



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



MISSION APPEAL

This weekend we will be joined by the Missionary Sisters who work in developing countries across the world.

NIGHT PRAYER

On Wednesdays of Lent, Deacon Paul will lead Night Prayer on Zoom at 8.30pm.
www.rcstortford.org.uk/np

LENTEN ACTIVITIES

Do pick up a leaflet at the back of the church listing our Lenten objectives and activities. There will also be regular Lenten reflections on the website. A main theme this year is the call to volunteer.

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 ↓



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

Fourth Sunday of Lent (A) (Laetare Sunday)

19 March 2023



Across

Bishop's Stortford Across group's pilgrimage to Lourdes:

12-21 September 2024. We will take 7-8 VIPs from our parish on a holiday with Our Lady; travel, meals and accommodation in a four-star hotel all included. We will also need able bodied helpers, nurses, priests. Open to the young and old of the parish and a great way to help build our community — maybe something to pledge as part of your Lenten journey! Full details to come but if interested contact John Wright (johncharles.wright70@gmail.com or 07739 789169).

NOTE TO ALL GIFT AIDERS — The HMRC requires that you must pay more income tax than the total of all Gift Aid amounts claimed in a tax year and the penalties for failure to comply with this rule can be severe. The 2022-23 tax year ends on 5 April and we will claim the Gift Aid for the tax year soon afterwards. If you are registered with the parish for Gift Aid and your circumstances have changed so that you are no longer eligible, you MUST inform us before 5 April to ensure that our claims are correct. If you are not registered for Gift Aid with the parish but you are eligible to claim, please consider doing so as it will add 25% to your offertory donations without costing you anything. Contact the Parish Office by phone on 01279 654063 or e-mail at bishopsstortford@rcdow.org.uk

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES — The current boxes of envelopes run out on 1/2 April and we are in the process of ordering new boxes for those who have used them since 5 April 2022. If you currently use envelopes for your offertory donations, but no longer wish to use them, or if you would like to start using envelopes, phone the Parish Office (01279 654063) or email bishopsstortford@rcdow.org.uk

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED — at the Isabel Hospice Shop, Bridge Street, Bishop's Stortford. For info please contact the shop manager Michelle on 659551 or just walk in.

PARISH TABLE TENNIS CLUB — The next parish table tennis club night will be on Sunday 19 March in the WCC from 7 to 8:30pm. All welcome (children and teenagers under 18 must be accompanied by an adult). Future dates for the club are 23 April and 14 May. For further info phone Chris Brolly on 07591 838771.

ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY — Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 13 May 2023 at 2:30pm. Mass with the Cardinal for all couples in the Diocese celebrating their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2023 (and every year over 60). Contact the parish office with husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email or telephone

FOOD BANK DONATIONS — Parishioner Harriet will be collecting items for the Food Bank as part of her school project. Please see the red box and poster at the back of St Joseph's Church for donations.

ENCOUNTER — Meet on Friday 24 March at St Theresa's, Stansted. Topic is "Life as an ordained Deacon" led by Deacon Des Connors from St Theresa's. From 10.00 to 2:00 pm. Please bring lunch to share. All welcome for all or part of the day. Enquiries: 814865/652060.

FLOWER ARRANGERS — If interested in joining our small team of flower arrangers at St Joseph's please, contact the Office.

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THE PARISH OFFICE — will be closed from Monday 27 March to Friday 31 March inclusive. Parish email and voicemail messages will be monitored by Fr Peter and Fr Antonio.