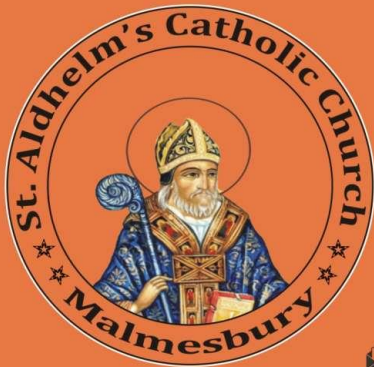





St Aldhelms Roman Catholic Church

St. Aldhelm's Newsletter



Father Thomas Kulandaisamy MSFS
Deacon Steve Boughton

 - www.saintaldhelms.com

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

 - Aldhelms RC Malmesbury

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26 Cross Hayes, Malmesbury, Wilts, SN16 9BG

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord 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-

Mass Schedule

Weekends: Sat vigil 6.30pm, Sun 8.30 & 10am

Weekdays: Vary throughout January, so please check in the section below. Generally Monday a 10am Mass and Thursday (Mass) and Friday (MP) 10 am, but do please check for each week

Wednesday Word

www.wednesdayword.org

St Joseph's School Website

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

The Baptism of the Lord

Today's scripture highlights the official revelation of **Jesus as the Son of God** to the world by God the Father. Hence, it is described by all four Gospels. It marks the beginning of Jesus' public ministry.

The turning point: His baptism by John was a very important event in the life of Jesus. First it was a **moment of identification** with us sinners. Sinless, Jesus received the baptism of repentance to identify himself with his people who realized for the first time that they were sinners. (As given in the anecdotes, St. Damien, St. Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa), Gandhi, and Mandela identified with the people whom they served). Second, it was a **moment of God's affirmation** of His identity and mission: that He is the Son of God and His mission is to preach the Good News of God's love and salvation and to atone for our sins by becoming the "*suffering servant*." God the Father's words, "*This is my beloved Son,*" (prophesied in *Ps 2:17*), confirmed Jesus' identity as God's Son, and the words "*with whom I am well pleased,*" (prophesied in *Isaiah 42:1*; referring to the "*suffering*

servant”), pointed to Jesus’ mission of atoning for the sins of the world by His suffering and death on the cross. Third, it was a **moment of equipment**. The Holy Spirit equipped Jesus by descending on him in the form of dove, giving him the power of preaching and healing. Fourth, it was a **moment of decision** to begin public ministry at the most opportune time after receiving the approval of his Heavenly Father as His *beloved Son*.

Let us take the time to reflect on our own Baptism, and to give thanks for the graces the Lord gave us through our Baptism, and pray to the Lord to show us the Vocation to which each of us is called.

Clifton Diocese - Catechists and Formation Sessions

[Beyond the Threshold](#) – creating safe spaces for people to find out who we are, what we believe and what we’re like!

Last Chance to book onto this day - see the link below

A day for all! On Saturday 18 January we will explore the key principles that we need to employ before we embark on any specific programme of catechesis. Our day at St Brendan’s College, Brislington, will start at 10am (9.30am refreshments) and will be led by International Speaker and Author, David Wells as our keynote speaker. In addition, there will be a series of workshops to look at how we apply the principles of creating a safe space, enabling others to know who we are, what we believe and what we are like!

To register for the day please click on the Eventbrite link: beyondthethreshold.eve

Online sessions

[The Happy Life of Virtue](#): We have seven sessions to discover the virtues of faith, hope, charity, prudence, justice, fortitude and temperance, keys to a holy and happy life, in communion with God and in imitation of Our Blessed Mother Mary. The sessions take place every second Friday of the Month, at 7.30 pm.

14 February - 3: Charity Session

14 March - 4: Prudence Session

11 April - 5: Justice Session

9 May - 6: Fortitude Session

13 June - 7: Temperance

This course is designed for the Catholic Women's Association and is open to everyone. To sign up for the series, please click on the Zoom link [here](#).

A Year of Hope: An Introduction to the Jubilee Year with the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development

2025 is a Jubilee year, but what does that mean? How will the Church be celebrating it? What can I do? Join us for an introduction to the Jubilee with our special guests including Fr Jan Nowotnik, Director of Mission for the Catholic Bishop's Conference, Christine Allen, CAFOD Director, and Kayode Akintola, CAFOD's Head of Africa. Hear highlights of how we're celebrating as a church and see how we can be tangible signs of hope and build a better world together throughout this holy year. And a special appearance by Ooberfuse.

Saturday 18 Jan, 10:30am-midday, online. [Register here for free.](#)

Masses This Week

Please pass Mass Intentions to Deacon Steve at malmesbury.staldhelm@cliftondiocese.com until further notice

We are delighted to welcome Fr Christo back again to celebrate Mass for us this week.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Mrs Pam Boxall from Folkestone in Kent, who was a most wonderful and gifted catechist, and who encouraged generations in their faith. She died last weekend at the age of 95 years after a life of faithful service to the Lord, please include her in your prayers.

11th January - 6.30 pm Mrs Pam Boxall RIP - Fr Christo

12th January - 8.30 am The People of the Parish - Fr Christo

12th January - 10 am - Vocations to the Priesthood -Fr Christo

13th January - 10 am - Fr Christo

14th January No Mass

15th January No Mass

16th January Morning Prayer

17th January No Mass

Collection Last Week

Thank you for your generosity - we received loose collection of £125.57 and Non-Gift Aid Envelopes of £22.00. We also collected £100 for the parish hall from our coffees after Mass. Thank you for your kindness.

Wisdom from Saints for the New Year

'The measure of love is to love without measure' - St Francis De Sales

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