



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

www.rcstortford.org.uk

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

16 July 2023

Our priests are:

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



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— The next two-part baptism preparation course will be on 2nd & 9th October at 8:00 pm via Zoom. You are required to attend a course before you arrange a date for your child's baptism. Please contact the parish office to book.

PARISH FAREWELL PARTY FOR FR ANTONIO: SAVE THE DATE!

Fr Antonio will sadly leave us at the end of August but he will return on Sunday 24 September for a parish farewell party with BBQ (weather permitting), before he officially starts as the new Parish Priest at Harrow in October. Further details to be announced. If you are interested in joining the parish social committee as a member or an event helper, please contact Debbie Hourihan—the Chair on 07847 714781



CONTACTLESS QR code
↓ PARISH OFFERINGS ↓



REGISTRATION FOR CATECHETICAL PROGRAMMES FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2023-24 NOW OPEN

CONFIRMATION

If you will be in Year 10 or above from September 2023 (your date of birth being on or before 31 August 2008) and would like to prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, please collect an application form in person from the sacristy after any weekend Mass. The completed form should be addressed to Fr Peter and posted into Number 3 Windhill) **by Monday 18 September 2023** — no late applications will be considered. You should live within the parish boundaries (Bishop's Stortford, Much Hadham and Sawbridgeworth) to apply. Anyone living elsewhere should contact their local Catholic church and request to join their preparation programme. Along with your paper application form, also email Sophie Sullivan at: bstortfordcatechist@rcdow.org.uk, so that she can send you details on the information meetings. The first meeting will take place the week commencing 9 October 2023, with the programme starting November 2023 through to July 2024.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

This parish-based programme is for children within the Catholic parish of Bishop's Stortford and not elsewhere. It is for children who will be eight-years-old on or before 31 August 2024. Parents are expected to play a vital and active role in their children's preparation. The children's sessions will take place each month from 14 October 2023 and there will also be regular meetings for parents (dates to be confirmed). Children are expected to attend every session and Mass every Sunday. To register, complete an application form with a copy of your child's baptism certificate, if not baptised in the parish. Forms are now available in the sacristy after Mass. Completed forms are to be returned for the attention of Fr Antonio **by Friday 18 August 2023 at the latest please.**

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Want to be a Catholic, or already a baptised Catholic but never confirmed? The RCIA programme might be for you! We help you explore life's big questions and while everyone's faith journey is different, we can help you find the right path. At the Easter Vigil in April, we welcomed new Catholics into our community and we will begin the process again this September. For more info, visit: www.rcstortford.org.uk/rcia. You can also email Sophie at bstortfordcatechist@rcdow.org.uk or call 01279 654063.

SPONSORED BIKE 'N HIKE— Saturday 9 September 9am–5pm. Have fun cycling or walking to churches and chapels in your area and raise funds for your church through sponsorship. Sponsorship packs from the back of St Joseph's church.

YOUNG ADULTS FORMATION—The Community of Our Lady of Walsingham is offering an opportunity to Catholic men and women aged 18–35 to live alongside their community in Norfolk for a week this summer. As well as joining community

prayers, meals and activities, young adults will receive formation on topics such as Prayer, Scripture, Discernment and the Spirituality of Walsingham. Two choices of dates: 14–21 August or 30 August – 6 September. To find out more, email freetobe@walsinghamcommunity.org before 31 July.

EAST HERTS FRONTLINE WEBSITE— lists useful organisations for advice and help: <https://eastherts.hertsfrontline.org.uk/Library>