



**Catholic Parish of
The Sacred Heart and St Aldhelm
Sherborne
13th September 2026
Daily Mass Year 2 – Psalter 4**



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

The Parish Office is generally open on Wednesday & Friday mornings

Saturday	12th	6.00pm	Brendan Hayden R.I.P
Sunday	13th	10.30am	The repose of the soul of Anne Kennedy R.I.P
Monday <i>Feast of Exaltation of the Holy Cross</i>	14th	10.00am	The Intentions of the Hudson family. Jen & Henri Lavent
Tuesday	15th	10-11.00am	Private prayer & Exposition
Wednesday	16th	10.00am	Fr. Michael Hayes R.I.P
Thursday	17th	10-11.00am	Private prayer & Exposition
Friday	18th	10.00am	Sarah & Oliver Nadasy Wedding Anniversary
Saturday	19th	6.00pm	Tessa Herring R.I.P

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



Today we pray for St James, Longburton

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

Perhaps simply to refresh our understanding, I will attach a brief reflection on each of the sacraments for the next seven weeks.

For Catholics, **the Sacrament of [Baptism](#)** is the first step in a lifelong journey of commitment and discipleship. Baptism is the first sacrament of Christian initiation. Through Baptism we are freed from sin, we become adopted sons and daughters of God and are embraced into the family of the Church.

The origin and foundation of Christian Baptism is Jesus. Before starting his public ministry, Jesus submitted himself to the baptism given by John the Baptist. The waters did not purify him; he cleansed the waters. Jesus did not need to be baptised because he was totally faithful to the will of his Father and free from sin. However, he wanted to show his solidarity with human beings in order to reconcile them to the Father. By commanding his disciples to baptise all nations, he established the means by which people would die to sin – Original and actual – and begin to live a new life with God.

Baptism transforms us. It marks our soul for life and eternity. In baptism, the Holy Spirit moves us to answer Christ's call to holiness. In baptism, we are asked to walk by the light of Christ and to trust in his wisdom. We are invited to submit our hearts to Christ with ever-deeper love.

Although we Catholics believe that every human being is made in the image and likeness of God, it is through baptism we become sons and daughters of God and are brought into that most mysterious communion with Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Fr. Robert

Brief reflection on the Sunday readings:

Sunday 13th September. Twenty fourth Sunday in Ordinary time

Sir 27:30-28:7 Ps 102 Rm 14:7-9 Mt 18:21-35

When Peter initially suggests that he might be called to forgive seven times – he is being very generous – seven after all is a considerable number. But when Jesus retorts with his “seventy-seven times”, we know we are being asked to go beyond anything that is reasonable. The reading from Ecclesiasticus offers a fairly standard interpretation of the Law – which is challenging enough. Jesus takes it much further. The key phrase in today’s gospel is: “he had no means of paying.” The debt the servant had accrued is astronomical – something like the national debt - totally impossible for an individual to meet. But the master ***cancels*** the debt: he doesn’t just give him more time or let him pay a bit of it – he ***cancels*** it, the debt is wiped out. If we fail to take seriously the idea of being ***unable*** to pay and the debt being ***cancelled***, we might just end up with a pious moralising. The theological truth is that when we come before God with our “debts” we are totally unable to pay them – there is literally nothing we can do to put ourselves at rights with God. All our good works, and prayers and penitence are themselves the fruit of the grace given to us. If we take this seriously it can lead us to a deeper appreciation of the extraordinary gift of redemption. That is the extraordinary gift that is offered to those who “belong to the Lord”. Our debts are simply cancelled – they are wiped out as if they had never existed. That is what we celebrate at the Eucharist: “the blood of the new covenant poured out for the forgiveness of sins” that is how our debts are cancelled.

Bidding Prayers 13th September

We pray for the church throughout the world: for all who profess that Jesus is The Christ.

We pray for those in our world who lack clothing, food and the necessities of life, that we may assist them.

We pray for all those in the parish who are sick and housebound and all whom we know who have need of our prayers.

We pray for ourselves that we may take up our cross and follow Jesus, and so save our lives.

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

Church Services this week:

***Mass in the parish church – Monday, Wednesday
and Friday at 10.00am***

Private prayer with Exposition Tuesday and Thursday 10.00 - 11.00am

***Please pray for
Maeve to be baptised this Sunday and her family and friends.***



Preparation for First Holy Communion 2026-2027

We are starting to prepare First Holy Communion sessions and invite any parent who wishes their child/children to make their First Holy Communion on 30th May 2027 to contact us.

Notice of a registration day will be announced shortly – this will be a relaxed information meeting, with registration forms completed (this is a legal requirement) and the children given their books and bibles which they will need at all sessions. The “I Belong” programme is followed and the Catechists who run the sessions are DBS checked.

Please contact:

Maeve Moriarty Mobile: 07719760401 Email: mrs.maeve.moriarty@gmail.com	Christina Duarte Mobile: 07834 242077 Email: cduarte83@hotmail.co.uk
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Parish Dates for your Diary

‘Scripture Matters’

Our next meeting will be **on Friday 18th September @ 10.45am-12.15pm**. Once a month, our small group gathers in the Sacred Heart & St Aldhelm 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.

CAFOD Deanery Meeting

Saturday 19th September 10:30am for an 11.00am start

Followed by a bring and share lunch at 1pm.

We are delighted to once again be hosting this biannual meeting and look forward to welcoming parish representatives from across our Deanery. If you are interested in the work of CAFOD, this is a great opportunity to meet the team and find out more about our Harvest Appeal for 2026. *Helpers to serve tea and coffee and lay out the lunch would be very welcome!*

Please contact Tess O'Rourke on teresajane461@gmail.com

***Parish Mum's Group in the Church Hall Friday 25th September
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.

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!

From the Plymouth Office:

Marriage Help - Communication failure is a major cause of marital breakdown - 1,000's of couples have found Retrouvaille helped their relationship. Retrouvaille is not counselling but a programme to help married couples work through conflicts more effectively. We focus on helping restore trust and hope. Bookings close 18th Sept. www.Retrouvaille.org.uk or ring 07887 296 983.

Evangelisation Roadshow Saturday 26th September at St Benedict's, Gillingham 10am to 2.15pm.

We (the Diocesan Evangelisation Team) are bringing the Roadshow to different areas of the diocese so that you can hear about the latest outreach projects and participate in the excitement of sharing ideas with others from Dorset. Refreshments (coffee/tea, croissants and fruit) will be provided but please bring a packed lunch to see you through! Fr Cletus will start the day with Mass at 10am with an opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The presentations will start at 11am then a workshop so that we can harvest/discuss your ideas from the day. We finish with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. We are looking forward to growing in mission with you in north Dorset! ALL welcome!

For further information – contact: pippa.worth@prcdtr.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.