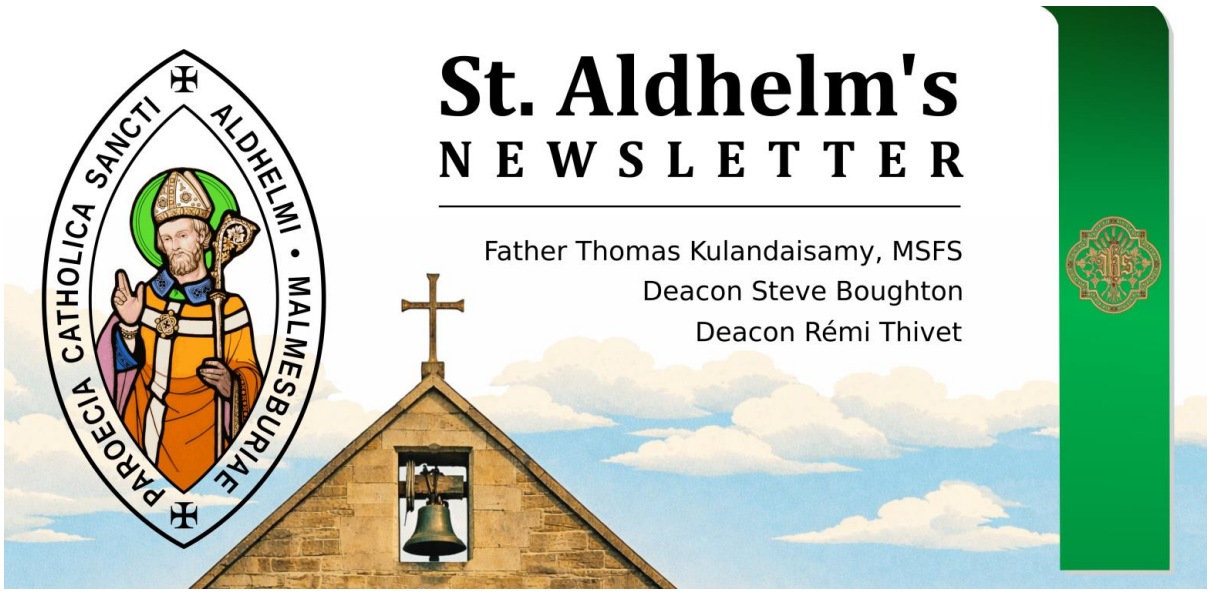


XXX Sunday in OT, 25 Oct 2026

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.k

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!

Readings Summarised

The first reading from Exodus reminds us to love our neighbours, especially the poo

and vulnerable, as ourselves. The Israelites are called to remember their experience as aliens in Egypt and to treat others with the same kindness and compassion that God showed them. The second reading praises the Thessalonians for their faith, mutual love and welcoming spirit. Their Christian example has inspired believers elsewhere and strengthened the spread of the Gospel. In today's Gospel, Jesus unites the two greatest commandments: love of God and love of neighbour. These are inseparable, forming the foundation of Christian life. Since every person is created in God's image, loving our neighbour is a way of honouring God Himself. True love is not simply a feeling or a matter of words; it must be expressed through practical deeds of kindness, compassion and generosity. Having received God's unconditional love, we are called to share that love with everyone, especially those who are most in need.

Parish Hall Inauguration – Further Update

With stormy weather and heavy rain forecast for today, we are preparing for Plan A, the wet-weather arrangement, unless the weather improves. We will make the final decision close to the time and keep our fingers crossed for the best possible conditions!

Plan A – If it rains

Please go straight into the church or the hall. The blessing and prayers will take place inside the hall, with the clergy gathered there. Understandably, due to space limitations, not everyone will be able to be present in the hall for the blessing. Following the rite of blessing, Mass will begin with the entrance procession and hymn.

Plan B – If the weather is fine

The rite of blessing will take place in the courtyard, and the Bishop will go around sprinkling and blessing the hall after the prayer. Everyone is welcome to gather there, while those who prefer to be seated may take their places in the church or the hall. After the blessing, everyone will move inside for Mass, with the clergy and ministers preparing for the entrance procession and hymn.

Please follow the guidance of our ushers, who will direct everyone according to the weather conditions and help everything run smoothly. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

A Warm Welcome to Emma Murrie

We are delighted to welcome Emma who has been joining us for Sunday Mass and exploring the Catholic faith. We keep her in our prayers as she continues her journey of faith and discerns her calling to join the Catholic Church. We accompany her on this journey with our prayers, friendship and support.

Safeguarding Presentation – Sunday 25 October

We are pleased to welcome Janice Pearson, Head of Safeguarding for the Clifton Diocese, who will join us at the 8.30am and 10.00am Masses on Sunday, 25 October. Immediately after the Prayer after Communion, she will give a brief two-minute presentation introducing the diocesan safeguarding team and highlighting the importance of safeguarding within our parish and Diocese. We warmly welcome Janice and thank her for visiting us.

Called Home to the Lord: Michael Badeni RIP

It is with deep sadness that we share the news that Michael Badeni passed away on the night of Monday, 19 October, after a brave battle with cancer.

Michael faced his illness past few months with remarkable courage, resilience and hope, remaining positive and placing his trust in the Lord even during the most difficult moments. A man of faith and a devoted supporter of our parish, he will be remembered with gratitude for his prayers, friendship and faithful presence in our community.

Our prayers are especially with his beloved wife, Sarah, his children, Alexander and Amelia, his sister, Mary, his grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and all his extended family. The loss of Michael is made even more poignant by the fact that his mother passed away on 13 October and his father on 25 October, in different years, making October a particularly difficult month for the family. May they feel surrounded by the love, prayers and support of our parish community, and find strength and consolation in one another and in the loving presence of the Lord.

Help a Young Person Attend FLAME 2027

FLAME 2027 is the largest Catholic youth gathering in England and Wales, bringing together thousands of young people for a day of faith, worship, inspiration and encounter with Christ.

The Diocese of Clifton would love to enable as many young people as possible to attend, but we do not want cost to be a barrier. We are therefore inviting parishioners to sponsor a young person or make a donation towards our diocesan FLAME 2027 fund.

Donations can be made via MyDona at Donate to Clifton Diocese. Please quote "FLAME 2027" as your reference.

Every donation will help reduce the cost for young people attending and make this life-changing opportunity accessible to those who might otherwise be unable to go.
To learn more about FLAME 2027, visit FLAME 2027. Thank you for supporting the young people of our Diocese.

Baby Loss Support – Parish Survey

As we approach Baby Loss Awareness Week this October, the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales is gathering information about the support currently available in parishes and dioceses for families who experience baby loss.
The aim is to understand what spiritual, pastoral and chaplaincy support is currently available and to identify ways in which support for bereaved parents could be strengthened from a Catholic perspective.

The survey is intended for parishes, dioceses, hospital chaplains, and those involved in marriage and family ministry, as well as anyone who supports families experiencing baby loss and grief.

If you have experience of supporting families in this situation, or are aware of support available locally, you are warmly invited to contribute to the survey. One response can represent the work of several individuals or groups.

To take part or find out more, please contact Samantha Ash:
Email: samantha.ash@cbcew.org.uk
Your experience and suggestions will help the Bishops' Conference understand the needs of bereaved families and work towards better support for those who have experienced the loss of a baby.

Baby Loss Existing support FINAL survey CBCEW.docx

New Bishop of Arundel & Brighton calls for care for those in need and a growth in holiness, as he begins ministry.

Catholics across Sussex and Surrey welcomed a new bishop on Monday 19 October, when Bishop Stephen Wang was ordained as the sixth Bishop of Arundel & Brighton.

Pope Leo XIV announced Bishop Stephen's appointment in July. Monday's Mass of Ordination at the Cathedral of our Lady and St Philip Howard was attended by His Excellency Archbishop Miguel Maury Buendía, Apostolic Nuncio to Great Britain, clergy, consecrated men and women, and lay faithful, with representatives of other Christian traditions and the Muslim, Jewish and Hindu communities, united in marking this important moment in the life of the Diocese.

The presider was the Most Reverend John Wilson, Archbishop of Southwark, with the Most Reverend Richard Moth, Archbishop of Westminster, and His Eminence Cardinal Vincent

Nichols, Archbishop Emeritus of Westminster, serving as co-principal ordaining bishops.

https://www.cbcew.org.uk/new-bishop-of-arundel-brighton-calls-for-care-for-those-in-need-and-a-growth-in-holiness-as-he-begins-ministry/



Mass Schedule and Intentions

24 Oct Sat 6.30pm: For the repose of the soul of Eileen Jane Creighton RIP
25 Oct Sun 8.30am: For the repose of the soul of Sr Ann Stafford CJ RIP
26 Oct Sun 10am: For the repose of the soul of Jan Badeni RIP (offered by Badeni family)
27 Oct Mon 10am: Missa pro populo
28 Oct Tue: *No Mass*
29 Oct Wed: *No Mass*
30 Oct Thurs 10am: As a thanksgiving mass offered by Val Cleaver
31 Oct Fri: 6pm: Thanksgiving Evening Prayer

Wisdom from Saints

We have lost paradise but have received heaven, and therefore the gain is greater than the
ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM (349/350-407, Doctor of the Church)

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

A Special Gift to St Aldhelm's: "Original Painting of 'Christ Mocked"



We're delighted to share the news of a very special gift to our church. Andrew Parker Bowles has most generously donated an original painting entitled Christ Mocked, by the distinguished artist Albert Houthuesen, in loving memory of his late wife, Rose Parker Bowles.

Albert Houthuesen (1903–1979) was a Dutch-born British artist who moved to London as a child and studied at the Royal College of Art, where his contemporaries included the sculptors Henry Moore and Barbara Hepworth. He developed a distinctive artistic style and produced a wide range of works, including landscapes, portraits and religious subjects. His paintings are represented in important British collections, including the Tate and the British Museum.

The substantial, beautifully framed painting is an original work of particular interest and rarity, rather than a reproduction. Its expressive treatment of Christ's suffering makes it a poignant addition to our church. The painting is said to have been revisited by the artist, with successive layers of brushwork deepening the intensity and pathos of the scene, bringing home the humiliation and suffering endured by Our Lord.

The painting has now been installed on the side wall of the church, beside the crucifix. Placed together, these two powerful images complement one another: Christ Mocked draws our attention to the humiliation and cruelty Christ endured, while the crucifix reminds us of His ultimate sacrifice on the Cross. Together, they invite us to pause, reflect and enter more deeply into the mystery of Christ's Passion and His boundless love for us.

The placement of the painting has been undertaken following consultation with the Diocesan Liturgical Committee, and appropriate insurance arrangements have been made in view of its value and significance. Andrew has also thoughtfully arranged for a commemorative plaque, make in memory of his late wife Rose.

We thank Andrew wholeheartedly for his generosity and for entrusting this remarkable work to St Aldhelm's. May this gift enrich the prayer and spiritual life of our parish community for many years to come. May Rose rest in peace!