



The Catholic Parish  
of Bishop's Stortford

# the CARPENTER

☎ 01279 654063 | ✉ [bishopsstortford@rcdow.org.uk](mailto: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](http://www.rcstortford.org.uk)

Fifth Sunday of Lent (A)

26 March 2023

## Our priests are:

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

## PRAY FOR UKRAINE



### MISSION APPEAL

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Mission appeal last weekend. £818.34 was raised

### NIGHT PRAYER

On Wednesdays of Lent, Deacon Paul will lead Night Prayer on Zoom at 8.30pm.  
[www.rcstortford.org.uk/np](http://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 ↓



**CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS** - last Sunday Fr Antonio and I spoke at all the Masses about inviting you to consider whether you would consider volunteering in the Parish and our local community - this is part of our Lenten theme of helping others. This was also one of the themes that Cardinal Vincent took up in his Pastoral letter to us all at the beginning of Lent. If you were able to come to Mass last weekend you would have had the opportunity to take away with you a little sheet offering some possibilities for volunteering in the churches of the Parish as well as farther afield in our towns and villages. There are still copies of the little leaflet available as you leave the church this weekend, so if you didn't get one last week please do take one this week. You can bring them back to Mass in the next few weeks and we will happily take completed forms from you. *Fr Peter, Fr Antonio*

**OFFERTORY ENVELOPES**—The new boxes of envelopes are now ready for collection in the Sacristy for those parishioners who currently use them for their offertory donations. If you no longer wish to use them, or if you would like to start using envelopes, please phone the Parish Office (01279 654063) or email [bishopsstortford@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:bishopsstortford@rcdow.org.uk)

**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](mailto:bishopsstortford@rcdow.org.uk)



### 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](mailto:johncharles.wright70@gmail.com) or 07739 789169).

**HEARING AID FOUND**—in the car park behind St Joseph's Church last Sunday, kept in the Sacristy at St Joseph's.

**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 & Fr Antonio.

**PARISH TABLE TENNIS CLUB**— The next parish table tennis club night will be on Sunday 23 April in the WCC from 7 to 8:30pm. All welcome (children and teenagers under 18 must be accompanied by an

adult). For info phone Chris Brolly on 07591 838771.

**VOCATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD**—On Wednesday 17 May, there will be an open evening at St James, Spanish Place, for any men interested in learning about or discerning a vocation to priesthood. The 6pm Mass will be followed by a short presentation, informal conversations & refreshments in the Social centre. The nearest tube stations are Bond Street and Baker Street.