



**Catholic Parish of
The Sacred Heart and St Aldhelm
Sherborne**



**26th January 2025
THE WORD OF GOD**

Daily Mass Year 1 – Daily Prayer 3

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 25th	6.00 pm	Jennifer Harvey-Kelly RIP
Sunday 26th	10.30 am	Peter Quinn RIP
Monday 27th	11.00 am	Requiem Mass for Diana McGuinness RIP
Tuesday 28th	10.00 am	Private Prayer & Exposition
Wednesday 29th	10.00 am	People of the Parish
Thursday 30th	10.00 am	Private Prayer & Exposition
Friday 31st	10.00 am	Sr. Carmel's Intentions
Saturday 1st Feb	6.00 pm	Bob & Bridie Pitcher RIP

Confessions on Saturdays 5.00-5.45pm or on request.



Sherborne Churches Together invites us to pray for a particular worshipping community each week. Today we pray for Sherborne Abbey. We hope that this will bring our Christian family closer together.

Please keep in your prayers Diana McGuinness, and Patricia Steele, who died recently. May they rest in peace.

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

“The Presentation of the Lord”

Next Sunday we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (2nd February). It represents the 40 days since Christmas and the birth of the Lord. The Presentation describes how Mary and Joseph take the infant Jesus to the Temple for him to be presented to the Lord in fulfilment of the Law of Moses, as described in the gospel.

It is sometimes called the feast of Candlemas, because in the liturgy there is a prayer of blessing over candles which are carried into the church at the beginning of Mass. The candles held by the people represent the light of Christ entering the Temple, the body of Christ coming into the church.

It is another of these key moments that the scriptures record as epiphanies, events in which Jesus is revealed as Son of God, awaited Redeemer, light of the world, so it fits in with the feast of the Epiphany, the Baptism of the Lord, the miracle of Cana, all of which we have celebrated over the last few weeks.

The introduction to the opening of the Mass emphasises that although Mary and Joseph take Jesus to the Temple in accordance with the Law, at another level he goes to encounter his faithful people, because moved by the Holy Spirit, the old priest Simeon who has been promised a sight of the Lord, and the aged Anna, who has spent her life in the Temple in prayer, and similarly is moved by the Spirit, come forward and recognise in the infant the promised saviour and proclaim him as such. The bringing together of the infant Christ and the aged figures helps to tie together the promises of the Old Testament with the revelation of their being realised in the New. So you might want to light a candle this coming weekend and offer a prayer of thanksgiving of the light of Christ in your life.

May God bless all of us in this parish and keep us all together rejoicing as we celebrate the light of Christ in our midst.

Fr Robert

Prayers of the faithful

Third Sunday in Ordinary time

We pray for the church throughout the world: for all Christian churches which acknowledge Jesus as the Light of the nations.

We pray for all people across the world who need our prayers at this time. For the victims of natural disaster, of war and violence and political uncertainty

We pray for all who minister in this church and serve the community in all aspects of parish life – may the Lord bless their work, and may we value their contribution.

We pray for ourselves that we may cherish the word of God and allow ourselves to be fed by the Lord in word and sacrament.

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

Sunday Readings – a brief reflection

Sunday 26th January

Neh 8:2-6, 8-10; Ps 18; 1 Cor 12:12-30; Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

There is a real sense of drama in the first reading today and in the gospel which relates to it – both recount something every mass-goer is familiar with – the proclamation of the scripture in the worshipping community and its interpretation. Both Nehemiah and Mark build a sense of anticipation – this is something significant and the crowd is full of expectation. In the first reading all the people are in tears as they listen to the word of the Lord, in the gospel “all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him.” The word is proclaimed and it is a word which touches the people. The Liturgy of the Word is not simply an introduction to the Eucharistic Prayer, nor is the opening up of it by the preacher merely an incidental. In *Evangelium Gaudium (138)* Pope Francis writes: “preaching should guide the assembly, and the preacher, to a life-changing communion with Christ in the Eucharist.” The lives of the “men, women and children old enough to understand” and the crowd in the synagogue in Nazara are challenged by the word spoken and broken open. Such can be the experience of every community gathered to encounter the Lord in word and sacrament. Sometimes we all need reminding that the word of the Lord is alive and active, sometimes we all need to ensure that preparation is necessary for us as individuals and as community to receive the word of God if it is indeed to be “a life-changing communion with Christ”.

For reflection:

Do you often reflect on the significance of the readings that you hear at Mass? Do you expect them to bear fruit in your life? Do you expect the preaching you listen to as a “life changing communion with Christ”?

***Mass this week in the church
Monday – Requiem 11.00, Wednesday and Friday at 10.00***

Please pray for Diana McGuinness who taught at St Antony's and whose funeral will be celebrated this coming Monday, and for her family.

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 through the Convent door, or leave in the office postbox. 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



Craft Club in the Church Hall Saturday 25th January 3-4.30pm

'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*

The Rendezvous Community Cuppa – all welcome 10-11.45am at Cheap Street Church Hall.

Mondays – 17th Feb, 17th March, 21st April and 19th May
Drinks £1, Homemade cake or savoury item £2.

An appeal to our Milborne Port parishioners.

If anyone is able to provide a lift to Mass for a lady living in Milborne Port, would you please contact her son directly on: adrian.j.chitty@gmail.com.

Thank you!

From the Plymouth Office:

Can you help?

CARITAS are appealing for a parish rep – please see poster in the narthex. *Thank you!*

An invitation to survivors

We have two survivor groups in the diocese that have now been running for over a year, which provide an opportunity for anyone with lived experience of abuse to share their thoughts and ideas about survivor support work in our diocese. We are grateful to all those who so generously give of their time to attend these meetings.

The diocese would welcome the opportunity to hear from others who have a lived experience of abuse, so that we can involve them in the work we are doing to support survivors. If you would like to help us with this work, or you would like to find out more, please contact: Sophie Scagell (Survivor Support Caseworker) on 01364 645436 / sophie.scagell@prcdtr.org.uk

UNBOUND

Practical guide to deliverance and true Freedom in Christ.

In this Jubilee year where Pope Francis has asked us to be “Pilgrims of Hope” this day will offer practical guidance on the spiritual battle of life and how inner healing and deliverance can give us true freedom in Christ.

The day is being led by Sue Walsh the National Co-ordinator of Unbound Prayer ministry UK, and will be held at : ***Buckfast Abbey conference centre on Saturday 15th February 10am-3pm. (Dart View Room 4).***

There is an opportunity to go to the Abbey mass at noon. Bookings need to be done through plymouth-crownhill@prcdtr.org.uk Enquiries: 01752 701660. We look forward to seeing you.

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 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,
Michael Farebrother, Tim Kelly,
Tess O'Rourke and Lulu Paul.

HALL BOOKINGS: Please email or phone the Office