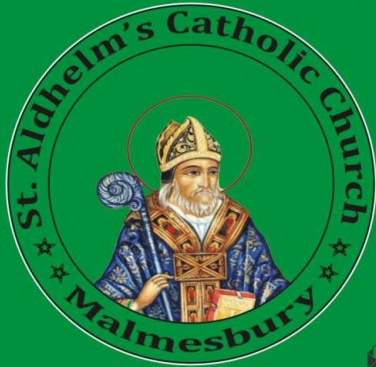


St. Aldhelm's Newsletter



Father Thomas Kulandaisamy MSFS
Deacon Steve Boughton

 - www.saintaldhelms.com
 - <https://www.facebook.com/saintaldhelm>
 - Aldhelms RC Malmesbury
 - malmesbury.staldhelm@cliftondiocese.com
 - 01666 822195
26 Cross Hayes, Malmesbury, Wilts, SN16 9BG

XXI Sunday in OT, 24 August 2025

Live Webcam Link for all our Masses

churchservices.tv/malm

To Make your Weekly Contribution Online

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

New Parish Hall Project

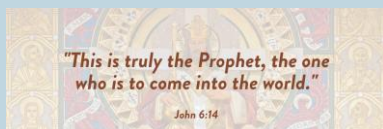
saintaldhelms.com/new-

Wednesday Word

www.wednesdayword.org

St Joseph's School Website

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



Rosary prayers

Oct24.docx

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



Reflections for
the Mysteries of
The Rosary
Oct24 (1).docx

here, just new friends you have not yet met!

Readings this Sunday

Isaiah's prophecy speaks to the exiles returning to Jerusalem, assuring them that salvation is not limited to Israel but open to all, including pagans. His book concludes with a vision of all nations streaming to Jerusalem to praise God. The Responsorial Psalm "Go out to all the world and tell the Good News," underlines Israel's mission as a light to the nations. St Paul, in the second reading, reminds believers that the "narrow gate" of following Christ means embracing suffering as God's loving discipline. In the Gospel, Jesus teaches that salvation comes through the narrow way of sacrificial love and service. He urges his disciples to focus on their own salvation with humility and self-discipline, rather than concerning themselves with the fate of others. Together, the readings stress universality, discipline, and love as the true path to salvation.

The Fashion Reboot organised by Josephine on 9th July raised a wonderful £359, our grateful thanks to her and to everyone who helped make it such a success.

Coffee morning

On Thursday (14th of August), the coffee morning at Longridges brought in £140, again, heartfelt thanks to Anna and David, and to all who baked such lovely cakes.

Fundraising from Petticoat Lane

A huge thank you to Kim Power and Catherine Doody for raising an incredible £406 at Petticoat Lane on 17th August for our parish hall, an amazing achievement in just one morning! Their energy, friendship, and generosity were truly inspiring. Kim sold items belonging to her late mother-in-law, for whom we pray, and whose memory continues to bless our parish. As former Mayor of the town, Kim has supported us in so many ways over the years, and we are deeply grateful for all that she and Catherine continue to do for our parish community.

Collection Figures

Loose	£365.46
Env NGA	£57.10

Env GA £150.00

Candles £298.68

Coffee, Fashion Reboot, Petticoat Lane, Plants Donations - £1,100.00

Catholic Association/Clifton Pilgrimage Lourdes

Please remember in your prayers those pilgrims representing our parish and diocese, who have joined many others from the UK on the Catholic Association's annual pilgrimage to Lourdes this week. Do join them through this link : Catholic Association — Virtual Pilgrimage 2025

If you are interested in joining the pilgrimage next year, or know someone who may well benefit from the opportunity , do contact with Christopher Page on 07748 643 738

Tony Lux RIP

Please keep Anne Cook's brother, Tony Lux, in your prayers, who has recently passed away. We remember him with love and commend him to God's mercy. We also hold Anne, Mike, and the family in our prayers at this difficult time, asking the Lord to grant them comfort, strength, and peace. A Mass will be offered for the repose of his soul. For those who may wish to write to Anne and Mike, their address is: 36 Magdalen Road, Tetbury, GL8 8LG.

To Those on Holiday (or Thinking of One!)

Whether you're already soaking up the sun or still dreaming of a break, we wish you rest, refreshment, and safe travels. May your time away be a blessing, offering space to unwind and reconnect with yourself, with loved ones, and with God. Don't forget to pop into a local church if you can, it's always special to worship with a different community. And when you return, we look forward to hearing your stories and seeing your sun-kissed smiles!

MARRIAGE HELP - Retrouvaille helps couples find hope and healing for their marriage. Next date: 17th-19th Oct. retrouvaille.org.uk Tel: 0788 7296983

Having difficulty with sign up?

We've had a few questions about the new sign-up process for our parish events, especially regarding the **secure login code**. This is a **new feature**, different from what many of you were used to before. It's been added to help protect your information and prevent spam sign-ups. When you try to sign up, the code is sent to your registered email. So go to your email, collect the code and input it, and you will be able to sign up.

Confirmation 2026

Our next Confirmation celebration will take place on Tuesday 19th May 2026. If you

have a child currently in Year 8 or 9, or know someone who would like to join the Confirmation preparation classes starting in February 2026, please sign up using the link sent to your email by 31st August 2025. We will be in touch in the autumn with further details.

Confirmation

[Sign Up](#)

19 May 2026 Tuesday

First Holy Communion – June 2026

We are now welcoming enquiries from parents of children who will be in Year 3 or above from September 2025, and would like them to prepare for First Holy Communion in June 2026. Preparation will begin in November 2025. Please express your interest before the end of the summer term by emailing: [✉ mary.lillis@outlook.co](mailto:mary.lillis@outlook.co) and copying:

[✉ malmesbury.staldhelm@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:malmesbury.staldhelm@cliftondiocese.com)

Kindly include your child's name and age as of September 2025.

FHC June 2026

[Sign Up](#)

28 June 2026

Canonisation of Blessed Carlo Acutis, Sunday 7th September

As you are aware, Blessed Carlo Acutis will be canonised in Rome on Sunday 7th September. This is a joyful and historic moment for the whole Church and particularly special for us, as our church is home to the only known stained-glass window dedicated to Carlo and we share a deep devotion to him.

To mark this occasion, our 10am Sunday Mass on 7th of Sep will be celebrated in his honour. Following the Mass, we have booked the Town Hall for refreshments and a reception to celebrate this event. To help with catering, it would be a great help if you could sign up in advance to indicate your attendance at the reception.

Carlo Acutis Celebration

[Sign Up](#)

7 Sep Sun 11.45am

Ordination of Remi Thivet to the Permanent Diaconate, Saturday 20th September

After four years of preparation and formation, Remi Thivet will be ordained a permanent deacon at Clifton Cathedral on Saturday 20th September at 11am.

We have organised a coach to take parishioners to the ordination, with around 45 seats available. The coach will depart from here at 9.15am, allowing plenty of time to arrive, settle in. If those who sign up can be ready in the churchyard by 9am, it will greatly help with boarding and preparations.

If you wish to travel on the coach, please sign up only if you are certain you can attend, so as to avoid confusion or last-minute cancellations (except of course for serious reasons). Please keep Remi, Frances, little Agathe and Clément in your prayers as they prepare for this beautiful moment in their lives and the life of the Church.

Remi's Ordination

[Sign Up](#)

20th Sep Sat 11am

Thanksgiving Mass for Rem, Sunday 28th September, 10am

We will celebrate a Thanksgiving Mass for Remi on Sunday 28th September at 10am, followed by a reception at the Town Hall. Once again, we would be grateful if you could sign up for the reception so we can plan accordingly. Your presence will be a great encouragement to Remi and his family, and a visible sign of our love, gratitude and support as a parish community.

Thanksgiving mass and reception

[Sign Up](#)

28th Sep Sun 11.45am

Mission Masses in the Clifton Diocese

During this Jubilee year of Hope, Missio will be celebrating three Mission Masses in our diocese. The main diocesan celebration will be Mass with Bishop Bosco at 7pm on Tuesday 16 September at Holy Family Catholic Church, Southsea Road, Patchway, Bristol BS34 5DP.

Missio volunteers, Red Box supporters and the wider diocesan community are invited to join Bishop Bosco and Fr Anthony Chantry MHM (National Director of Missio England & Wales), along with Mill Hill Missionaries for this special celebration.

Two further Masses have been organised for September. Each Mass will be followed by a time to share our enthusiasm and experiences of supporting the mission of the Church.

Tuesday, 9 September 7pm, St Augustine of Canterbury Catholic Church, Matson Lane, Matson, Gloucester GL4 6DT.

Thursday, 18 September 7pm, St Catharine's Catholic Church, Park Road, Frome, Somerset BA11 1EU.

If you'd like any more information or if you could help in any way at one of the Masses, please email redbox@missio.org.uk To find out more about the work of Missio visit: missio.org.uk

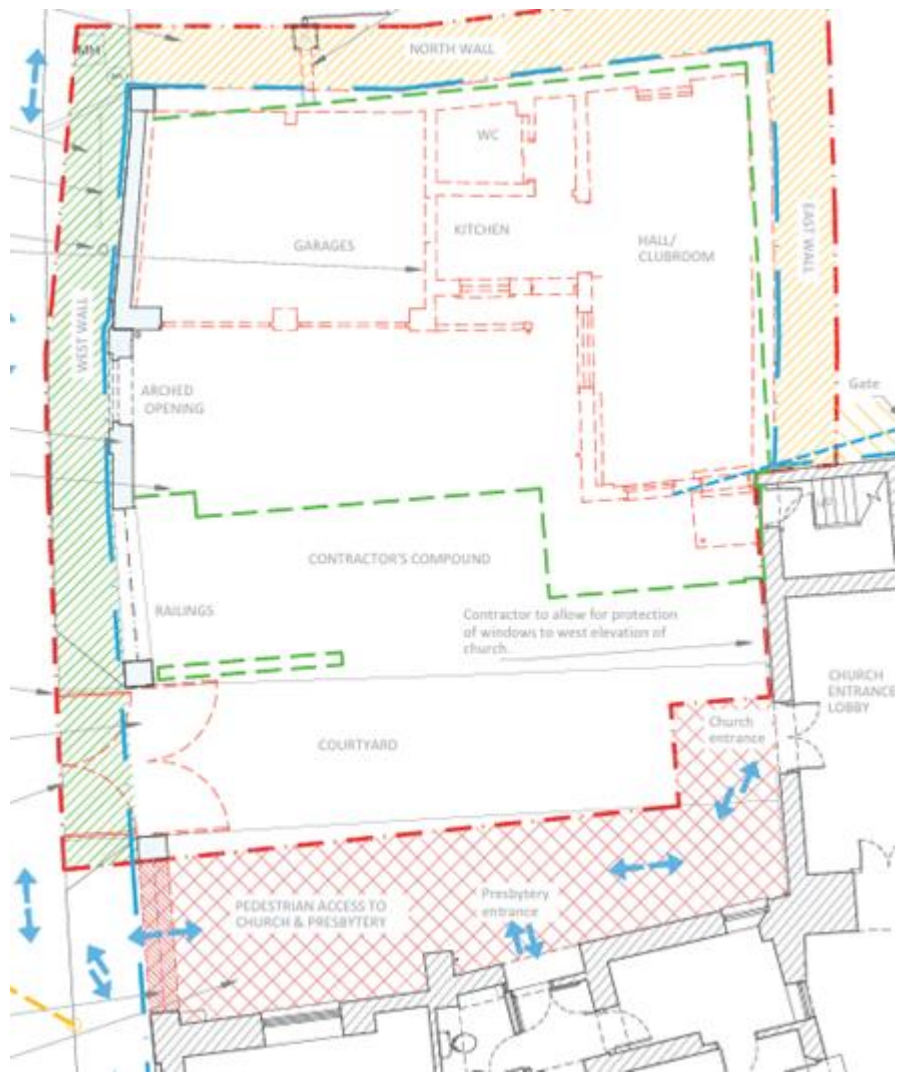
HALL UPDATE 21st August 2025

We are pleased to report that good progress has been made with our parish hall project, and we have met the conditions from the diocese to allow us to start the build. We have resolved the VAT issue with HMRC. Raised sufficient funds to make a start and agreed a firm price with the contractor.

On the 20th of August we have had formal approval to proceed. We still need £40,000 so we will continue to fundraise through events, our applications to donors and grant giving bodies. We will also continue to sell tiles for the roof.

It is planned to start the build on the 1st September. We will at that stage lose the use of the clubroom and garages. Access to the choir loft will also not be available during the build.

We will lose most of the courtyard to the contractor during the build. Our access to the church will be via a path cut down adjacent to the presbytery shown crosshatched in red on the diagram below. The church will be open as usual. In addition we must be prepared dust and the noise in the court yard.



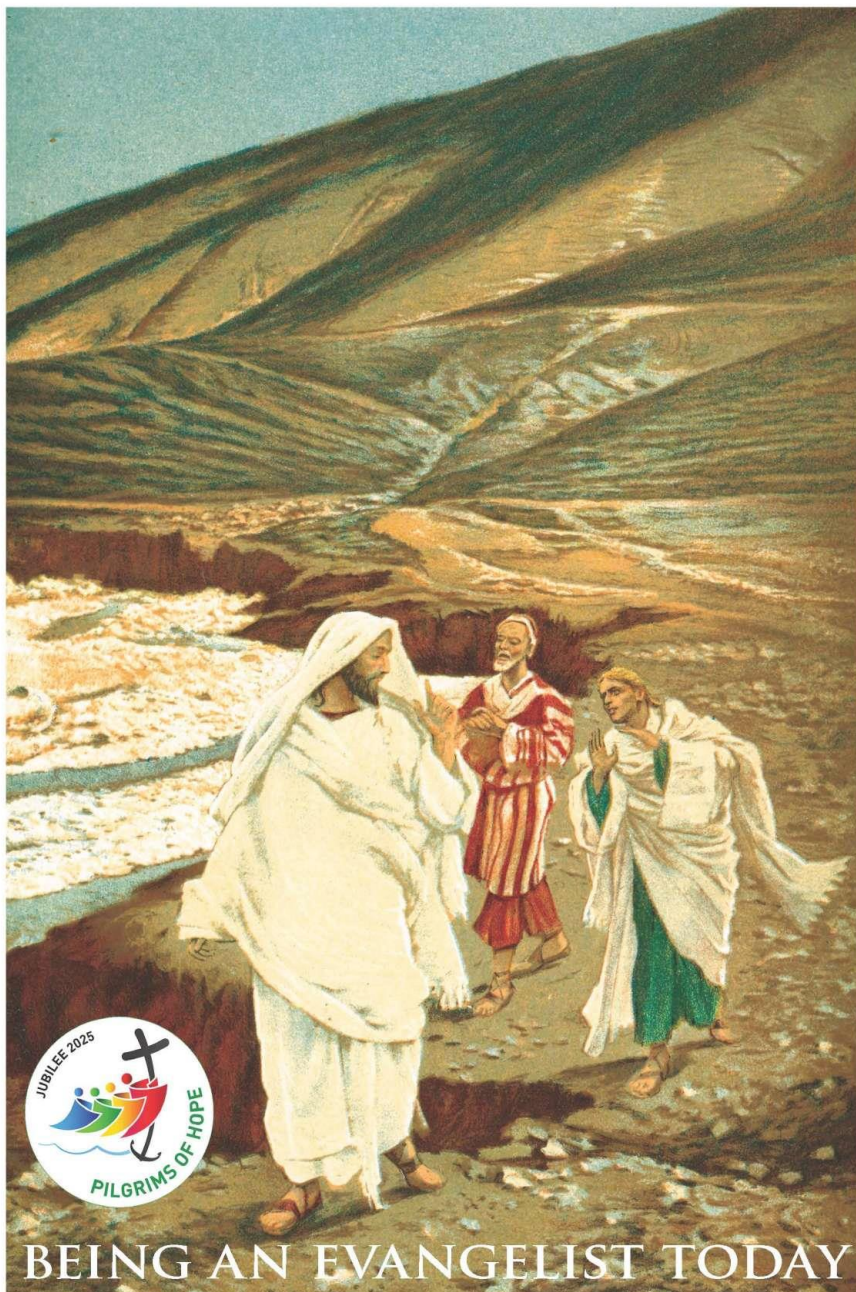
DEPARTMENT FOR ADULT EDUCATION AND EVANGELISATION



A FUTURE full of

HOPE

FORMATION DAY



BEING AN EVANGELIST TODAY

THE TOOLS REQUIRED TO BE A JOYFUL WITNESS OF JESUS

Our annual Formation Day will take place on **11 October** at **St. Brendan's College, Brislington**, with Mgr John Armitage (Parish Priest, Former Rector of the National Basilica of Our Lady of Walsingham and Master of the Guild of Our Lady of Ransom) as our keynote speaker. He will be reflecting on the theme of **'Being an Evangelist Today: the tools required to be a joyful witness of Jesus'**.

In addition, there will be several workshop options for you to attend. You may choose two workshops when booking your ticket. Please bring a packed lunch for the day.

You can register on the Clifton Diocesan website (latest news) or on the Eventbrite link:
diocesanformationday.eventbrite.co.uk



Masses Requested:

23 Aug Sat 6.30pm: For Annette Crouch as a thanksgiving mass (offered by Lillis family)

24 August Sun 8.30am: *Missa pro populo*

24 Aug Sun 10am: For the intentions of Remi and his family, preparing for ordination to diaconate (offered by Lillis family)

25 August Mon 10am: For the repose of the soul of Ian Crouch RIP on the anniversary of his death (offered by Annette Crouch)

28 Aug Thurs 10am: Thanksgiving Mass for parish Jubilee, MSFS and Parishioners (offered by Lillis family)

29 Aug Fri 10am: For the repose of the soul of Tony Lux RIP (offered by Anne and Mike Cook)

Uncover the treasures of faith:

"Faith seeks understanding: it is intrinsic to faith that a believer desires to know better the One in whom he has put his faith and to understand better what He has revealed. A more penetrating knowledge will in turn call forth a greater faith, increasingly set afire by love." (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, no. 158)

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

Please do join us for coffee on Sunday after 10am mass, and on Thursdays after 10am mass.

With every blessing

Father Thomas and Deacon Steve

Retreat Handouts for Weekly Reflection

During our annual retreat this year our preacher kindly provided a set of handouts, one for each talk, designed to support our personal reflection and prayer. Just sharing with you here in case you find them helpful for your own reflection and meditation.

Envy

He was the first always: Fortune
Shone bright in his face.
I fought for years; with no effort
He conquered the place:
We ran; my feet were all bleeding,
But he won the race.

Spite of his many successes
Men loved him the same;
My one pale ray of good fortune
Met scoffing and blame.
When we erred, they gave him pity,
But me – only shame.

My home was still in the shadow,
His lay in the sun:
I longed in vain: what he asked for
It straightway was done.
Once I staked all my heart's treasure,
We played - and he won.

Yes; and just now I have seen him,
Cold, smiling, and blest,
Laid in his coffin. God help me!
While he is at rest,
I am cursed still to live:— even
Death loved him the best.

Adelaide Anne Procter

Envy

'O my God, I want to listen to you well,
I beg you to answer me when I ask you humbly: What is truth?
Make me see things as they really are.
Let nothing throw dust into my eyes.'

St Therese

'Seeking truth is squaring one's mind with reality - not the other way round.'
Mgr John O'Connor (the original Fr Brown)

'Since I have taken up my position in the arms of Jesus,
I am like a watchman observing the enemy from the highest tower of a fortress.
Nothing escapes me; often I am astonished at seeing so clearly.'

St Therese

'You are your own chief neighbour.'
St Catherine of Siena

The Sword of Surprise:

Sunder me from my bones, O sword of God
Till they stand stark and strange as do the trees;
That I whose heart goes up with the soaring woods
May marvel as much at these.

Sunder me from my blood that in the dark
I hear that red ancestral river run
Like branching buried floods that find the sea
But never see the sun.

Give me miraculous eyes to see my eyes
Those rolling mirrors made alive in me
Terrible crystals more incredible
Than all the things they see.

Sunder me from my soul, that I may see
The sins like streaming wounds, the life's brave beat
Till I shall save myself as I would save
A stranger in the street.

G K Chesterton

'When you have real eyes
You realise
Where the real lies.'
Richard Rohr