

St. Aldhelm's Newsletter



Father Thomas Kulandaisamy MSFS
Deacon Steve Boughton

 - www.saintaldhelms.com

 - <https://www.facebook.com/saintaldhelm>

 - Aldhelms RC Malmesbury

 - malmesbury.staldhelm@cliftondiocese.com

 - 01666 822195

26 Cross Hayes, Malmesbury, Wilts, SN16 9BG

I Sunday of Advent, 30 Nov 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

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



Reflections for
the Mysteries of
The Rosary
Oct24 (1).docx

here, just new friends you have not yet met!

Advent

Today we begin our yearly pilgrimage through the events of Salvation History starting with the preparation for the birthday celebration of Jesus and ending with the reflection the glorious “second coming” of Jesus as our Judge at the end of the world. We are entering the Advent season. Advent means: coming. We are invited to meditate on Jesus’ first coming in history as a baby in Bethlehem, his daily coming into our lives in mystery through the Sacraments, through the Bible, through the worshipping community, and finally, his *Second Coming* at the end of the world to reward the just and to punish the wicked. We see the traditional signs of Advent in our Church: violet vestments and hangings, dried flowers or plain green plants, and the Advent wreath. These signs remind us that we must prepare for the rebirth of Jesus in our hearts and lives, enabling him to radiate his love, mercy, compassion, and forgiveness around us.

Collections (2 weeks)

Loose	£172.00
Env NGA	£ 28.00
Env GA	£ 60.0

Parish History Book

This weekend, we will be releasing our parish history book formally at all Masses. Each parish family will receive a complimentary copy, as this book has been written for the parish and for the benefit of our community; it is not a commercial project.

Additional copies will be available for a suggested donation of £10 to help offset printing and publication costs. Any extra contributions will be gratefully received. The book also makes a lovely Christmas gift for family and friends who have connections to the parish. At Sunday 10am mass, we will have some of the sisters of St Joseph to join us for the release.

Mrs Regina Danek RIP

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Mrs Regina Danek, RIP. Our

thoughts and prayers are with her family at this time. Her funeral service will take place on Tuesday, 16th December, at 11:00 am at St Aldhelm's.

Sad news

It is with great sadness that we share the news that Anthony passed away yesterday (Wednesday, 26 November). Anthony was the beloved husband of Lizzie, daughter of David and Josie. Many of us have been praying earnestly for him throughout his illness, hoping his strength would prevail. But, despite every effort and our deepest prayers, his battle with cancer came to an end far too soon. Our hearts go especially to Lizzie and their three young children, and to Josie and David, and the whole family. Their grief is beyond words, and we hold them very close in our thoughts and prayers at this painful time. It is a sorrow difficult to bear, especially as Anthony leaves us at such a young age. We commend him to the mercy and tenderness of God. May Anthony's soul rest in the loving arms of the Lord, and may God surround his family with comfort, strength, and peace.

John Beresford RIP and Phillip Glover RIP

We pray for the repose of the soul of John Beresford, the father of Sara McNeil's daughter-in-law, who passed away from cancer on 14 November. We also remember Philip Glover, a friend of Sara and known to several of our parishioners, who died on 21 November. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families and with all who knew and loved them. May they rest in the peace and mercy of God.

Aldo Belli RIP

We are saddened to hear of the passing of Aldo, the beloved great-uncle of Benedicte Nicolas. May he rest in the peace of the Lord. Our thoughts and prayers are with Benedicte and the whole family at this difficult time

Jean Hynes RIP

Jean's funeral will take place on the 11th of Dec Thursday at 11am. **Please note there will be no parish mass that day.**

Missio Red Boxes: If you have money in your Red Box please bring it in to be emptied well before Christmas so that the amount can be credited to this year's total.

Alpha Course, Volunteers Welcome

Plans are underway for an Alpha course running from January to March/April 2026, with Wednesday evening sessions (venue in central Malmesbury to be confirmed). Alpha is a relaxed and welcoming series of sessions exploring the basics of the Christian faith, where people can share questions, enjoy conversation, and reflect together over a simple meal.

The Abbey and Hope Church coordinators are working together to bring this to our town, and we are now inviting volunteers to support the course. We especially need help with catering and with prayer support. Rod will be coordinating the catering team, so if you can offer assistance with food preparation or serving on any of the evenings, your help would be greatly appreciated. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Rod: 0782 7777 988/ rodmccormick100@gmail.com.

Expressions of interest for First Holy Communion Sunday 28th June 2026

For parents who may not have seen the recent notice in the parish newsletter, we are requesting final enquiries for children in Yr 3 or above, regarding First Holy Communion preparation. We would like to have a group of at least six children, to run the preparation course from January 2026, usually held weekly term time, after Sunday 10am Mass.

For those interested, please complete the application form [here](#), by Sunday 2nd November, Solemnity of All Saints, or latest: Monday 3rd November, Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day).

Alternatively, for further information, do please introduce yourselves to catechists:

Mary or Annette, after any of the weekend Masses: Saturday 6.30pm; Sunday 8.30am;

Sunday 10am; or to Fr Thomas, or Deacons Remi or Steve. Or email the parish:

malmesbury.staldhelm@cliftondiocese.com. Thank you.

CTiM Christmas Voucher Scheme

Be part of an amazing example of the church in action in our community again!

Churches Together in Malmesbury (CTiM) like to give a Christmas present to low income families in the area, who would struggle to have a few seasonal treats that many of us take for granted, so they can enjoy celebrating this special time of year too and know that the local community cares for them. Our amazing generosity last year provided around 80 local families with vouchers to exchange for food from Aldi. The continued rise in the cost of food means we are expecting many families will rely on these vouchers again.

If you would like to contribute, donations can be made in any of these ways:

- directly to Malmesbury Abbey Parish Office in Holloway. Please put your donation (cash or cheques) in an envelope kept in the porch and put it through the presbytery letterbox
- online payment to Malmesbury Abbey [Sort Code 40-31-07 Account 41488839]

with the reference 'Christmas Vouchers'. Do GiftAid if possible

- putting your envelope into any of the Sunday service collections, clearly marked 'CTiM Christmas Vouchers'.

Donations can be made any time from Saturday 1st November to Sunday 30th November.

Thank you for helping to make sure this event continues to be a great local success!

If anyone wishes to make a donation by cheque, then this is the process to follow:

- Make any cheques out to Malmesbury Abbey PCC as the payee
- Put 'CTiM Christmas Vouchers' on the back of the cheque
- Put cheque/cash into a sealed envelope labelled 'CTiM Christmas Vouchers
- Put envelope through the presbytery letterbox by 1st December.

Any envelopes will be collected on a regular basis and banked, so they will be safe.

Gift Aid

If you are a UK tax payer and want to boost your donation by 25p for every £1 you give, you must include these details in your envelope:

- I want to Gift Aid my donation of £___ to Malmesbury Abbey. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference
- Your name
- Your address
- Your postcode
- Date

SECOND COLLECTION, POOR MISSIONS OF THE DIOCESE , 7 Dec 2025

This fund enables the Bishop to support some of the financially less fortunate parishes in our Diocese. This is one collection that reminds us of the support and encouragement we give to each other as a Diocesan family, and our responsibility to care for our wider family in the diocese.

Marriage matters

Please find attached a pdf and MS Word version of Marriage Matters for the

forthcoming Liturgical Year A. This contains a newly written forward from Bishop Bosco MacDonald. The text can also be found here: marriagecare.org.uk/ho



Marriage Matters Year A.pdf

Requiescat in pace: Bishop Emeritus Thomas McMahon

The Right Reverend Thomas McMahon, Bishop Emeritus of Brentwood Diocese, died peacefully at his home in Stock, Essex, at 10am on Monday, 24 November 2025. May he rest in peace.

Details of his funeral will follow.

cbcew.org.uk/bishop-em

Pope Leo issues Apostolic Letter 'In unitate fidei' on Nicaea Anniversary

Ahead of his upcoming Apostolic Journey to Türkiye, Pope Leo XIV issued on Sunday, 23 November, the Solemnity of Christ the King, the Apostolic Letter '[In unitate fidei](#)' on the 1700th Anniversary of the Council of Nicaea.

The full Letter, which has the hope of “encouraging the whole Church to renew her enthusiasm for the profession of faith,” is broken down into twelve points, and can be read in its entirety [HERE](#).

Masses Requested:

Nov Sat 6.30pm: For the repose of the souls of Duncan Davidson RIP, Charles Guthrie RIP, Rosie Roach RIP, Jilly Cooper RIP, David Ker RIP, Julia Rausing RIP, Thomas Durine RIP (offered by Brigadier Andrew Parker Bowles)

30 November Sun 8.30am: For the repose of the souls of Justin Douglas and Yasmin Renton RIP (offered by their family)

30 Nov sun 10am: Missa pro populo

1 Dec Mon 10am: For the intentions and good health of John Avant (offered by Maurice Cleaver)

4 Dec Thurs 10am: For the repose of the soul of John Beresford RIP (offered by Sara McNeil)

5 Dec Fri 10am: For the repose of the soul of Phillip Glover RIP (offered by Sara McNeil)

Uncover the treasures of faith:

"Hope is the anticipation and confidence in God's promises. It empowers us to look forward to eternal life with Him, trusting in His provision and care for us. In the face of suffering, injustice, and trials, hope enables us to see beyond our present circumstances, firmly trusting in God's plan. Hope is not passive; it requires an active trust in God's goodness, which strengthens us and gives us the resilience to continue living out our faith through trials, looking forward to the ultimate fulfillment of God's promises." (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, no. 1817)

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

With every blessing

Father Thomas, Deacon Steve, and Deacon Remi