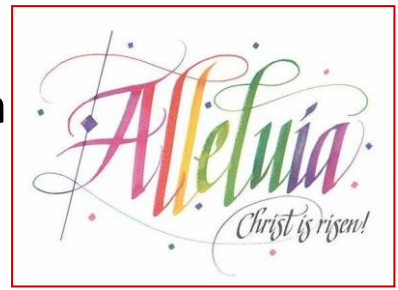




Catholic Parish of
The Sacred Heart and St Aldhelm
Sherborne
12th April 2026



Daily Mass Year 2 – PSALTER 2
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

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	11 th	6.00pm	Gay Barry (Intentions)
Sunday	12 th	10.30am	People of the Parish
Monday	13 th	10.00am	Sarah Nadasy & family (Intentions)
Tuesday	14 th	10-11.00am	Private Prayer & Exposition
Wednesday	15 th	10.00am	The Gournay family (Intentions)
Thursday	16 th	10-11.00am	Private Prayer & Exposition
Friday	17 th	10.00am	The Sisters' Intentions
Saturday	18 th	6.00pm	Hilary Grant and family



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

Today we pray for our parish family, especially those being baptised or confirmed in Church this weekend.

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

An Easter message from Pope Leo

“Christ is risen! Happy Easter!”

This greeting, filled with wonder and joy, will accompany us throughout this week. As we celebrate the new day the Lord has made for us, the liturgy proclaims the entry of all creation into the time of salvation: in the name of Jesus, the despair of death is swept away forever.

The Gospel (Mt 28:8–15) calls us to choose between two accounts: that of the women who encountered the risen Lord, and that of the guards who were bribed by the leaders of the Sanhedrin. The former proclaims Christ’s victory over death; the latter assert that death prevails always and in every circumstance. According to their version, Jesus has not risen; instead, his body was stolen. From the same fact — the empty tomb — two interpretations arise: one a source of new and eternal life, the other of certain and definitive death.

This contrast invites us to reflect on the value of Christian witness and the integrity of human communication. Often, the proclamation of truth is obscured by what we today call “fake news” — lies, insinuations, and unfounded accusations. Yet, in the face of such obstacles, the truth does not remain hidden; rather, it comes forth to meet us, living and radiant, illuminating even the deepest darkness. Just as he spoke to the women at the tomb, Jesus says to us today: “Do not be afraid; go and tell”. In this way, he himself becomes the Good News to be witnessed in the world. The Passover of the Lord is our Passover — the Passover of all humanity — for this man who died for us is the Son of God, who gave his life for us. Just as the risen One, ever living and present, frees the past from a destructive end, so the Easter proclamation redeems our future from the tomb.

Dear friends, how important it is that this Gospel reach, above all, those oppressed by the evil that corrupts history and confuses consciences! I think of peoples afflicted by war, of Christians persecuted for their faith, of children deprived of an education. To proclaim the Paschal mystery of Christ in both word and deed means to give a new voice to hope — a hope otherwise stifled by the hands of the violent. Wherever it is proclaimed, the Good News sheds light upon every shadow, in every age.

God bless us all, as we have journeyed together with Christ through his Passion so that we may encounter Jesus as the Risen Lord who has come to us at Easter. – Fr Robert

Prayers of the faithful

12th April 2026 – 2nd Sunday of Easter

We pray for the church throughout the world: for all the baptised who become daughters and sons of God by water and the Holy Spirit, especially those of our own community.

When Jesus came to his disciples he proclaimed “Peace be with you” we pray for those in our world who live with fear and danger. May the Lord bring his gift of Peace.

We pray for our families, for those dear to us and for those we know in need, that the Lord may bless them this Easter.

We pray for ourselves that we may learn to forgive others and receive the forgiveness of God in our lives.

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

Please pray for:

Tor, to be baptised and confirmed at the 10.30am Mass this Sunday,
also Hannah and Veronica to be confirmed.

Lilith to be baptised Sunday afternoon.

Hannah and Henry to be married here next week.

Sunday Readings – a brief reflection

Sunday 12th April – 2nd Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:42-47 Ps 117 1Pet 1:3-9 Jn 20:19-31

The story of Thomas' coming to faith is the gospel for all three Sunday cycles, which emphasises its significance. It begins with the appearance of Jesus to all the disciples in the upper room, the Lord appears and offers them peace; he then commissions them and gives them the gift of the Spirit to be used by them for the forgiveness of sins. This is all on the evening of that same day of Resurrection. The disciple's reaction is to be "filled with joy" but John wants to make a further important point, and that is where Thomas' absence is so important. Thomas hears the account from the others but is not prepared to believe in the Resurrection simply on the witness of the others, he wants more, and he gets it. The Lord appears to him and shows the evidence of his physical body and tells him: "doubt no longer but believe" to which Thomas makes his confession of faith acknowledging Jesus as God. Jesus' next words are addressed to Thomas but are in fact directed to the countless generations of disciples to come: "Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe" – they are addressed to all who hear this gospel proclaimed this Sunday. John immediately adds his own final comments to this incident. He tells us that while Jesus did many things not recorded, these things are recorded so that you (the reader/hearer) may believe. Faith may not be founded on the evidence of the wounds (like Thomas') or on the appearance of the Lord in a locked room (like the disciples) or a meeting in the morning of the first day of the week (like Mary of Magdala) but it can be based on love (like the beloved disciple) – who believed, even if he did not see the Lord. It is now what is written, what is passed on, what becomes scripture and the witness of the community (as in today's first reading: "They were looked up to by everyone") that becomes the foundation of faith: "These (things) are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ and believing this you may have life through his name."

For reflection:

Do you feel you are like Thomas and wanting more evidence for your faith than just the words of other people?

Do you find that for you the words recorded in the gospels give you enough to believe and have life in Jesus' name?

Church Services this week:

Mass in the parish church – Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10.00am
Private prayer with Exposition Tuesday 10.00- 11.00am

Dates for your Diary

Parish Mum's Group in the Church Hall

Mums, you're warmly invited to the
Parish Mum's Group, on Friday 1st May 10.30am-12.30pm.

This is simply a chance to come together, have a chat, and get to know other mums in the parish, with your children alongside you. Whether you have a baby, school-aged children, teenagers, or a mix of everything, you are very welcome.

We'll have **tea, coffee, and cake**, and something to keep the children happy too, with **toys, colouring, and activities**.

No pressure, no expectations — just a friendly space to meet, talk, and build community. No need to book, just pop in! We'd love you to join us!

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***Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May – Quiz Night***

*6.30pm for 7.00pm start, £3 entry fee per person, maximum of 6 per team  
~ bring your own refreshments.*

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Pentecost Celebrations after Mass on 24th May
- details to follow nearer the date!!

From the Plymouth Office:

A Deeper Dive into the Catechism of the Catholic Church

Monday evenings at 7pm online, from Monday April 13, 2026.

Spend just one hour a week with others online, going gently but deeply and prayerfully into the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Sessions are for catechists, those who hope to be catechists, those seeking to know more about their faith, anyone interested in discovering more about the teaching of the Church, in fact anyone who is interested.

***To find out more, or receive a link, please contact:
deborah.vankroonenburg@prcdtr.org.uk***

***Heatree Residential 15th - 17th May, 'Go make disciples of all nations'
Matt 28:19***

Heatree is an outdoor activity centre based on Dartmoor. The weekend is open to those aged 9 - 12 (school years 5 - 7). Whilst enjoying high ropes and raft building (amongst other activities) young people will have the chance to explore the Sunday readings through discussion, crafts and games. Cost £90.

*To book follow the link: [Heatree 2026 15th-17th May – Fill in form](#)
Further information email: Saskia or Ruby: youth@prcdtr.org.uk*

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.