



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**



**THE HOLY TRINITY NIGHT  
SHELTER**

is looking for volunteers for  
overnight and evening. The  
Overnight shift is 9.45pm -  
7.30am and Evening is 7pm -  
10pm. With the cold weather,  
a big surge in demand is  
expected. Anyone new will  
always be with at least one  
volunteer who knows the  
systems etc. If interested,  
please contact via email  
Dave Perry  
on [htnsmanager@outlook.com](mailto:htnsmanager@outlook.com)

**HERTS HELP**

We all need a little support  
from time to time. For  
dedicated advice and support  
for those in need call  
HertsHelp on 0300 123 4044.

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

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

1 January 2023



*God our Father,  
may we always profit  
by the prayers of the Virgin Mother Mary,  
for you bring us life and salvation  
through Jesus Christ her Son  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.*

**THANK YOU!!** Fr Peter and Fr Antonio send their sincere thanks to 'everyone' who generously gave their time and helped over the Christmas period as well as continuously throughout the year. We are blessed to have so many willing volunteers in our parish, from those who clean the churches, read, sing, play music, serve, create beautiful flower arrangements, run groups, organise, visit the sick, look after the repositories, make tea, hand out hymn books, collect money and count money, the list is endless...! They would also like to thank everyone for the kind gifts, cards and good wishes which they very gratefully received and extend their prayers and every good wish to you for a Happy, Blessed and prosperous New Year!

**FLAME 2023—Young People of the Parish (Year 9-14)** On Sat 4 March 2023, you are invited to join thousands of young Catholics at the OVO Wembley Arena for the largest national youth gathering in England and Wales - it promises to inspire and enthuse you in your faith! Do have a think about whether you might like to come, as we need to be able to organise transport in advance, based on numbers attending — it would be great to get a coach load! Check out the CYMFED website for more info and a promo video: <https://cymfed.org.uk/flame>. We are hoping the cost for the day would be between £25 and £35, to be confirmed once we know numbers. We need to arrive at Wembley Arena by 11am and we will leave the venue by 6pm, so it is an all-day event. Collections and drops offs will be from St Joseph's Church. Please let Sophie know if you are interested as soon as you can **(and by Monday 23 January at the very latest):** [bstortfordcatechist@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:bstortfordcatechist@rcdow.org.uk)

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



We hope you have all appreciated the lovely crib scene at St Joseph's, which has been adorning our parish over this Christmas-tide.

Particular thanks goes to Scarlett, Elisha, Céleste and François, as well as adults, Clare, Nick and Sophie, for their hard work and creative eyes putting this year's crib together!

**CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE**

Applicants for St Joseph's School for PRIMARY places in 2023 /24 should collect a white 'embossed' application form for a certificate from No 3 Windhill, the sacristy after Mass or the parish office in person. Once completed it should then be posted through the letter box of No 3 Windhill marked for Fr Antonio's attention **with a stamped addressed envelope**, please. The certificate will be posted to you. The school deadline is **15 January 2023**