

# St. Aldhelm's NEWSLETTER

Father Thomas Kulandaisamy, MSFS  
Deacon Steve Boughton  
Deacon Rémi Thivet



## I Sunday of Lent, 22 February 2026

**Live Webcam Link for all our Masses**

[churchservices.tv/malm](https://churchservices.tv/malm)

**To Make your Weekly Contribution Online**

<https://www.saintaldhelms.com/donate>

**New Parish Hall Project**

[saintaldhelms.com/new-](https://saintaldhelms.com/new-)

**Wednesday Word**

[www.wednesdayword.org](http://www.wednesdayword.org)

**St Joseph's School Website**

[st-josephs-malmesbury.](https://st-josephs-malmesbury)

### **Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Aldhelm's,**

We hope you are ok wherever you are. We are delighted to be in touch with you through this newsletter. We extend a warm welcome to all visitors and thank you for joining us in celebrating the Lord's love for us in the Holy Eucharist. There are no strangers here, just new friends you have not yet met!

Genesis recounts the original temptation, where Adam and Eve freely chose disobedience, seeking to "be like gods," bringing sin, death, and a broken relationship

with God. St Paul explains that Adam's disobedience affected all humanity, but Christ restored that relationship through perfect obedience to the Father. In the Gospel, Jesus faces temptation in the desert and overcomes it through prayer, fasting, and trust in God's Word. He refuses to turn stones into bread for self-satisfaction, to test God by dramatic proof, or to gain worldly power through idolatry, remaining faithful to His divine mission

### **Welcome to Michael and Family**

At the 10.00am Mass on Sunday 22nd February, we will warmly welcome Michael and his family to our parish community.

Michael was baptised in Australia, and the family have recently joined our parish. At the beginning of Mass, a candle will be presented as a simple sign of the light of Christ first received at Baptism, and of our shared faith. We are delighted to have Michael and his family with us and assure them of our prayers as they continue their journey of faith among us.

**Please note** there will be **no mass** on 26 Feb Thursday, but instead Morning Prayer

### **Pastoral Letter**

This weekend at all masses, we will have the pastoral letter of Bishop Bosco read out.

### **Lenten Reflection Booklet – Visit of Sr Marie de Monfort**

On Sunday 1st March, we will be pleased to welcome Sr Marie de Monfort, who will be with us at both Sunday Masses. Sr Marie has recently prepared a new booklet entitled "*Witnesses Reflect*", offering reflections on the events of the Passion and Resurrection through the eyes of those who witnessed them. Some of you may remember that she mentioned this when she was with us in November for the launch of our parish history. It is a particularly helpful little booklet as we enter the season of Lent — a gentle aid to prayer and reflection during these important weeks. Sr Marie will say a few words at the end of each Mass to explain more about it. The booklets will be available after both Masses at £3 per copy, with £1 from each sale going to the parish. Every little helps, and the proceeds will support our parish hall fund. We are grateful to Sr Marie for this thoughtful initiative and look forward to welcoming her among us once again.

### **The Spiritual Adoption 2026**

The Spiritual Adoption is a powerful prayer for those children who are in danger of death in the womb of their mothers. The Adoption starts with the oath taken in church usually on (or close to) Annunciation Day and lasts for nine months till Christmas. In this time you say one decade of the Rosary each day and a daily prayer for your adopted child. You can also decide to do some extra spiritual exercise or an additional resolution, but

this is optional.

We do not know who our child is or where she or he might live. Only God knows his or her name. (You can give your child a name of your choice though, so that you feel closer.) Everyone can adopt a child - men and women of every walk of life, even children - providing they are mature enough to keep praying for 9 months.

The Spiritual Adoption has started in our parish four years ago and we would like to keep up the good work. This year we will take the oath on Sunday, 22nd March at 10.30 Mass. If you would like to volunteer and save a life or you just need more information please contact Dora Smereczynska on 07448573976 or e-mail:

[dorota.smer@gmail.com](mailto:dorota.smer@gmail.com).

You can also see our parish website to learn more about the subject:

[saintaldhelms.com/even](http://saintaldhelms.com/even)

### Lenten devotions

20 Feb Fri 6.30pm: Stations of the Cross

27 Feb Fri 6.30pm: Benediction

6 March Fri 6.30pm: Stations of the Cross

13 March Fri 6.30pm: Benediction

20 March Fri 6.30pm: Sacrament of Reconciliation and opportunity for individual confession

27 March Fri 6.30pm: Stations of the Cross

### Collection figures for this week

Loose     £115.01

Env NGA   £ 25.00

**Marriage Encounter.** For the past 50 years Worldwide Marriage Encounter has been offering marriage enrichment experiences all around the world. Focused on couples who want to enrich their relationship and discover God's desire for their marriage. The Marriage Encounter weekend and on-line experience are an opportunity to explore your relationship at a deeper, more intimate level, regardless of how long you have been together. Thousands of couples in the UK have benefited from a Marriage Encounter Experience, and our next event is a residential weekend at Swindon Holiday Inn Express from 27<sup>th</sup> February – 1st March 2026. Please see the poster below for more details and to book to come.

**Lenten Reconciliation Services.** Bishop Bosco invites you to join him during this season of Lent to celebrate the abundant mercy of God through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Join him at one of the five venues across our diocese on the poster below as part of your Lenten Pilgrimage. Our nearest is 10th March at The Church of

the Immaculate Conception, Devizes at 7pm. Building upon the beautiful gatherings during Lent he is inviting our diocesan community to gather with him in celebration of God's merciful love as part of our Lenten journey. There will be priests available at each venue to celebrate sacramental reconciliation. You will be most welcome at any of the venues.

**Confirmation Paperwork - 2022/2024.** We're just tidying and checking our confirmation records, and whilst the team have completed most of the forms please could anyone (or their parent/guardian) who was confirmed in 2022 or 2024 provide their confirmation name and full name of their sponsor for us to check. Please send your details to Annette via email at [annettebed50@gmail.com](mailto:annettebed50@gmail.com) or phone/text/WhatsApp on 07733283012. Many thanks

### **Parish Hall Fundraising**

**Gold and Silver Collection** - Please do help us in our fundraising towards the Parish Hall by donating any unwanted gold or silver of any size or weight. Everything helps. Please see the poster below and we'll be collecting anything you have to offer after Masses in February

**QR code.** We are so very grateful for all your kind donations to the hall and to the items we need to buy for the running and safe operation of the hall. We've been asked how to donate to help us, and the details are on the website here [Saint Aldhelms Malmesbury](#) and if you would like to donate to our parish hall with your phone please just point the camera on your phone to the QR code below and it will take you to the parish Donation page. Thank you so very much for your kindness and generosity and please know that it will have a wonderful effect on generations to come.



### Roof Tiles

With the roof works due to begin imminently, the opportunity to secure your family's legacy by purchasing and signing a roof tile for the new Parish Hall will soon be drawing to a close.

As the Bishop has done we warmly encourage you to take part in this special moment in the life of our parish. By adding your name — or your family's names — you become a visible part of the Church's future here in Malmesbury, while also supporting the vital fundraising effort for this exciting new space. There will be more tiles available in the porch in the next few days.

Tiles are available for £25 each and can be purchased and signed after the weekend Masses, when volunteers will be on hand to assist you. Where appropriate we will also claim the Gift Aid on your donation.

To donate: [donate.mydonor.com/st-a](https://donate.mydonor.com/st-a)

About our parish hall: [saintaldhelms.com/new-hall](https://saintaldhelms.com/new-hall)



**Archbishop Richard Moth Installed the Twelfth Archbishop of Westminster**

The Most Reverend Richard Moth was today installed as the Twelfth Archbishop of Westminster during a Mass of Installation at Westminster Cathedral at 12 noon on Saturday, 14 February 2026.

The Mass of Installation followed a Service of Solemn Vespers held in the Cathedral on Friday evening, attended by clergy, religious, and representatives of schools, parishes and Catholic organisations from across the Diocese of Westminster. To the sound of a fanfare specially composed by Simon Johnson, Master of Music, Archbishop Moth entered the Cathedral through the Great West Door and was greeted by the Provost Canon Shaun Lennard.

The rite of reception draws on an ancient Pontifical used at Canterbury during the time of Archbishop Chichele (1414–1443). It has been customary in Westminster since the restoration of the Catholic hierarchy in England and Wales in 1850 and the appointment of Nicholas Wiseman as first Archbishop of Westminster.

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/archbishop-richard-moth-installed-the-twelfth-archbishop-of-westminster/>

### **Marriage Mass celebrates over 5000 years of marriage**

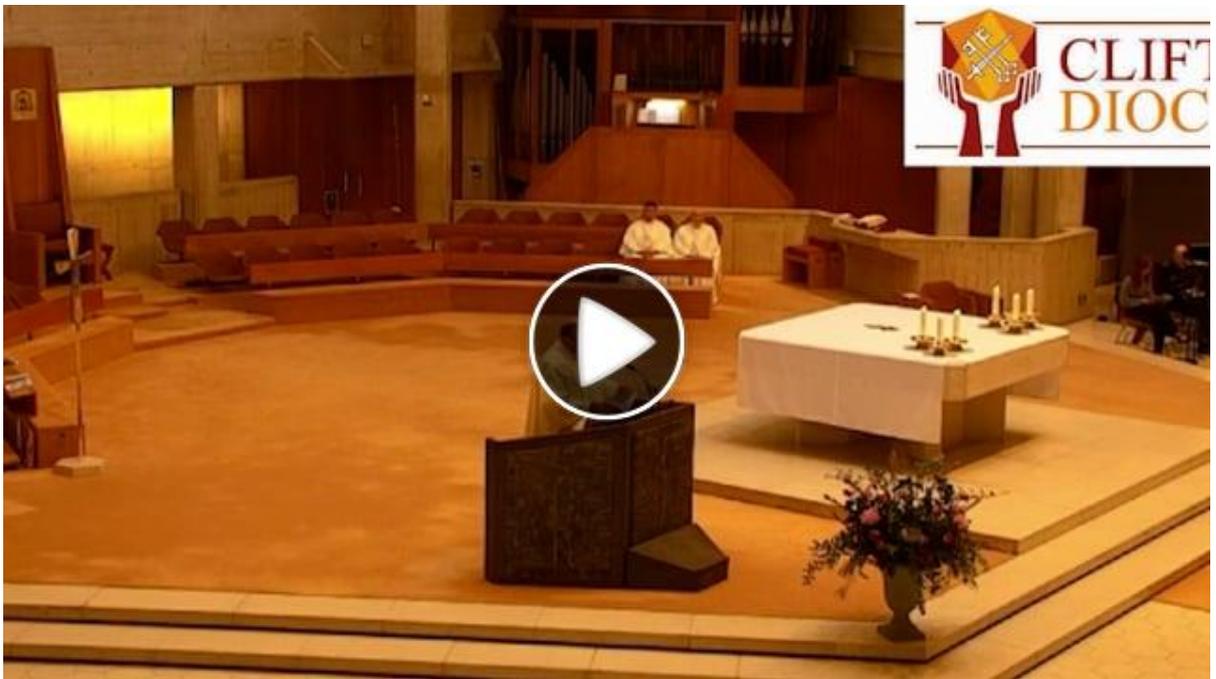
Last Saturday, on a cold but gloriously sunny Valentine's day, 150 couples, family and friends making a congregation of 600+ gathered to celebrate over 5000 years of marriage.

With Bishop Bosco in Westminster for the Installation of Archbishop Richard Moth, Mgr. Liam Slattery concelebrated with priests from the Diocese offering a beautiful and uplifting celebration of the Mass for all present.

Speaking of the joys and challenges, the love and the commitment, Mgr. Liam gave voice to the witness and vocation to marriage as lived out by the couples present (Homily available below).

Having rained so much for weeks, the appearance of the sun added to the occasion, allowing everyone to feel full of gratitude.

Bishop Bosco commends “ordinary heroism of married love”: Bishop Bosco commends “ordinary heroism of married love” | Clifton Diocese



# ENCOUNTER 2026

Encounter@cliftondiocese.com



Join us for prayer, praise and fellowship, and hear from Harry (16) as he shares how the Holy Spirit has awakened his faith and called him to lead others to Christ with courage and joy.

**Clifton Cathedral, BS8 3BX**

**Apostle Room**

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

**Parish Mass at 9.30 am. Session starts at 10.30am - 1pm**



**CLIFTON  
DIOCESE**

### Mass Intentions Requested:

21 Feb Sat 6.30pm: Missa pro populo

22 Feb Sun 8.30am: For the repose of the souls of Justin Douglas and Yasmin Renton  
RIP (offered by their family)

22 Feb Sun 10am: For the repose of the soul of Michael James Gilchrist RIP (offered by Frank Gilchrist)

### Liturgy Schedule for the week

Weekends: Mass, Sat 6.30, Sun 8.30am and 10am

23 Feb Mon: Mass at 10am

24 Feb Tue: No Mass

25 Feb Wed: No Mass

26 Feb Thurs: Morning prayer at 10am

27 Feb Fri: Mass at 10am, 6.30pm Benediction

### Wisdom from Saints

“We cannot talk about God, but woe to the one who remains silent about him.” ST.

AUGUSTINE (354-430, Doctor of the Church, the most important writer and theologian of the early Church)

PS: Newsletter items to be in by Thursday noon  
([malmesbury.staldhelm@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:malmesbury.staldhelm@cliftondiocese.com))

**With every blessing**

Father Thomas, Deacon Steve, and Deacon Remi

26 Cross Hayes, Malmesbury, Wilts, SN16 9BG  
01666 822195

[malmesbury.staldhelm@c](mailto:malmesbury.staldhelm@c)  
[www.saintaldhelms.com](http://www.saintaldhelms.com)

<https://www.facebook.com/saintaldhelm>



LENT 2026



A FUTURE full of

# HOPE

LENTEN reconciliation



*'It is the same compassion with which the Lord comes to meet each one of us: He does not ignore us, he knows our pain, he knows how much we need help and comfort. He comes close and never abandons us.'*

*Pope Francis, General Audience, 27 April 2016*

*Bishop Bosco invites you to join him during this season of Lent to celebrate the abundant mercy of God through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Join him at one of the five venues across our diocese as part of your Lenten Pilgrimage.*

#### RECONCILIATION LITURGIES

**Tuesday 24 February**  
St Mary, Glastonbury

**Thursday 5 March**  
Sacred Heart, Tisbury

**Tuesday 10 March**  
Immaculate Conception,  
Devizes

**Tuesday 17 March**  
St Joseph, Tewkesbury

**Tuesday 24 March**  
Christ the King, Thornbury

*Each Liturgy will start at 7pm*

# RECONCILIATION

CELEBRATING THE FATHER'S MERCY





## “Embrace your life together in Love”

For the past 50 years Worldwide Marriage Encounter has been offering marriage enrichment experiences all around the world. Focused on couples who want to enrich their relationship and discover God's desire for their marriage.

The Marriage Encounter weekend and on-line experience are an opportunity to explore your relationship at a deeper, more intimate level, regardless of how long you have been together. Thousands of couples in the UK have benefited from a Marriage Encounter Experience.

Our next experience is:

Residential weekend at Swindon -Holyday Inn Express  
27<sup>th</sup> February – 1st March 2026

To find out more or book an experience:

[Book on Marriage Encounter weekend - Swindon 27th Feb-1st March 2026](#)

[enquiries@wwme.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@wwme.org.uk)

[wwme.org.uk](http://wwme.org.uk)



**Why Not Donate Your  
Unwanted Silver and Gold?**



**For Funds Towards the Parish Hall**

**Place your Donations in  
a Self-Addressed Envelope for  
Collection at All Masses During  
February**