



**Catholic Parish of
The Sacred Heart and St Aldhelm
Sherborne
3rd August 2025**



Daily Mass Year 1 – Daily Prayer 2

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	2nd	6.00 pm	Margaret Smith RIP
Sunday	3rd	10.30 am	For People of the Parish
Monday	4th	10.00 am	Mary Bills RIP
Tuesday	5th	10.00 am	Private Prayer & Exposition
Wednesday	6th	10.00 am	Patrick Samuels RIP
Thursday	7th	10.00 am 2.00 pm	Private Prayer & Exposition Requiem Mass – Jill Gorbing RIP
Friday	8th	10.00 am	Sr. Maureen Gainey RIP
Saturday	9th	6.00 pm	For Sheila Stirling



The Pope's Intentions for August are for political leaders – that they work with integrity and for the common good.

Sherborne Churches Together invites us to pray for a particular worshipping community each week. Today we pray for Cheap Street Church.

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

“Grand children”

Last week we prayed especially for grandparents and the elderly guided by Pope Leo’s reflection. I thought it was slightly amusing about the timing of that as, it seemed to me, the church was even more full than usual of the very young – lots of little children, toddlers and babies in prams – including the newest twins in the parish due to be baptized before Advent!

I don’t remember a time when there were so many children coming up in procession with the Offertory gifts – it is such a joy to see them, and their parents, as part of the parish community gathered for Mass. We are very blessed as a parish to have such great resources to make them welcome: having the parish hall attached makes it easy for parents and children to slip out, when necessary, it’s perfect for the Children’s liturgy, and coffee and biscuits after Mass is always attractive to all ages. Of course, all that can only happen because we have parishioners who make families welcome, who help the little ones understand the readings and help them be part of it all, and then others to ensure there are refreshments, and a safe place for the young to expend some of the energy they seem to have in abundance.

I have no doubt that all of this is a really important part of our ministry as parish to those who come through the doors of the church and want to belong to the community of faith, who want to encounter Jesus in Word and Sacrament, and who want their children to begin their own journey of faith in a caring and positive setting. I am sure that, like me, most of the older parishioners appreciate how important it is that little children and their parents find us a welcoming and safe community where everyone can flourish.

God bless us all - the children amongst us as well as the elderly who so often can help us all by their example to appreciate the gift of Jesus who nourishes us whatever age we may be!

- Fr Robert

Prayers of the faithful

3rd August - 18th Sunday of the year

We pray for the church in this parish throughout the world: for all who put their trust in Jesus as the Word of God come into the world.

We pray for those in our world who hunger for food, for safety, for company and for security.

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

We pray for ourselves that we may always make the Lord our security and the gospel our hope.

We pray for those who have died: that they may have eternal life.

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

Please note – the annual parish Open meeting after Mass this Sunday.

Sunday Readings – a brief reflection

Sunday 3rd August – 18th Sunday C.

Eccl 1:2, 2:21-23 Ps 89 Col 3:1-5, 9-11 Lk 12:13-21

There is a very contemporary feel about a lot of the Book of Ecclesiastes. This is certainly true of the short passage offered for today's first reading. Scholars debate a great deal about its context and origins, but no one doubts the relevance of much of the book. A lot of the Wisdom writings reflect the questioning of the old world order under the influences of other cultures on the faith of Israel. Similarly today many in our contemporary culture are challenged by ideas and perceptions which come from other worldviews which are different from received and established norms and structures. The writings such as Ecclesiastes suggest that all structures and established ways of seeing things may be questioned and challenged. The gospel given for today speaks very powerfully to the contemporary western world where security is presumed to reside in what a person possesses. Just as Jesus speaks in parables, so the wisdom writers often speak in riddles for the same reason; in this way they challenge the listener to delve deeper and search further. Discipleship is a constant quest – and no obvious or simple answer will bring that quest to an end, just as no simple adoption of a contemporary world view, such as a quest for material security, will prove to be more than vanity!

In a similar vein writing to the Colossians Paul demands a radical conversion of them – they are to set their hearts “on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth”. He tells them that it is Christ who is their life – a powerful riposte to the depressing musings of the preacher Quotheth.

For reflection:

*How do you understand the first reading with its talk of “vanity”?
What helps you to have confidence in God when you turn to Him in
prayer and trust in his love and mercy?*

Church Services this week

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

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

Requiem Mass 2.00pm Thursday

Confessions – Saturday 5.00 – 5.45pm 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. Please join us if you can!

***** 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. *****

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>

MARRIAGE HELP - Retrouvaille helps couples find hope and healing for their marriage. www.retrouvaille.org.uk
or **Tel: 0788 7296983**

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 September, 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