



**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 Sixth Sunday of Easter

22 May 2022

Our priests are:

Fr Peter Harris (*Parish Priest*)

Fr Antonio Pineda (*Asst Priest*)

PRAY FOR UKRAINE



*Calling All Golfers!
The Charity Golf Day is back....*



FRIDAY 10 JUNE 2022
at
GREAT HADHAM COUNTRY CLUB.

*Starting with coffee and bacon rolls,
18 holes of golf and carvery dinner in
the evening - all for £60.*

*Entry forms for those without a
computer at the back of St Josephs*

*For more info contact
wilkinsondavid@mac.com or
Angela Tyson on
angelatyson2021@hotmail.com.*

**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 ↓



LOVE STORTFORD – SAT 18- FRI 24 JUNE- Churches Together are organising "Love Stortford", an initiative with the aim of highlighting the Christian presence in our town, by doing activities that show the love of God to the community. The main event is getting involved in the town carnival on Sat 18 June, but there are other events, like litter-picking, acts of kindness and serving tea and coffee, that you can take part in. It would be great to have a strong presence from our church, visit our website or contact Sophie bstortfordcatechist@rcdow.org.uk

SUMMER CAMP—From 1-6 August 2022 at Storrington Priory, West Sussex, is a summer camp especially for those aged between 14-18. A perfect opportunity for fun, friendship and prayer, in a safe environment, and to discover more about your relationship with God. Visit our website or contact Sophie for info at bstortfordcatechist@rcdow.org.uk

GO FUND ME PAGE—A fundraiser has been set up for much loved parishioner Hayley Lynskey and her family for a trip to Disney to make memories that they can cherish forever. Hayley was diagnosed with Cushing syndrome, along with neuroendocrine cancer, which is very rare; she is currently undergoing chemotherapy to try and keep the cancer under control. She has had both adrenal glands removed, which leaves her steroid dependent. Hayley will do anything for anyone! Even when she's feeling so poorly she's still offering to help other people. Making these memories will mean so much to Hayley and her family. If you would like to help visit <https://gofund.me/fc0bac8a>

REQUIEM MASS IN WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL—SATURDAY 28 MAY AT 12.30PM celebrated by Cardinal Vincent Nichols for those priests who died during the coronavirus lockdown when churches were closed and during the time of restricted numbers at funerals. These measures impacted the funerals of 19 priests including that of our former parish priest, Canon Eddie Matthews RIP. The Mass will be live streamed: <https://westminstercathedral.org.uk> We recognise his dedication and love to our parish and pray for the repose of his soul and other priests who died during this time.

ADVANCE NOTICE OF OFFICE CLOSURE—The Parish Office will be closed on Thursday 2 & Friday 3 June for the Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday.

NO MASS will be celebrated at St Joseph's on Friday 3 June. The Mass on Thursday will be at the later time of 10am.

PENTECOST—the obligation on Catholics to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days will take effect on Pentecost Sunday 5 June. It has always been the understanding of the Church that when the freedom of any Catholic to attend Mass in person is impeded for a serious reason, because of situations such as ill health, care for the sick or legitimate fear, this is not a breach of the Sunday Obligation.

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

YOUR PARISH NEEDS YOU!!



Thank you to everyone who has offered their services to help run the 9am & 11am refreshments after Mass.

So far, we have had 9 people volunteer for the 9am Mass and 6 people for the 11am Mass. We will be contacting everyone this coming week to gauge availability and see how best we can put a rota together.

More volunteers are still welcome!

The Ascension of the Lord

Thursday 26 May 2022

The Ascension is 'traditionally' a Holy day of Obligation.

Mass will be celebrated

at 9.30am and 7pm

at

St Joseph and the English Martyrs
on this day

The Sunday Message from Fr Antonio on the Sixth Sunday of Easter

This Sunday's readings are reassuring. They show us the effects of the abiding presence of God in His Church and of His indwelling in each one of us. The first reading, taken from the Acts of the Apostles, tells us how the Holy Spirit, indwelling in the Church, helped the apostles solve a major doctrinal problem about the Gentiles becoming Christians, which shook the very foundation of the early Church. The second reading, taken from the Book of Revelation, describes the Church as the Heavenly Jerusalem which replaces the holy presence of God in the Holy of Holies in the Temple in Jerusalem. This New Jerusalem is a city united in love, with the victorious Jesus residing in it and in each of its members. The Gospel passage reminds us that the Holy Spirit, abiding within us, is our Teacher, our Advocate, and the Source of our peace and joy. The passage offers a vision of hope as well. Jesus promises his followers that the Holy Spirit will come and instruct them in everything they need to know.

The message is clear: let us be aware of the abiding presence of God within us. Every day, we face uncertainty, conflict, and temptations. It is the abiding presence of God within us that enables us to face the future with undying hope and true Christian courage. The Holy Spirit prompts us to turn to the Holy Scriptures for support and encouragement, which enables us to learn the Divine truths and grants us His peace at all times.

However, to receive these gifts, it is necessary for us to spend a little time each day in personal prayer, talking to God and listening to Him. We must deepen our relationship with Jesus, learn to get in touch with him, and sincerely love him. When we listen to the Holy Spirit, we will know His plan for our lives and His solutions to whatever problems we face. We will be able to love our fellow human beings, and there will be a core of peace within us. The Holy Spirit teaches us through the Scriptures and preaching during the Holy Mass. Jesus loves us and comes to us in Communion. When the Mass is ended, we go forth in the peace of Christ — all this under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Fr Antonio Pineda