



The Catholic Parish  
of Bishop's Stortford

# the CARPENTER

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

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

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

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

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

25 June 2023

## Our priests are:

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

## WELCOME FR LAZARUS



who joins us from Rome and  
will be spending his summer  
holiday in the parish.

## ADORATION AND CONFESSION

Come and join us at St Joseph  
and the English Martyrs Church  
for Exposition of the Blessed  
Sacrament and celebrate the  
sacrament of Reconciliation  
each Saturday, 3:00 to 4:00 pm.

## BAPTISM PREPARATION

**COURSE**— Two-part baptism  
preparation course on 26 June  
and 3 July at 8:00 pm via Zoom.  
You have to attend a course be-  
fore you arrange a date for your  
child's baptism. Contact parish  
office to book.

## EXPLORING VOCATIONS

To talk to someone about a vo-  
cation to the priesthood, contact  
the Vocations Promotion Team:  
[vocations@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:vocations@rcdow.org.uk)

## FHC CANDIDATES

Please pray for our 74 First Holy  
Communication candidates who  
are in their final week of prepa-  
ration. The FHC Masses will take  
place at St Joseph's on 1 July.

CONTACTLESS QR code

↓ PARISH OFFERINGS ↓



## YOUTH SPORTS NIGHT: FRIDAY 30 JUNE 6.30pm



Our youth night this month is a sports night and will take place on Friday 30 June 2023, starting at 6:30pm—but please book in advance.

Plan A is to meet outside the parish, in Bishop's Park Open Space, which can be accessed via the small road just off Woodpecker Close (CM23 4QA). The road leads to a parking area adjacent to the open space. We plan to play some rounders, cricket and team games, with some simple snacks provided in between activities.

In case of poor weather, Plan B is to meet at the Parish Centre as usual, where we hope to play table tennis, pool and some indoor team games. The decision about venue will be made by 4:00 pm that afternoon.

If interested, please send an email or call in advance, leaving your name and the phone number of a carer/parent, so that you can receive a text message to find out exactly which plan will be following that evening.

Email [bstortfordcatechist@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:bstortfordcatechist@rcdow.org.uk) or call 07946 515181

## RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Interested in becoming a Catholic, or already a baptised Catholic but never confirmed? If so, the RCIA programme might be for you! The RCIA offers opportunities to support you with people within the parish who are dedicated to helping you explore life's big questions. Everyone's faith journey is different but we can help you find the right path. At the Easter Vigil in April, we welcomed some new Catholics into our community and we will begin the process again this September. For more info, visit: [www.rcstortford.org.uk/rcia](http://www.rcstortford.org.uk/rcia). For an informal chat, email Sophie Sullivan, our Catechetical Co-ordinator at [bstortfordcatechist@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:bstortfordcatechist@rcdow.org.uk) or call Debbie, parish administrator, on 01279 654063.

## WE HAVE NEW PRIESTS!

We congratulate Fr Patrick van der Vorst and Fr Marco Lazzaron who were ordained to the priesthood on Saturday, 24 June at Westminster Cathedral. Fr Patrick spent several weeks with us last summer on a placement as a deacon, while Fr Marco will replace Fr Antonio as our assistant priest in September.

## TABLE TENNIS CLUB: SUNDAY 25 JUNE

St Joseph's parish table tennis club meets on various Sundays at the Windhill Church-  
es Centre between 7:00 and 8:30pm.  
There is no joining fee, but we suggest  
donations of £3 per person (£6 per family  
group) to cover the cost of equipment and  
for the use of the hall (cash only please).  
All are welcome from ages 7 to 70+. Under  
18s need to be accompanied by an adult.  
Future dates are 9/7, 23/7 & 6/8.

May they be filled with the gift of the Holy Spirit. Thank you to everyone who helped to prepare them.

**THE PARISH GOLF DAY**—raised £1400 for the Syrian/Turkey Earthquake Appeal Fund. Thank you to everyone who organ-  
ised the event and to those who took part  
and kindly donated.

**MISSIO:** In 2022 £2,278.08 was raised for Missio by those red box holders at St Jo-  
seph's. In the Diocese over £160,000 was  
raised. Thank you to Tessa and all who  
helped to co-ordinate the collection of the  
boxes and banking of the funds raised.

**CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES:** We keep in  
our prayers the young people of our parish  
who were confirmed by Bishop Paul  
McAleenan at St Joseph's on Saturday.