



The Catholic Parish  
of Bishop's Stortford

[www.rcstortford.org.uk](http://www.rcstortford.org.uk)

**Our priests are:**

Fr Peter Harris (*Parish Priest*)

Fr Antonio Pineda (*Asst Priest*)

**PRAY FOR UKRAINE**



**MESSAGE FROM  
CARDINAL VINCENT**

I was privileged to be part of an Audience with King Charles. He invited senior faith leaders to Buckingham Palace in order to address us. In my personal conversation with the King, I assured him that the Catholic community had continued, during these days of mourning, in heartfelt prayer for his mother.

He expressed his gratitude for this. And then, turning back to me, he asked me to ensure that the Catholics of our Diocese know of his thanks and gratitude for these prayers.

I am passing this on to you in case there are ways in which His Majesty's message might be conveyed to the people of our parishes.

With every good wish,  
+Vincent

**Come and join us at  
St Joseph's for EXPOSITION 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](mailto: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

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

25 September 2022

**CONFIRMATION 2023** – Confirmation is an important step in a Christian's sacramental life. Preparation for it will require participation in a number of sessions and there is an expectation that you will attend Mass on a weekly basis, and commit to a monthly parish duty or responsibility throughout 2023. To register, your date of birth must be on or before 31 August 2008 (i.e., you must be in Year 10 or above). You will need to provide a copy of your Baptism certificate, if not baptised in the parish. The preparation sessions will take place from November 2022 to July 2023 with an introductory meeting for your parents before the October half term (dates to be confirmed). **Application forms have been available in the Sacristy after Mass since 3/4 September 2022. Completed forms to be returned for the attention of Fr Peter before Monday 26 September 2022.**

**RECONCILIATION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2023** – This parish-based programme is for children who will be receiving the sacrament within the Catholic parish of Bishop's Stortford and not elsewhere. It is open to children who will be 8 years old on or before 31 August 2023. Parents are expected to play a vital and active role in their children's preparation. The children's sessions will take place each month from January to July 2023 and there will also be regular meetings for parents (dates to be confirmed). Children are expected to attend each session and Mass every Sunday. To register, you will need to provide a copy of your child's Baptism certificate, if not baptised in the parish. **Application forms have been available in the Sacristy after Mass since 3/4 September 2022. Completed forms are to be returned for the attention of Fr Antonio before Monday 26 September.**

**GIFT AID IT!**— Donations for Mass intentions, Baptism, Weddings and First Holy Communion etc can all be Gift Aided if you are a UK taxpayer. For every £1 donated 25p can be claimed back. Please see our blue Gift Aid envelopes located at the back of the church.

**ANNUAL MASS COUNT**—This weekend is the second Diocesan Annual Mass count at all of our churches.

**DIOCESE OF WESTMINSTER YOUTH EVENT 'THE BIG SUMMIT'**— Friday 21 October 2022 6pm-8.30pm at Westminster Cathedral for an evening of prayer, Adoration and guest speakers to explore the theme, 'Mary arose and went with haste'. There will be music by One Hope Project, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, guided meditation and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Visit <https://dowym.com/events/the-big-summit/>

**FUND RAISING**—Michael Bonar will be running the London Marathon to raise money for St Elizabeth's. To donate <https://tcslondonmarathon.enthouse.com/pf/john-michael-bonar>

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..

**A PRAYER TO BUILD THE FUTURE TOGETHER  
WITH MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES**

Lord, make us bearers of hope,  
so that where there is darkness, Your light may shine.  
And where there is discouragement,  
confidence in the future may be reborn.

Lord, make us instruments of Your justice,  
so that where there is exclusion, fraternity may flourish  
and where there is greed, a spirit of sharing may grow.

Lord, make us builders of Your kingdom  
together with migrants and refugees  
and with all who dwell on the peripheries.

Lord, let us learn how beautiful it is  
to live together as brothers and sisters. Amen

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER TRAINING**

Saturday 8 October 2022

10am –12pm

Fr Antonio will be hosting Eucharistic Minister training in the Windhill Churches Centre for those parishioners who are interested in becoming a Eucharistic Minister on Saturday 8 October 2022 10am – 12pm. Please do let Father know if you will be attending.