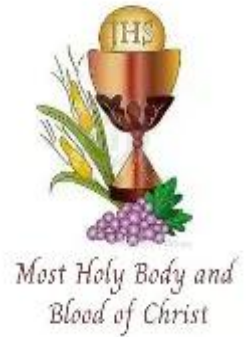




**Catholic Parish of
The Sacred Heart and St Aldhelm
Sherborne
7th June 2026**



THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

Daily Mass Year 2 – Psalter 2

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

The Parish Office is generally open on Wednesday & Friday 9.30am – 1.30pm
Please email or leave a phone message and we will get back to you.

Saturday	6th	6.00pm	David & Danny Pitcher R.I.P
Sunday	7th	10.30am	Liam Molloy R.I.P
Monday	8th	10.00am	Phillip Bosah R.I.P
Tuesday	9th	10-11.00am	Private prayer & Exposition
Wednesday	10th	10-11.00am	Private prayer & Exposition
Thursday	11th	10-11.00am	Private prayer & Exposition
Friday	12th	6.30pm	Feast of the Sacred Heart
Saturday	13th	6.00pm	David & Danny Pitcher R.I.P

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

Today we pray for our own parish, and for the children making their First Holy Communion on Sunday.



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

“First Holy Communion”

A letter from Fr Robert to our first communicants

Dear Amelia, Anesu, Benji, Danny, Esme, Eva, Finn, Freya, Ivaan, Kico and Poppy

I want to say how much I have enjoyed visiting you in the sessions you've been having in the Church Hall on Saturday afternoons. To me it's been quite clear that you have really appreciated these sessions, have had a lot of fun and learnt a lot about being someone who wants to know and love Jesus and also find out about what it means to be a member of the Church. I want to say that I know that so many of our parishioners are delighted that you will be coming for your First Communion on Sunday and they want you to know that they are praying for you that God will indeed bless you now that you will be receiving Holy Communion.

I know you have been working really hard with the catechists to understand how important this is – and I know that it's not something easy – I am sure that lots of us struggle to understand everything about Holy Communion. But there are some really important things that we want to always remember.

I am sure you know how important it is to think about what you eat every day, because that food becomes part of you, so just think how important it is that when you come to Communion you will be eating and drinking Jesus who then becomes part of you!

I know when it comes to birthdays and Christmas you love to receive gifts or give presents to people you love. I am sure the most important people in your life give you and you give them the most special gifts – things that show them how much you love them. Just think how much Jesus loves you that he gives you himself!

Although you are quite grown up now, just think that – I am sure – you will be coming for Holy Communion for all the rest of your life – you will be meeting Jesus at Mass, hearing him speak to you, and receiving him in Communion week after week and year after year! That will surely make you into someone very special!

A special thank you to the catechists who have been helping the children all year, and to their parents who have been supporting them so well, and to all the parish who, I know are praying for them and looking forward to seeing them on Sunday!

God bless you all and may we all rejoice in the gift of the Lord in the Eucharist today – and always. *- Fr Robert*

Prayers of the faithful

7th June 2026 – Corpus Christi

We pray for the church throughout the world: for all those who are called to the supper of the lamb, and who make up the Body of Christ.

We pray for those in our world who hunger for food, and who thirst for security, for love and for consolation – may they be satisfied.

We pray for our parish family, for those making their first communion today, and for those who are housebound, but share the Eucharist from this altar.

We pray for ourselves that we may live out our belonging to Christ as we share his Body and Blood.

We pray for those who have died: that they may share in the banquet of heaven.

Sunday Readings – a brief reflection

7th June – Corpus Christi - The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Dt 8:2-3, 14-16 Ps 147 1Cor 10:16-17 Jn 6: 51-58

In any writing, whether it be prose or poetry, a crime novel or a scientific treatise, there is always the use of symbolic or poetic language, imagery and analogy – for example cosmic “black holes” are neither black nor holes. That means there is always a need to look behind the language to make sure we understand what is written. This is especially true of paradigmatic documents like the American Constitution – or the Sacred Scriptures. John the Evangelist was well aware of this, so he wanted to make sure people did not misunderstand his most profound teachings. When he declares “the Word was made flesh” he is teaching the truth of the Incarnation, and in case a reader might think the image is just a poetic idea, the author of 1 John spells it out: “Something which has existed since the beginning, that we have heard, and we have seen with our own eyes; that we have watched and touched with our hands – the Word, this is our subject”.

We have something similar in chapter six of the gospel. In his discourse Jesus has declared himself the bread of life several times in the section vv 41-51, but the section we are given as today’s gospel hammers it home – “my flesh is real food, my blood is real drink.” This is not ‘simply’ symbolic language, this is as explicit as the author can make it.

The passage from Deuteronomy that is our first reading emphasises the hunger of the Israelites, it emphasises their need of food, that God fed them physically because otherwise they would die. John’s bread of life discourse in chapter six is very much a commentary on that incident. John does not talk of “miracles” but of ‘signs’ – and signs need to be understood and perhaps explained. That is what he does here.

From the very beginning the writings of scripture and the early church all insisted on the significance of the ‘breaking of the bread’ the Lord’s supper, the Eucharist – not as a simple human ritual, but as true means of communion with God and fellow believers (as Paul tells us), and underlying that is the acknowledging of the reality that what is shared is indeed the flesh and blood of the Saviour. Today’s readings all remind us of the centrality of the ancient teaching on the Eucharist – this is indeed the Lord.

For reflection:

How do you talk about the gift of the Eucharist to someone who is not a believer?

What language do you use?

Do you believe that Jesus comes to you as bread and wine – as his body and blood – to make you totally incorporated into him? How does your life reflect that?

***Please pray for:
Fr Robert and Deacon Jonathan who are away on the Diocesan clergy
retreat at Buckfast this week.***

Church Services this week:

***Mass in the parish church – Monday at 10.00am and Friday 6.30pm
Private prayer with Exposition on Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
10.00 - 11.00am***

The Mystery of faith acclamation:

***“We proclaim your death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until
you come again”.***



***Friday 12th June
Feast of the Sacred Heart***

Feast of the Sacred Heart – our parish feast day and that of the Sisters.

A chance to give thanks for their founding of the parish and their work here among us. During the Mass they renew their vows of service in the Church. Mass 6.30pm, followed by a convivial bring and share supper in the Hall – all welcome.

(There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex for contributions to the bring & share -thank you!).

Let the Children Live!

Fr Peter Walters founded this small charity to work with, and support, street children in South America.

It has been running since 1994 and he still guides it.

He will join us for Mass next weekend (13th/14th June) and talk about the work.

There will be the opportunity to meet him and ask questions after each Mass.

You are **Important**, and your parish **NEEDS** you

When we come to Mass, we are made welcome. A steward will greet us, ensure that we have a Mass Sheet and a newsletter, and sometimes a music sheet. They will help us find a seat, answer our queries (where's the loo? – what time is mass tomorrow? etc). It's not hard, but it is **important** (like you).

“Yes, but I'm not very good at that sort of thing, and I don't know many of the people, (and actually I'm unsure if I'd be any good)”

Probably all our Stewards (Welcomers, Ushers, whatever we're called) were a bit anxious to start with – I know I was when I started doing it 34 years ago. But one of the wonderful things about it was it helped me to get to know other people in the parish, which made me feel more at home, more as if I belonged here.

If you would like to try it, talk to one of the stewards – perhaps you could join them another time to find out what it's like?

Or you could contact Deacon Jonathan for a chat after Mass, who could arrange for someone to guide you.

The Music Group Needs You!!

We need new members to play instruments and sing with us at Mass once a month. We know that many of you sing loudly when we lead the music and need new members to help us to continue singing and playing.

We are all people who worship at this Church and *we use the gift of music that God has given us to contribute to the celebration of Mass.*

We especially need instrument players to play with John our flute player. If you are a young person learning an instrument, a regular player or somebody has not played for a while we would very much like to hear from you. We normally practice before Mass on Sunday morning and can arrange further rehearsals as needed.



If you are interested in exploring joining us, please contact Andrew our leader on andrewhouseley@btinternet.com or talk to one of our members.

Dates for your Diary



Craft Club

Saturday 6th June in the church hall, 3.00-4.30pm

'Choosy Craft Club', is open to children of all ages, and their parents, with a variety of craft activities to choose from.

Booking is not essential and there is no charge for materials or refreshments.

Please do just come along and join us! *Katya Heygate-Browne*

'Scripture Matters'

Our next meeting will be on **Friday 12th June @ 10.45am-12.15pm.**

Once a month, our small group gathers in the Church Hall to reflect on, and discuss, 'God's Word' in the readings for the following Sunday's celebration of Mass. For further information please contact:

Gaybarry39@hotmail.com or 07887 840449.

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 Wednesdays and Fridays 9.30am – 1.30pm.

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, Tess O'Rourke, Lulu Paul,
Sr. Rose.

HALL BOOKINGS:

Please email or phone the Office.