



The Catholic Parish
of Bishop's Stortford

the CARPENTER

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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

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

10 April 2022

Our priests are:

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

PRAY FOR UKRAINE



Can You Help?

**A network of support is needed for
Ukrainian Refugees for when they
arrive in our town**

The idea is to build a team of volunteers who will offer to help with tasks such as opening a bank account, registering with a GP, finding a school place for a child, helping with English, learning how to negotiate our bus service etc, and, also supporting the kind Hosts who have opened up their homes, so that they do not feel isolated. The whole support network will keep everybody connected and safe. If you would like to assist, please email your name, how you wish to help and your mobile telephone no. to mionegoldspink@hotmail.com. Please confirm your permission to share your contact details in order to form a WhatsApp group to keep connected & updated with other volunteers.

NEW PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES BEGIN THIS WEEKEND—There are still a few boxes to be collected from the Sacristy. Your envelopes will have the same number as previous years. 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.

HYMN BOOKS—Through the great kindness of one of our Parishioners we have been able to buy new hymn books which are now on the shelves. Many of you kindly contributed financially to the old books in memory of someone special to you and we placed a label in 'their' hymn book. We are happy to 'transfer' their memory to a new book if you would please write down their name and hand it in to No 3 or the Sacristy after Mass, please mark your envelope "old hymn book name". Thank you.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT HOLY CROSS—Wednesday 13 April & Monday 15 April 7pm

JOURNEY TO JERUSALEM AT HOLY CROSS— Tuesday 12 April 3pm, Father Antonio and Rev Steve Bate will jointly lead a short ecumenical service for children. All primary aged children are warmly invited to celebrate with a short craft and light refreshments for all. Please RSVP for further details. Email: salinas1979@hotmail.com

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR VACANCY— Citizens Advice Bureau. For info contact Laura Hyde, Chief Executive hydel@citizensadviceeastherts.org.uk or 01920 459931 Application deadline: 27 April 2022 Interviews: 5 May 2022
www.citizensadviceeastherts.org.uk/paid-staff-vacancies/

CHURCHES TOGETHER EASTER TRAIL—Find the QR codes in shop windows to find some 'truth and treasure'. Prizes to be won. Collect prizes from the Churches Together Market stall Fri 15— Sunday 17 April between 10am—4pm. Help needed to staff the stall! Contact Clive cj.weir@ntlworld.com or 07952835781 to offer your services.

VOLUNTEER AS A DIGNIFIED WORK CHAMPION— The Upper Room and Caritas Westminster invite you to join their free online 'Stepping Stones' programme to learn how to accompany people into dignified employment. Receive full training and support to become a Dignified Work Champion in your parish or outreach project. This programme has been funded by the St John Southworth Fund. More info www.tinyurl.com/workchampions. The programme will start after Easter, the deadline for applications is 15th April 2022.

THE PASSION OF JESUS— Free performances live in Trafalgar Square Good Friday 15 April 12noon & 3.15pm. Also on livestream www.winters

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

HOLY WEEK ACTIVITIES ONLINE ACTIVITIES AND RESOURCES FOR CHILDREN



<https://rcstortford.org.uk/holy-week-kids-activities-portal/>

Please visit our website and find a whole host of different fun resources and activities for children to do during

Holy week

HOLY WEEK 2022



Please visit our website or collect a printed sheet which will give you details of the events and liturgies through Holy Week and Easter.

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 ↓



The Sunday Message from Fr Antonio on Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

On the first Palm Sunday over 2000 years ago, Jesus knew he was entering into a sacred time as he entered Jerusalem on a donkey. Everything he had said and done for three years was leading to the cross. But he also knew that many in Jerusalem that day would fail to recognise his arrival which kicked off Holy Week as their sacred time, as the hour of their salvation.

Palm Sunday is the beginning of Holy Week. It's the beginning of our own sacred time: that's why the week is called holy. For the next seven days, Jesus will appear before us as the suffering Servant of the Lord. Each day we will hear another story that reveals the depth of his love for us. Each day we will see another facet of what it means that he is the Lamb of God who has come to take away our sins.

We've all heard all these stories many times before. So often, in fact, that they may have begun to lose their meaning. How will you hear them this Holy Week? As snippets of ancient history? As echoes of religious education classes at school? Or as life-giving testimonies of a God who loved you—who loves you—enough to sacrifice his life for you?

All week long, we have a golden opportunity to ponder the deepest truths of our faith. And not just to ponder them, but to let the Spirit bring them to life for us. We have the opportunity not just to recall that Jesus died for our sins but to know that every sin we have ever committed can be wiped away. We have the opportunity not just to remember that God raised Jesus from the dead but to know we you are destined for eternal life with him.

The hour has come. Jesus is about to offer himself for us. Don't miss out on the grace of this sacred time. Try to dedicate a few extra minutes for prayer each day. Or spend a little more time with the word of God. Or just gaze at the cross a little longer. Ponder on what makes this week holy. Let the events of Good Friday in particular fill your heart and heal your soul.

Fr Antonio Pineda