



**The Catholic Parish
of Bishop's Stortford**

the CARPENTER



Tel: 01279 654063 | Email: bishopsstortford@rcdow.org.uk

3 Windhill, Bishop's Stortford CM23 2ND

Parish Office: Monday—Friday 9am to 3pm—Administrator, Mrs Debbie Jackson

Catechetical Co-ordinator— Mrs Sophie Sullivan

www.rcstortford.org.uk

The 4th Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday)

27 March 2022

Our priests are:

Fr Peter Harris, (Parish Priest)
Fr Antonio Pineda, (Asst Priest)

HELP FOR UKRAINE



... WAYS
TO DONATE:
by Bank transfer:
AUGB Ltd,
Barclays Bank, 80038237,
20-65-89 ref: HelpUkraine
or
www.cafod.org.uk
or
by scanning this QR code:



Come and join us at
St Joseph's for ADORATION
of the Blessed Sacrament
and take the opportunity to
celebrate the
**Sacrament of
RECONCILIATION**



each Saturday
with one of our
priests
between
3pm and 4pm

CONTACTLESS QR code
↓ PARISH OFFERINGS ↓



FR PETER IS, QUITE URGENTLY, LOOKING FOR NEW FOUNDATION GOVERNORS FOR ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL – they are appointed by the Diocese and must be practising Catholics. On this occasion he is looking for people who do NOT have any children at the School (*that category is full already*). So, be prepared for Fr Peter to look at you with his special smile and ask you if you might be willing to consider this – OR, even better – offer to be one before he asks you ?? He will be very happy to tell anyone more about the role.

ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY - Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 14th May 2022 at 3pm.

The Cardinal is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5th 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) Wedding Anniversary of Catholic Marriage in 2022. If you are celebrating an anniversary and would like to attend the Mass, please give the parish office the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email) before 31st March 2022 please

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES are available to be collected from the Sacristy from this weekend. Your envelopes will have the same number as previous years. Please do not use until the weekend of 9/10 April. If you no longer wish to donate using envelopes, or you would like to start using envelopes or have changed your address, please contact the office. Please see our Financial Matters newsletter on Gift aid and planned giving.

ENCOUNTER MEETING - next Fri 1st April at St Theresa's, Stansted. All welcome to share faith & friendship in a convivial space, among those we have missed over the last 2 years. 9.30am Mass; Coffee & chat; prayer and readings on a Lenten theme. Shared lunch from 12.30. Enquiries: 652060/ 816916

LENT LUNCH HOLY CROSS - On Saturday 2 April at 12.30pm there will be a simple 'Bring and Share' Lent Lunch at Holy Cross. Parishioners are invited to bring bread, cheese & fruit. Coffee will also be served.

HOLIDAY BIBLE WEEK - 1-5 August 2022 Registration is now open! For all info visit their website www.holidaybibleweek.co.uk. Volunteers are needed.

DON'T FORGET!—The clocks go forward at 0100 this Sunday 27th March.

Please remember to complete a Parish Census Form for your household — Thank you very much!
OR preferably you can do it online via our website, it only takes a few minutes..
www.rcstortford.org.uk/register

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE

Sophie Sullivan, our Catechetical Coordinator and her husband Mike shall be running the next two-part Baptism preparation course on the 25/4 & 2/5 8pm – 9.15pm via Zoom. The places will be limited to a maximum of 10 couples on each. If you would like to attend this course, please contact the parish office ASAP so that we can send you an invitation in plenty of time. You are requested to attend the course prior to your Child being baptised. If you have not yet completed a Baptism application form, please contact the office or speak with Father so that we can assist you with this.



MARY, Mother of Jesus,
you were Jesus' gift for us from
the Cross.
He gave you to us as our mother.
Intercede for all our needs.

Financial Matters

Planned Giving Envelopes for Tax Year starting 6th April 2022



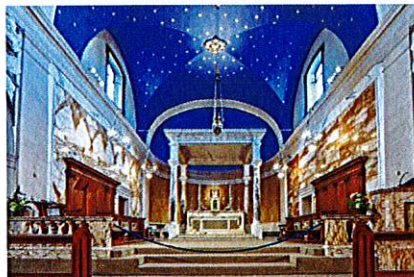
The new Planned Giving Envelopes will be available to collect from the sacristy from Saturday 26th March. Please collect yours if you possibly can, however we will endeavour to deliver any envelopes not collected by Sunday 3rd April during the week 5th to 8th April. Your envelopes will have the same Number as in previous years. The new envelopes must NOT be used until the weekend of 9/10 April. ***If your circumstances have changed and either you no longer wish to make your donation using envelopes, or if you would like to start using envelopes, or if you have changed your address, please let us know*** – see below for contact details.

Gift Aid



The Tax Year ends on 5th April and we will be submitting our Gift Aid Claim for 2021/22 soon after that. If you are registered for Gift Aid but are no longer eligible because you will have stopped paying sufficient UK Income Tax before 5th April 2022 it is important that you let us know immediately, using one of the methods mentioned below, with the date that you stopped paying tax. If you have changed your address, would you also please forward your new contact details to the Parish Office.

Other ways of donating to the Offertory Collection



If you do not already do so, you might like to consider switching your Planned Giving Donations from Envelopes to Standing Order, which will ensure you can make your donation even if you are unable to attend mass in person, avoids the need for you to search for cash, and helps the parish as it saves us having to count and bank the cash. If you are able to switch to Standing Order, please contact the Parish Office as below.

Alternatively you can now donate On-Line using the Dona App in one of three ways:

- By using the Contactless Card Machines at the back of the church before or after mass
- From your Smart phone by scanning the QR Code printed in the Newsletter
- By using the Donate link from the Parish Web-site (www.rcstortford.org.uk).

And of course you can still put your cash offering in the basket at mass

Planned Giving



If you are new to the parish, or your circumstances have changed and you would like to join our Planned Giving scheme, application forms can be requested from the Parish Office.

Contributions can be made using weekly envelopes or by Standing Order – which is more efficient for both the donor and the parish. Standing Order Forms are also available from the Parish Office. If you are a UK Tax Payer and not already registered for Gift Aid, we would urge you to do so. This will enable the parish to obtain an additional 25p for every £1 that you contribute – with no cost to yourself. Last year the parish claimed back over £30,000 in Gift Aid, which helps us to meet the running costs of the parish and to continue with the various repairs needed to maintain the fabric of our buildings across the Parish. To register you will need to complete a Gift Aid Declaration form, available from the Parish Office.

Contact Details

To make any changes to your offertory arrangements, please contact the Parish Office by email at bishopsstortford@rcdow.org.uk, a note to No 3, Windhill, or by phoning 01279 654063 (office open 10am to 3pm Mon-Fri) and leaving a message.

Thank you for your continued support.