



**Catholic Parish of
The Sacred Heart and St Aldhelm
Sherborne**

18th October 2026

Daily Mass Year 2 – Psalter 1

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY



E-mail: sherborne@prcdtr.org.uk website: www.sherbornecatholicchurch.org

**The Parish Office
is open on Wednesday & Friday mornings -
(emails and telephone calls are monitored all week)**

Saturday	17th	6.00pm	Celebrant's Intention
Sunday	18th	10.30am 2.00pm	People of the Parish Mass with Anointing of the Sick
Monday	19th	10.00am	Idilberto de la Resma, R.I.P
Tuesday	20th	10-11.00am	Private prayer & Exposition
Wednesday	21st	10.00am	NO MASS
Thursday	22nd	10.00am	Margaret Barnes, R.I.P
Friday	23rd	10.00am	For the Sick & Housebound
Saturday	24th	6.00pm	Private Intention

Sherborne Churches together invites us to pray for a particular worshipping community each week.

***Today we pray for St. Mary Magdalene, Castleton and
St. Martin of Tours, Lillington***

We hope this brings our Christian family together

Office Tel: 01935 812021

Convent: 01935 816591 (For Mass intentions)

Mgr. Canon Robert Draper

The Parish House, Westbury, Sherborne, Dorset DT9 3EL Tel: 01935 816420

Deacon Jonathan Simon Tel: 01935 873100

The Parish of the Sacred Heart & St Aldhelm is part of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Plymouth, Registered Charity No. 213227

Weekly Letter

Scripture begins with the creation and the union of man and woman and ends with 'the wedding feast of the Lamb' (Revelation 19:7,9). Jesus entered the public ministry at the wedding of Cana, when he turned water into wine. Clearly, marriage reveals something about God's relationship with us. Scripture often refers to marriage, its origin and purpose, the meaning God gave to it, and its renewal in the covenant made by Jesus with his Church. Man and woman were created for each other.

The Sacrament of Marriage is a covenant, which is more than a contract. A covenant always expresses a relationship between persons. The marriage covenant refers to the relationship between the husband and wife, a permanent union of persons capable of knowing and loving each other and God.

By their marriage, the couple witnesses Christ's spousal love for the Church. One of the Nuptial Blessings in the liturgical celebration of marriage refers to this in saying, 'Father, you have made the union of man and wife so holy a mystery that it symbolises the marriage of Christ and his Church.'

Husband and wife are called to mirror Christ in Holy Matrimony. They are called to give of themselves in a manner that is free, total, faithful, and fruitful. According to the Lord's own teaching, the matrimonial union is indissoluble, just as Christ never withdraws his love from us in spite of our failings.

Marriage is the call to be open to life, to receive it as a gift, and to bring it into the world. God has intended the act of marital love as the means of expressing our desire for intimacy, one in which we, as responsible parents, are open to the gift of life. Marriage is fashioned by God as the institution by which children are welcomed into the world, loved, and come to know their heavenly Father.

Through marriage preparation, the Church hopes all couples will be able to discern how this beautiful vocation is about growing in uniting love and co-operating with God in creating His children.

Fr. Robert

Brief reflection on the Sunday readings:

Sunday 18th October

Twenty ninth Sunday in ordinary time

Is 45:1, 4-6 Ps 95 1Th 1:1-5 Mt 22:15-21

With the prospect of major elections looming in many countries each year, there is often plenty of strong language being used about the relative merits of each of the candidates, and a lot of hyperbole being expressed. I doubt, however, if any but a very few were to seriously suggest that any candidate is the Messiah! But that is the vision in the reading from Isaiah. Cyrus is the Persian king – a very effective and powerful ruler who has overthrown the Babylonian Empire and created a vast sprawling kingdom based on war and military might. And through the prophet we are told: “Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus.” The anointed one is Messiah in Hebrew, or Christ in Greek. As the reading says, Cyrus has no knowledge – or interest – in the God of Israel, and yet it is He who has enabled Cyrus to come to power “for the sake of my servant Jacob”. Cyrus will be the instrument that enables the exiles to return home and rebuild Jerusalem and its Temple and re-establish its identity as God’s people. In our contemporary culture we tend to firmly separate the religious and the secular – but that is a fairly recent perception – for Isaiah it is perfectly normal to expect that God would use anyone and anything to bring about his designs. The Pharisees and the Herodians set out “to trap” Jesus using a similar political/religious distinction. In asking for a coin, Jesus undermines their trap, for the coin they are using to pay taxes, is a Roman coin with the graven image of the Emperor (and no doubt a blasphemous inscription) – something totally against the Law. Jesus’ parting comment then moves the issue from something minor – a matter of law-breaking – to an absolute. You can debate what might belong to Caesar, but ultimately everything belongs to God, and it is used, not for point-scoring, or political gain, or achieving rank, but for God’s ultimate purpose – “that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun that, apart from me, all is nothing.”

Bidding Prayers 18th October

We pray for the church throughout the world: we pray for the shepherds of the church entrusted by the Lord with teaching God's faithful people.

We pray for those in our world who live in those places where hunger, violence and disease threaten life each day. May the Lord bring consolation to those in need, and may we hold them in our prayer.

We pray for all those in the parish who have need of our prayers, and for our families, our friends, our neighbours and all those known to us, we pray especially for the sick and housebound of the parish.

We pray for ourselves that we may be confident in living our faith and sharing it with others.

We pray for those who have died: that they may see the face of God.

Church services this week:

Monday - 10.00am

Tuesday - Private Prayer & Exposition

(No Mass on Wednesday)

Thursday - 10.00am

Friday - 10.00am

Parish Dates for your Diary



Mass with Anointing – Sunday 18th October at 3pm

If you feel you can help with providing small sandwiches, cakes etc., for refreshments in the hall after the Mass, there is a poster up in the narthex. *Thank you!*



Global Rosary – Thursday 22nd October at 6.30pm



Please join us to recite a global Rosary for Peace, on the Feast of St. John Paul II.



Please join the Harvest Celebrations that will take place in the hall after Mass on **Sunday 25th October 2026**.

There will be a buffet of light refreshments and wine.
Any donations of food and help on the day would be most appreciated and notices will be up in the Narthex shortly!



(**Quiz night – Friday 6th November – more details next week! **)

From the Plymouth Office:

We need you!

Plymouth CAST is a Catholic multi-academy trust of 34 schools and 1 nursery, spanning the Diocese of Plymouth. Our mission is to be a community of outstanding schools in which our pupils flourish in safe, happy, and stimulating environments and leave us with the knowledge and skills, personal qualities, and aspirations, to make the world a better place, inspired by the Gospel.

We are looking to expand our Board of Directors. We are particularly interested in hearing from you if you have skills and current or recent experience of education at primary or secondary level, particularly within a multi-academy trust.

*Please contact the Clerk to the Trust Board for further information,
Mrs Leah Paiano lpaiano@plymouthcast.org.uk*

Prayer Conference - Buckfast Abbey, Saturday Oct 31 & Nov 1. 2026

UNBOUND Freedom in Christ.

*Prayer Conference. Buckfast Abbey,
Saturday Oct 31 & Sunday Nov 1. 2026 (weekend event)*

A weekend immersion in the inspirational teaching of UNBOUND Deliverance Ministry. A safe, gentle and non-confrontational freedom and inner healing ministry model, which helps people reclaim their true identity in Christ. Come and join us as we unpack each of the key themes of the ministry; Repentance & Faith, Forgiveness, Renunciation, Authority, and the Father's Blessing. With an opportunity for a personal prayer session and the chance to claim true freedom in Christ. Weekend tickets from £65.

Call or email Michele Thompson, Officer for Evangelisation for more information 07940 453607 michele.thompson@prcdtr.org.uk

For more information on Unbound Ministry please follow the link:

<https://www.unboundprayer.com/>



Fr Robert is producing a short daily email with a reflection on the daily mass readings. If you would like to receive it, please let the office know.

Please keep in touch and tell others who wish to keep in touch with the parish by emailing the parish office (or phoning Fr Robert - 816420) and we will respond.

If you know of any parishioner who is not on the internet or who cannot receive emails, do please make a hard copy of this, and put it through their letter box, or contact the parish office and we will try and do that.

If there are specific needs you have and want help – please let us know.

If you would like a Mass said, there are special envelopes in the narthex, or you may wish to use your own. Please post it through the Convent door. It is customary to give a donation, if you can. If you require a special date, please provide your telephone number.

The Church was established by The Religious of Christian Instruction in 1891

NEWSLETTER ITEMS:

Any notices for the newsletter should be e-mailed to the office before Thursday afternoon. The Secretary is normally in the office on Wednesday and Friday mornings.

The Church Office, Church Hall, Westbury, Sherborne DT9 3RA - 01935 812021.

SICK & HOUSEBOUND VISITS:

If you or anyone you know is sick or housebound and would like to receive Communion, please **contact Fr Robert 01935 816420** or Sarah Nadasy 01935 816616.

PARISH SECRETARY:

Kristine Mountain

PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPs: Jamie Mead and Jennie Haynes

PASTORAL COUNCIL:

Deacon Jonathan Simon,
Georgina Bruce, Tricia Chapman,
Tim Kelly, Lulu Paul, Sr. Rose.

HALL BOOKINGS:

Please email or phone the Office.