



The Catholic Parish of Bishop's Stortford

www.rcstortford.org.uk

Our priests are:

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

PRAY FOR UKRAINE



PRAYER FOR THE QUEEN

O Lord, save Elizabeth, our Queen
*R: And hear us on the day we call
upon you.*

O Lord, hear, my prayer.
R: And let my cry come before you.

Almighty God, we pray,

that your servant Elizabeth, our Queen, who by your providence has received the governance of this realm, may continue to grow in every virtue, that, imbued with your heavenly grace, she may be preserved from all that is harmful and evil and, being blessed with your favour may, with the royal family, come at last into your presence, through Christ, who is the way, the truth and the life and who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and

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 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

Pentecost Sunday

5 June 2022

CALLING ALL PARISHIONERS – have you ever thought about supporting the parish by becoming a catechist? It sounds like a very formal term, but a catechist is simply an ordinary member of the parish who helps to "echo", or pass on, the Good News of Jesus to others. There are a number of children, young people and adults who would greatly benefit from having you journeying alongside them as they discover more about the Catholic faith. We have a number of very dedicated catechists, but we are always in need of more! Expertise not required, but a willingness to share a little of your own faith and to learn, so that you can pass on the faith effectively to others. We are sure you will find that you grow in your own faith by volunteering to help others. Training and support can be given to anyone willing to assist this vital work of handing on the faith. The main areas of need are: Baptism and First Holy Communion (children), Confirmation (young people) and RCIA & Marriage (adults). You could volunteer individually or as a married couple. Please contact Sophie to ask any questions by emailing bstortfordcatechist@rcdow.org.uk or chat to one of our priests after Mass. Visit our website <https://rcstortford.org.uk/ministries/catechists/>

CLOSURE OF THE HIGH STREET— in Much Hadham from 11am on Pentecost Sunday from the junction with Church Lane as far south as Londis for a Jubilee Street party. This will make it difficult for some members of the congregation to get to Holy Cross church because parking will be more of a problem, and traffic which normally uses the High Street will probably be using Church Lane.

VACANCY—The Society of Friends of Westminster Cathedral is seeking to recruit a part-time co-ordinator to administer the charity, assist in recruiting new members and in organising events. The appointment, based in Westminster Cathedral Clergy House, is for 20 hours per week at a salary in the region of £14,500 per annum. The appointment is for 12 months, closing date 19 June 2022. For further details please see [For further details visit tinyurl.com/2p84hez4](https://www.tinyurl.com/2p84hez4)

LOVE STORTFORD— It's time to sign up for Love Stortford for the tasks you want to do during Love Stortford Week. There are jobs for absolutely everyone. Follow this link [tinyurl.com/yc4wzae8](https://www.tinyurl.com/yc4wzae8) for more info. Do pick up a paper copy of the volunteer handbook or call 01279 461231 during office hours. Thank you.

ST JOSEPH'S PRE SCHOOL—is open for new applications. It will be under new management as of September when Mrs Kim Foster will head up the school. She has been a teacher at St Joseph's Catholic School for the past 9 years, working in KS1 and more recently, the EYFS. Wrap around care is also available for 2 to 5 year olds. Funded and private places. Please pop in, call us on 07720948441, or email on stjoespre@gmail.com

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

AUCTION OF BELL FITTINGS FROM ST MICHAEL'S BELLS.



Windhill Churches Centre, Friday 24 June.
Viewing from 1.00pm. Auction at 8.00pm
Auction lots to include Clappers, Wheels, Stays, Sliders,
Ropes, Pulleys, Ladders and Running Boards.
Ideal for wall/house/garden decorations/craft projects.
Contact bells@stmichaelweb.org.uk for more details.



ZAMKNIT

The Knitting Group Zamknit will meet on
Monday, 6 June at 2pm- 4pm
in the MHR Extension.

All are welcome.

The Sunday Message from Fr Antonio on Pentecost Sunday

On the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles and the Blessed Virgin Mary as tongues of fire. The frightened apostles were transformed into fiery preachers and evangelisers and were given the gift of tongues by a special anointing of the Holy Spirit. Thus, the early Christians became powerful witnesses and brave martyrs for their Faith in Jesus.

And it was all because of the Holy Spirit! The first Christians allowed the Holy Spirit to transform them. Do we do the same or do we look for something else to give meaning to our lives? I'm reminded of a story I once heard.

More than a century ago, a great sailing ship was stranded off the coast of South America. Day after day the ship lay there in the still waters with not a hint of a breeze. The captain was desperate; the crew was dying of thirst. And then, on the far horizon, a steamship appeared, headed directly toward them.

As it drew near, the captain called out, "We need water! Give us water!" The steamship replied, "Lower your buckets where you are." The captain was furious at this cavalier response but called out again, "Please, give us water." But the steamer gave the same reply, "Lower your buckets where you are!" And with that, they steamed away!

The captain was beside himself with anger and despair, and he went below. But a little later, when no one was looking, he lowered a bucket into the sea and then tasted what he brought up: It was perfectly sweet, freshwater! For you see, the ship was just out of sight of the mouth of the Amazon. And for all those days they had been sitting right on top of all the freshwater they needed!

What we are really seeking is already inside us, waiting to be discovered, waiting to be embraced: the Holy Spirit of God Who has been living within us from the moment of our Baptism. The Holy Spirit is saying to us at this very moment from deep in our hearts, "Lower your buckets where you are. Taste and see!"

Fr Antonio Pineda