



The Catholic Parish
of Bishop's Stortford

the CARPENTER

☎ 01279 654063 | ✉ bishopsstortford@rcdow.org.uk

📍 3 Windhill, Bishop's Stortford, Herts CM23 2ND

Parish Office: Monday to Friday 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Administrator: Mrs Debbie Jackson | **Catechetical Co-ordinator:** Mrs Sophie Sullivan

www.rcstortford.org.uk

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

19 February 2023

Our priests are:

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

PRAY FOR UKRAINE



ADVANCING A CULTURE OF SAFEGUARDING

The Church has a responsibility to ensure all those who undertake work in the name of the Church are adequately trained in safeguarding matters. The EduCare E-learning programme is available to **ALL** members of the Catholic community, **free of charge**.

To access this training & register your interest please email:
safeguardingadmin@rcdow.org.uk

Your email should contain your name, the name of your parish, and your role, i.e. volunteer/parishioner). On receipt of your email, you will be registered for the training with EduCare/TES.

Come and join us at St Joseph's for EXPOSITION of the Blessed Sacrament and celebrate the sacrament of RECONCILIATION each Saturday with one of our priests between 3:00 and 4:00 pm



CONTACTLESS QR code
↓ PARISH OFFERINGS ↓



CELEBRATING 90 YEARS WITH THE GUILD OF ST STEPHEN



On 12 March, our parish is celebrating the 90th year of its affiliation with the Guild of St Stephen. The Guild is an international organisation of altar servers, given papal approbation in 1905. It exists to encourage altar servers to attain a high standard in their ministry; provide them greater understanding of what they are doing; and unite them with servers from different parishes for mutual support. We will celebrate our 90th anniversary at the **9:00 am Mass on 12 March**. All current and former altar servers in our parish are warmly invited to attend that

Mass during which they will renew their Guild promises. We will also be presenting one of our servers with a gold Guild Medal to acknowledge his amazing 50+ years of dedicated service to the Church. More details will follow.

CAFOD SYRIA-TURKEY EARTHQUAKE APPEAL — CAFOD is responding with support of provision of food, water, shelter, medical assistance and winter kits for survivors. Your donations in recent months have made that quick response possible. Let us join CAFOD in praying for our sisters and brothers affected by the earthquakes and the winter weather. Your support for CAFOD throughout the year allows our Catholic agency to act quickly when disasters strike. For more details visit CAFOD's Syria Turkey Emergency Appeal online at <https://cafod.org.uk/give>.

CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE—Applicants for St Joseph's School for **NURSERY** 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 10 March 2023.

ENCOUNTER— meet on Friday 24 February at St Theresa's, Stansted. 'Reconciliation: the sacrament, forgiveness & making peace', led by Fr David Clemens (Saffron Walden parish) 10am coffee 10.30 meeting opens 12.30pm Lunch. Please bring food to share 2pm day ends. All welcome for all or part of the day. Enquiries: 816916/ 652060

ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY— Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 13 May 2023 at 2:30pm. The Cardinal is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5th 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2023. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please contact the parish office with the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email) which will be forwarded to the Marriage and family life office.

DONATION ENVELOPES — If you no longer wish to donate to the Church using weekly donation envelopes, please let the office know ASAP, particularly if you have changed to a standing order, or the DONA machine so that we do not buy another yearly set for you.

ADORATION, PRAYER & PIZZA NIGHT — Friday, 24 February 2023 from 6.30-8.30pm. We invite all young people of secondary age (school Years 7-13) for another of our monthly youth evenings, aimed at building community and growing in faith together. After gathering in the parish centre, we go to the church to pray before the Blessed Sacrament, followed by pizza and a chat. This month, we ask that you give a contribution of £2 towards the pizza which you can just bring with you on the night. If you have any special dietary needs, please let us know in advance & email Sophie (bstortfordcatechist@rcdow.org.uk) or calling Debbie in the office (on 01279 654063) with your dietary requirements.