCH:

Please note: Although there is car parking at St Peter's the number of spaces is limited and it would be good if these spaces can be kept for more senior attendees or those with disabled badges. The small car park on the right will be for less mobile attendees. There will be car parking marshals on duty and we would respectfully ask that you pay heed to them. If you can walk we would respectfully ask that you park in ASDA Car park. Permission has been given to park there. If you visit our website

<https://www.stpeters-swindon.com> and scroll down there is a map showing the walking route from car park C in ASDA to St Peter's Church. It is no more than a 3 minute walk. PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS!

Masses Requested

8 March Sat 6.30: Private Intention

9 March Sun 8.30am: Missa pro populo

10 March Mon: For the intentions of Val.

Uncover the treasures of faith:

"Man's search for God is hindered by many challenges, including ignorance, suffering, and sin. Yet God, in His mercy, continually draws man to Himself, allowing us to glimpse His presence in creation and hear His voice in our hearts, enabling us to overcome these difficulties through faith."

Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 37

PS: Newsletter items to be in by Thursday noon (malmesbury.staldhelm@cliftondiocese.com)

Please do join us for coffee on Sunday after 10am mass, and on Thursdays after 10am mass.

With every blessing

Father Thomas and Deacon Steve

