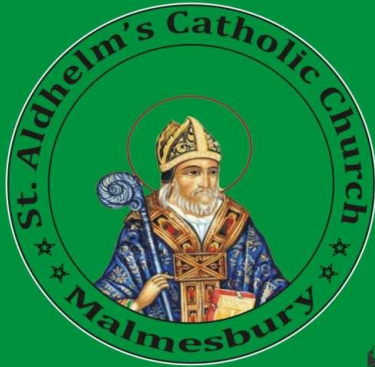


# St. Aldhelm's Newsletter



Father Thomas Kulandaisamy MSFS  
Deacon Steve Boughton

 - [www.saintaldhelms.com](http://www.saintaldhelms.com)  
 - <https://www.facebook.com/saintaldhelm>  
 - Aldhelms RC Malmesbury  
 - [malmesbury.staldhelm@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:malmesbury.staldhelm@cliftondiocese.com)  
 - 01666 822195  
26 Cross Hayes, Malmesbury, Wilts, SN16 9BG

**XXVII Sunday in OT, 5 Oct 2025**

**Live Webcam Link for all our Masses**  
[churchservices.tv/malm](http://churchservices.tv/malm)


**To Make your Weekly Contribution Online**  
<https://www.saintaldhelms.com/donate>


**New Parish Hall Project**  
[saintaldhelms.com/new-](http://saintaldhelms.com/new-)

**Wednesday Word**  
[www.wednesdayword.org](http://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 this Sunday**

The readings present Faith as trust in God, hope in

suffering, and steadfast loyalty to His Covenant. The prophet affirms that Faith gives access to Divine power, enabling the just to live righteously amid evil. The Psalm praises God as Rock and Shepherd, worthy of trust. Paul describes Faith as acceptance of Jesus, fulfilment of God's promises, and stresses living fidelity to Christ's teaching handed on through the Church. Faith is belief in revealed truth grounded in God's authority; Hope is trust in Him. In the Gospel, Jesus teaches that even a little genuine Faith allows God to work wonders. What matters is not the quantity but the quality of our Faith. Through the master-servant parable, Jesus shows that true Faith must be joined to obedience, commitment, and readiness to serve God's will wholeheartedly.

### **A Triple Celebration!**

It's a great joy to share that Frank Gilchrist will be celebrating his 80th birthday on Sunday 5th October — and even more special, it falls on the same day as Hilary's birthday! As if that wasn't enough, this year also marks their Golden Wedding Anniversary. We will have the Mass offered for their intentions that day, giving thanks to God for the many blessings in their lives. That's three celebrations in one morning — birthday, birthday, and anniversary.

### **Collections 29/9/25**

Loose        £137.30

Env NGA    £ 32.00

Env GA     £ 10.00

**!Please note:** There will be no weekday Masses this week. However, there will be Morning Prayer on Monday 6th October and Thursday 9th October.

### **SECOND COLLECTION, WORLD MISSION SUNDAY (MISSIO), 19 Oct 2025**

The Association for the Propagation of the Faith (APF) assists each one of the Catholic Church's 1,062 mission dioceses and territories to provide pastoral care and preach the Gospel effectively. The APF works in England and Wales with the Mill Hill Missionary Society. In England and Wales funds for the Missions are collected through the famous Red collection Boxes. These can be found in 200,000 homes and they have helped raise millions of pounds for the missions. The APF enables its supporters to live out their own missionary vocation and to take an active part in the universal mission of the Church.

[www.missio.org.uk](http://www.missio.org.uk)

**The Sisters of St. Joseph** are celebrating the 350th Anniversary of their Foundation on October 15th. To mark this milestone in their history there will be Mass of Thanksgiving at 2pm that day in St David's Church Pontnewydd. Please pray for the Sisters. This is the link for live streaming the Mass

<https://ourladyoftheangels.org.uk/our-lady-live-stream/> Scroll down the page to reach

St David's livestream

**Link to the photos** of diaconal ordination of Remi on 20th Sep Sat:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/99383331@N05/albums/72177720329251579/>

### **Funeral Details for Mary Familton**

The funeral for Mary Familton will take place on Thursday, 16th October at 12 noon. We pray for the repose of her soul and hold her family in our thoughts and prayers.

### **Volunteers Needed – Our ‘Holy Scrubbers’**

A big thank you to David and Josie, who kindly lead the church cleaning team. They’ve long been affectionately known as our “scrubbers”, but did you know they’ve recently been renamed the “Holy Scrubbers” (with invisible halos included)?

They could really do with a few more helping hands. If some young families were able to join in, it would be especially welcome, many hands make light work. If you’d like to help or find out more, please have a chat with David or Josie (01666826266). God bless them for their cheerful service!

**School for Synodality UK invites!** - the Final Document of the Synod Assembly was wide ranging and inspirational, and it's time to progress to the next steps at grass-roots level as we seek to embed synodality in our everyday Catholic life and culture.

In June 2025, the Vatican released a guiding document called [Pathways for the Implementation Phase of the Synod](#). This highlighted some key areas of focus: such as widening the interest and investment in synodality, finding more effective ways to listen to those on the margins, and reflecting on the rapidly changing nature of parish life. Bishop Bosco is keen for Clifton Diocese to engage fully with the implementation phase, and we are encouraged to join the School for Synodality live on Saturday 18th October to explore all this and more, with prayer, small group sharing, testimony, and keynote speaker Bishop Brendan Leahy of the Limerick Diocese in Ireland. As ever, when the School for Synodality community gathers, there will be plenty to challenge and inspire us. Come Holy Spirit!

Pathways for Implementation: next steps on our synod journey - Saturday 18 Oct 2025, 11am - 1:30pm.

For the link to this important event go to SfS Website: [schoolforsynodality.org](https://schoolforsynodality.org) or click on the following link: [Select tickets – Pathways for Implementation: next steps on our synod journey – Zoom](#)

### **St. Joseph’s School news**

Mr Bacon is now working reduced hours this term as the Headteacher at St Joseph’s pending his retirement in December. Mrs Sharon Carpenter has been appointed by governors to work alongside him in a temporary position until Christmas. The governors are working with the diocese to recruit a new headteacher for January 2026. We send them our prayers for a successful appointment.

The new school year started well at St Joseph’s when the children celebrated Mass in church on Wednesday 10th September. The children once again took part in the Mass through their confident readings and beautiful singing. Fr. Thomas led a homily on the

canonisation of St. Carlo Acutis. The children then honoured St Carlo through placing flowers by the stained glass window at the end of Mass.

St Joseph's is looking for volunteers who would be willing to give a few hours each week to hear readers at school. Please contact the school on 01666 822331 to register your interest.

**Starting School?** If you have a child born between **1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022**, then **now** is the time to apply for a place at a primary school for admission from **September 2026** onwards. You must complete an application form that is available from the school admissions team of the **Wiltshire Council**. If your child has been baptised and you are applying for a Catholic school, you **must** also provide a copy of the baptism certificate to the school. Please ensure you apply by the closing date of **15 January 2026**.

### **September CRC Recruitment Campaign**

Interested in training and volunteering as a Relationship Counsellor with Marriage Care? We are a Catholic organisation specialising in relationship support and are currently looking for those who would be interested in training via our Certificate in Relationship Counselling (CRC) course. We are reaching out early to give you the opportunity to benefit from a new and additional pathway we are offering - the option to volunteer with our marriage preparation service prior to the CRC selection. To find out more and to register your interest either for entry at this stage or prior to our CRC selection process in Autumn 2026 please visit: [marriagecare.org.uk](https://marriagecare.org.uk) or email: [volunteer@marriagecare](mailto:volunteer@marriagecare)

### **Race Night**

In collaboration with the Lions Club of Chippenham, we are once again hosting our fundraising event, Race Night, to raise money for our parish hall, just as we did two years ago.

 **Friday 24 October at 7.00pm**

 Malmesbury Town Hall, SN16 9BZ

Tickets are **£10** each and include a **hot supper**. There will also be a bar. It will be a fun evening for everyone, you don't need to know anything about horse racing, just come along, enjoy yourself, and have a laugh with friends.

Tickets will be on sale after all weekend Masses, or you can call Gabrielle (01666 838 391) or Val (01666 822 267).

Come and join us for a good night out and help raise funds for our new Parish Hall at the same time! Here is a sign up button to let us have your expression of interest!

[Race Night](#)

[Sign Up](#)



[24 Oct Fri 7pm](#)

# St Aldhelm's Parish Hall Fund

Presents, in conjunction with  
The Lions Club of Chippenham

## A NIGHT AT THE RACES

"Have A Flutter for Fun & for Fund"



Friday 24 October, 7:00pm,  
Malmesbury Town Hall, SN16 9BZ

Tickets £10 to include Hot Supper  
Bar Available

Gabrielle: 01666 838 391

Val: 01666 822 267

or this QR code



### Malmesbury in Bloom

At last Friday's *Malmesbury in Bloom* awards, St Aldhelm's Church was honoured as the Overall Winner and received *The Soule Cup*. Congratulations to all who worked so



hard to keep our flowers in full bloom and lovingly cared for them, especially Ann Roberts-Phare, Teresa Bromley Gardner, Catherine Doody, and the many others who gave their time and effort.



**Masses Requested:**

4 Oct Sat 6.30pm: Private Intention (Vicki Graham)

5 Oct Sun 8.30am: Private Intention (R.J.P.M Mundy)

5 Oct Sun 10am: For the intentions of Hilary and Frank Gilchrist

**Uncover the treasures of faith:**

"By hope, man desires and awaits from God eternal life as his happiness; he trusts that God will give him the grace he needs to attain it. Hope is the theological virtue by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ's promises." (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, no. 1817)

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

**Retreat Handouts for Weekly Reflection**

During our annual retreat this year our preacher kindly provided a set of handouts, one for each talk, designed to support our personal reflection and prayer. Just sharing with you here in case you find them helpful for your own reflection and meditation.



## Avarice

'Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness,  
for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.'

*Luke 12.15*

'God is the poorest thing  
He stands quite bare and free  
Therefore I say with reason  
Divine is poverty.'

*Angelus Silesius*

### 'Releasement' - Meister Eckhart

=

Letting go of things, world, possessions = poverty

Letting go of others = equanimity, chastity

Letting go of self = humility, self-forgetfulness

Letting go of emotion = 'apatheia', self-mastery

Letting go of willing = poverty of spirit, obedience

'One of the few things I know about writing is this: spend it all, shoot it, play it, lose it, all, right away, every time. Do not hoard what seems good for a later place in the book or for another book; give it, give it all, give it now. The impulse to save something good for a better place later is the signal to spend it now. Something more will arise for later, something better. These things fill from behind, from beneath like well water.'

*Annie Dillard, The Writing Life*

'Remember anyone who sows sparsely will reap sparsely as well  
and anyone who sows generously will reap generously as well.'

*2 Corinthians 9.6*

'God loves a cheerful giver'  
*Proverbs 11.25; 2 Corinthians 9.7*

'I will most gladly spend  
and be spent for your souls.'  
*2 Corinthians 12:15*

'It is more blessed to give  
than to receive.'  
*Saying of Jesus quoted in Acts 20.35*

'Avarice is the compulsion towards control, the urge to be in control now and to overcome the risks that come in an unknown future. It represents a failure to trust in the providence of God. Letting go of the power we long for, letting go of the need for control is what stands over against avarice.' *Rowan Williams*

## Current Month Totals

Number of Viewers	Number of Unique Viewers	Total Time Viewed	1 Min or Less	1 Min to 5 Mins	5 Mins to 1 Hour	1 Hour or More
780	593	406 hrs	220	173	289	98

### Viewers by Country (16 countries)

**united kingdom: 434**

**ireland: 47**

**denmark: 41**

**united states: 32**

**france: 11**

**slovakia (slovak republic): 10**

**canada: 4**

**spain: 3**

**austria: 3**

**germany: 2**

**cyprus: 1**

**italy: 1**

**australia: 1**

**south africa: 1**

**philippines: 1**

**indonesia: 1**

## Current Year Totals

Number of Viewers	Number of Unique Viewers	Total Time Viewed	1 Min or Less	1 Min to 5 Mins	5 Mins to 1 Hour	1 Hour or More
8,287	6,359	4,819 hrs	2,660	1,703	2,756	1,168

### Viewers by Country (54 countries)

**united kingdom:** 5,023

**ireland:** 533

**united states:** 294

**denmark:** 85

**slovakia (slovak republic):** 75

**france:** 66

**spain:** 35

**philippines:** 33

**south africa:** 24

**italy:** 24

**australia:** 16

**germany:** 14

**canada:** 12

**indonesia:** 10

**portugal:** 9

**new zealand:** 9

**poland:** 7

**india:** 6

**united arab emirates:** 6

**singapore:** 6

**hungary:** 5

**trinidad and tobago:** 5

**norway:** 5

**greece:** 4

**sweden:** 4

**nepal:** 4

**maldives:** 4

**austria:** 4

**antigua and barbuda:** 3

**nigeria:** 2

**uganda:** 2

**belgium:** 2

**netherlands:** 2

**brazil:** 2

**morocco:** 2

