



**Catholic Parish of
The Sacred Heart and St Aldhelm
Sherborne
27th July 2025**



**World Day of Prayer for Grandparents and the Elderly
Daily Mass Year 1 – Daily Prayer 1**

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

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	26th	6.00 pm	Anne Kennedy RIP
Sunday	27th	10.30 am	For Grandparents & the Elderly
Monday	28th	10.00 am	Elizabeth Nadasy RIP
Tuesday	29th	10.00 am	Private Prayer & Exposition
Wednesday	30th	10.00 am	John & Maeve Moriarty's intentions
Thursday	31st	10.00 am	Private Prayer & Exposition
Friday	1st Aug	10.00 am	Fr. Robert's Intentions
Saturday	2nd	6.00 pm	Margaret Smith RIP



Sherborne Churches Together invites us to pray for a particular worshipping community each week. Today we pray for Castleton and Lillington Churches.

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

“Grandparents”

Last week we all received great encouragement and hope from our second celebration of First Communion this year – the young people in the Church can be such an inspiration. However, this weekend is the Feast of St Joachim and Anna, traditionally the names given to the parents of Our Lady. This feast which, is now designated for grandparents and the elderly, reminds us that the elderly too can be a source of inspiration. Pope Leo has offered a reflection on this – here are some of his thoughts:

“The life of the Church and the world can only be understood in light of the passage of generations. Embracing the elderly helps us to understand that life is more than just the present moment and should not be wasted in superficial encounters and fleeting relationships. Instead, life is constantly pointing us toward the future. In the book of Genesis, we find the moving episode of the blessing given by the aged Jacob to his grandchildren, the sons of Joseph; his words are an appeal to look to the future with hope, as the time when God’s promises will be fulfilled. If it is true that the weakness of the elderly needs the strength of the young, it is equally true that the inexperience of the young needs the witness of the elderly in order to build the future with wisdom. How often our grandparents have been for us examples of faith and devotion, civic virtue and social commitment, memory and perseverance amid trials! The precious legacy that they have handed down to us with hope and love will always be a source of gratitude and a summons to perseverance.”

“Especially as we grow older, let us press forward with confidence in the Lord. May we be renewed each day by our encounter with him in prayer and in Holy Mass. Let us lovingly pass on the faith we have lived for so many years, in our families and in our daily encounter with others. May we always praise God for his goodness, cultivate unity with our loved ones, open our hearts to those who are far away and, in particular, to all those in need. In this way, we will be signs of hope, whatever our age.”

God bless us all - the children making their First Holy Communion, and the elderly who so often can help us to appreciate the gift of himself who nourishes us whatever age we may be!

- Fr Robert

Prayers of the faithful

27th July - 17th Sunday of the year

We pray for the church throughout the world: for all who profess one Lord, one faith and one baptism.

We pray for those in our world whose lives are a constant struggle that the Lord may respond to their need.

We pray for all those in the parish who are sick and housebound, all those who support them, and all who have need of our prayers.

We pray for ourselves that we may be fed by the Lord who comes in Word and Sacrament.

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

Please pray for

Please pray for Jill Gorbing who died recently, and whose funeral will be held on 7th August at 2pm – may she rest in peace.

Sunday Readings – a brief reflection

Sunday 27th July – 17th Sunday C.

Gen 18:20-32 Ps 137 Col 2:12-14 Lk 11:1-13

The readings offered this Sunday can be the occasion for a reflection on prayer – something that is always worthwhile, though seldom easy! In the book of Genesis there is clearly a very easy relationship between Abraham and God, expressed both implicitly and explicitly. This is quite clear again in today's passage. It is a wonderful picture, as if the author has deliberately portrayed Abraham as some seller in the marketplace haggling with a prospective buyer – constantly trying to adjust the price in his favour – and what a knock-down price he achieves! As we discover later in Genesis, Abraham's haggling is in vain for the city cannot be saved so great is its sin: there are not even ten just men there.

Nonetheless we should note that Abraham's concern and his earnest pleas for God's mercy are for those who are undeserving – a lesson in prayer that all might take to heart when it is so easy to condemn others from a position of self-righteousness. The gospel too is about persevering in prayer – even though we need to make sure we don't portray God as one who has gone to bed and is loath to get up for a friend. The really important religious truth behind the parable is clearly laid out in Jesus' explanation: "If you then, who are evil, know how to give your children what is good, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" As all the great spiritual writers have emphasised, prayer is an essential part of discipleship; it is about living in trust with God, which is why perseverance is the key to these readings.

For reflection:

*In what ways do you think that your faith makes you a person of prayer
able to persevere even when you see no results?*

*What helps you to trust God when you turn to Him in prayer time and
again?*

Church Services this week

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

***Private prayer and exposition – Tuesday and Thursday: 10.00 -
11.00.am***

Confessions – Saturday 5.00 – 5.45.pm and on request

***Diocesan Jubilee passports “Pilgrims of hope” are available for you to
collect in the sacristy.***

***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.***

Dates for your Diary

Sunday 3rd August – Parish Open Meeting after Mass.

This is your chance to see and also have a say at what goes on in our lovely parish.

Could any group reports for the meeting, please be sent to the office by Monday 28th July – many thanks!

***** Craft Club is having a break for the summer holidays – next club will be on Saturday 6th September – we look forward to seeing you then. *****

STEPPING STONES

Jenny Campbell wishes to thank all those who took a copy of her book and gave donations. The sum of £50 was raised for our church flower fund.

From the Plymouth Office:

Please click on the link below to our July diocesan newsletter :

<https://email.workwithgusto.co.uk/t/t-B8279C3D887A1C132540EF23F30FEDED>

Caritas July Newsletter:

Click to read the latest edition of the Caritas Diocese of Plymouth newsletter, with news of love in action and upcoming events in our diocese. <https://tinyurl.com/ys728x94>

Youth Rally 2025, Saturday 20th September, St Rita's, Honiton. 12-18.00.

Aimed at those aged 6-16 years. Come as a team of 6 (over 12's or under 12's) or join a team. It's a fun way to meet others from across the Diocese, have a go at some of the challenges and maybe win a trophy.

To book: <https://forms.office.com/e/swtEZ0viqV> For further information: youth@prcdtr.org.uk

Unbound FREEDOM IN CHRIST

Prayer Conference 20th/21st St Boniface RC College. Plymouth.

Deliverance. Freedom. Belonging.

- Negative thoughts, repetitive sins and unhealthy relationships.
- Destructive habits, idols, and false identities.
- Resentments and bitter wounds that never seem to heal.

What if you could reach out and touch God's love and never be the same?

Unbound is a non-confrontational freedom and inner-healing ministry, which helps people worldwide reclaim their true identity in Christ.

Author and co-founder Matt Lozano will be speaking live from the USA.

Mass. Confessions. Adoration. Trained ministry teams Praise and worship. Tickets £40 via the link.

Booking essential. Tickets not available on the door. Over 18's only.

Book your ticket here

<https://givealittle.co/c/5dBfepB2Akl3YpEkxi3Qr1>

For more details 01752 701660 or 07940 453607

Jubilee Day for Catechists – Saturday 27th September

In this Jubilee year this day is for all Catechists and those interested in being catechists. “My teaching is not mine, but His who sent me” (Jn7,16) Speakers include Dr Pat McGovern and the LIFT Team from Truro and Deacon Tim van Kroonenburg.

This day will also provide opportunities to connect with fellow catechists and share ideas of fruitful pastoral practice in our challenging times. The day will be held at the Buckfast Abbey Conference centre on *Saturday 27th September 10am – 4pm.*

To register please email : plymouth-crownhill@prcdtr.org.uk We look forward to seeing you there.

Fr. Jon Bielawski (Delegate for Evangelisation and Catechesis)

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 11am Thursday. 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 REPS: Kristine Mountain
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