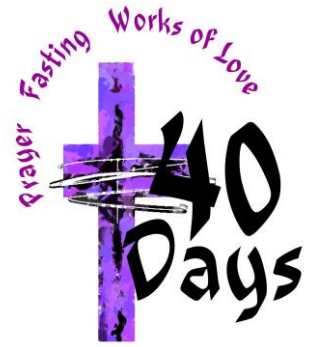




Catholic Parish of
The Sacred Heart and St Aldhelm
Sherborne
1st March 2026



Daily Mass Year 2 – Daily Prayer 2
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

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.

(THE OFFICE IS CLOSED ON WEDNESDAY 4TH MARCH **)**

Saturday	28 th	6.00pm	The Gooding Family, (Thanksgiving)
Sunday	1 st March	10.30am	People of the Parish
Monday	2 nd	10.00am	The Paul family intentions
Tuesday	3 rd	10.00am	Barbara Landymore RIP <i>(Foundation Mass)</i>
Wednesday	4 th	NO MASS TODAY	Private prayer & Exposition
Thursday	5 th	10.00-11.00am	Private prayer & Exposition
Friday	6 th	10.00am	Eileen Nuttall R.I.P.
Saturday	7 th	6.00pm	Dennis Campbell R.I.P



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

Today we pray for Society of Friends, Sherborne

We hope that this will bring our Christian family closer 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

“Go up the mountain”

The second Sunday of Lent always has the account of Jesus’ transfiguration before the apostles Peter and James and John. The gospel of the first Sunday is set in the wilderness, this one up a mountain. The wilderness is a stark place, deprived of any distraction and comfort. Perhaps an invitation to enter Lent without distractions and diversions. This gospel invites us to see a bigger picture. Here in Sherborne, we don’t live surrounded by mountains, but I suspect we’ve all seen mountains and possibly gone up mountains, and that might be a good starting place for reflection on this Sunday’s gospel.

I suppose the first obvious thing to say is that going up a mountain is hard work, a lot of effort, and perhaps we are invited to expect some hard work and put some effort into Lent. After all, if you want to get the benefit of going up the mountain that will be inevitable. If you want to get the most out of Lent, it might require a bit of an effort.

And the thing about being up a mountain is the awareness of the scale of things. You can look down and see where you have come from, and can see the route you have taken, and how all the places relate to each other, and how from up here the map of where you’ve been - and perhaps where you are going – is laid out. And perhaps that is something about Lent too – if we put the effort in. Looking back doesn’t just have to be nostalgia, it can remind us of all that we have to be thankful for - and remind us of so much we have to be sorry for – and that can be a healthy Lenten exercise.

Of course, there is also the fact that when we find ourselves up a mountain we can be struck not just by the view, but also by the silence. Just as perhaps the wilderness can be quiet and invite us to ponder, so the silence of the mountain can allow the view to dominate and quieten our busyness and let us reflect and think.

So if you can’t find a mountain, sometime this week when you settle into prayer just place yourself on the Mount of Transfiguration with Jesus and the others and take the time to sit and look and see and reflect and ponder, and be with the Lord who loves you and wants to reveal himself to you.

God bless us all, as we journey together through Lent to encounter the Risen Lord who comes to us at Easter. *- Fr Robert*

Prayers of the faithful

1st March 2026 – 2nd Sunday of Lent.

We pray for the church throughout the world: for all God's people as they journey together through Lent towards the celebration of the Paschal Mystery.

We pray for those in our world who struggle with anxiety, poverty, illness and bereavement. We pray for those who bring hope and joy to our world and our own lives.

We pray for our parish, our local community, the other Christian communities here, and all whom we know and love.

We pray for ourselves that we may continue our journey through Lent with Jesus who reveals himself to us and nourishes us in word and sacrament.

We pray for those who have died: that they may dwell in the halls of heaven with God for ever.

***Please pray for
Those preparing to receive the sacraments as Easter.***

Sunday Readings – a brief reflection

Sunday 1st March – 2nd Sunday of Lent

Gen 12:1-4 Ps 32 2Tim 1:8-10 Mt 17:1-9

It is striking that our introduction to Abraham, the great figure of promise and faith in the Old Testament is so stark and brief. Abraham is the man whom God called and sent, and the man who is to be the start of the great project of God making a people for himself. It is significant that the calling of Abraham is a sending, a putting to the test as it were. God asks, or demands, of him that he trust God and walk out in faith. That will be the great theme of the life of Abraham – and indeed of Abraham's descendants – the theme of faith and obedience or infidelity and disobedience. And it is still the reality for God's people today – all are called to walk in faith and trust in the will of God. The Abraham stories portray this, and the rest of the scriptures illustrate it. For Christians of course, the paradigm of trust and faith in God is Jesus whose total submission to the will of the Father leads to Calvary and the Resurrection. The gospel today is the Transfiguration, as it is every year on the second Sunday of Lent – the vision of the glory of Christ which complements the picture of the humanity of Christ

portrayed in the Temptations in the desert last week. The transfiguration is a moment which offers promise and hope for the disciples – and it is given to us at the beginning of Lent to encourage us as we undertake the call to abandon our security and like Abraham step out in faith – trusting that the one who calls us to follow is he who triumphs over all things – even death - and invites us to share life with the Father.

For reflection:

Do you see the account of the Transfiguration as a sign of hope and a promise that following Jesus will lead you beyond death to life with the Father?

In what ways do you think you are called to step out in faith like Abraham?

Church Services this week

Mass in the parish church – Monday, Tuesday and Friday – 10.00am

Private prayer and exposition – Wednesday and Thursday 10.00 - 11.00am

Confessions – Saturday 5.00 – 5.45pm and on request

Please pray for

Those preparing to receive the sacraments as Easter.

During Lent at Mass

We will use the refrain “Angels Saints and nations sing” – the refrain from the hymn “Hail Redeemer King divine” - as the gospel acclamation, except on Sundays.

We will use “save us Saviour of the world” as the Memorial Acclamation.

Thank you.

+ Sacrament of Reconciliation for Children +

On *Saturday 7th March at 10.30am* Fr. Robert is holding a Sacrament of Reconciliation service for all children of the parish.

This will be the same format as First Confession and particularly for those who have made their first communion in the last few years, who may find this a more familiar experience. There is no need to register interest just arrive on the day.

LENTEN ALMS

Our Lenten Alms collections this year will be to support 'Access to Clean Water' project in Cameroon and for Lepra

A little message from the 'Holy Union Sisters'

Many thanks to our Parish Pastoral Council for letting us appeal to you for support in providing clean water in Baba [a town of 10,000 people] in North-West Cameroon, an area which, due to ongoing civil conflict, and climate-change, is under great stress. Many years ago in Baba our Sisters established a Health Centre – 'St Monica's'. Three Wells used to supply water for everyone in the Baba area; now only one Well functions. We hope to build a new Well – which would supply water for all local people in Baba, and service our Health Centre.... It would be the means of providing better health through improved sanitation and hygiene, and prevent water-borne diseases.

Thank you most sincerely for your interest and all your prayer and support for our people in Baba.

(See the poster or contact Gay gaybarry39@hotmail.com for more information)

LEPRA

Leprosy is not a disease of the past. It still exists but it is curable. Leprosy is caused by a type of bacteria called Mycobacterium leprae and can affect the skin, the peripheral nerves, mucosa of the upper respiratory tract, and the eyes.

According to the WHO, it is a 'neglected tropical disease' (NTD) which still occurs in more than 120 countries, with more than 200 000 new cases reported every year.

Please help by supporting this vital work. More information can be found on their website at: www.lepra.org.uk

Dates for your Diary



Lenten Lunches every Wednesday during Lent

11:30am - 1:00pm.

You are welcome to come and join our generous and loyal lunchers to socialise and share a simple meal of soup, bread and cheese in solidarity with the poor and disadvantaged. *A minimum donation of £4 requested please.*

This year, your donations will be shared equally between CAFOD and The Rendezvous (a Sherborne based charity providing well being and learning support for young people aged 14-25).

Stations of the Cross

Will take place on Fridays during Lent, starting from 20th February at 6pm.

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Craft Club Saturday 7th March 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 13th March** @ 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.

From the Plymouth Office:

Please click on the link to the Diocese of Plymouth Newsletter for February:
<https://email.workwithgusto.co.uk/t/t-0BE37BCB3841CCDF2540EF23F30FEDED>

Gather 2026

20th-22nd March 2026 at Livermead Cliff Hotel, Torquay

This year's theme is 'I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live' and our speakers include Avril Baigent (School for Synodality) and Fleur Dorrell (The God who Speaks).

We are delighted that we will also be joined by Bishop Nicholas as we journey together synodally - we'd love you to join us too!

Booking forms are available by emailing: plymouthgather@yahoo.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. There is normally someone 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 REP: Jennie Haynes

PASTORAL COUNCIL: Deacon Jonathan Simon,
Georgina Bruce, Tricia Chapman,
Tim Kelly, Tess O'Rourke and Lulu Paul.

HALL BOOKINGS: Please email or phone the Office