



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

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

30 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 FHC AND CONFIRMATION PROGRAMMES

Registration forms for the First Holy Communion and Confirmation programmes are now available to collect after every Sunday Mass in the church sacristy.

- **First Holy Communion:** Children who will be in Year 3 or above in September 2023 may join our FHC programme. Deadline for completed forms, addressed to Fr Antonio, is Friday, 18 August.
- **Confirmation:** Young people who will be in Year 10 or above in September 2023 may join our Confirmation programme. Deadline for completed forms, addressed to Fr Peter, is Monday, 18 September. Also email bstortfordcatechist@org.uk so that you can be sent details on information meetings.

Both programmes are open only to those living within the Catholic parish of Bishop's Stortford (which includes Much Hadham and Sawbridgeworth). Please ensure that you submit your completed forms by the deadlines as late applications will not be accepted.

CELEBRATE SUMMER FAMILY ACTIVITY PACK

—Download the brand new CELEBRATE online family activity pack for summer! Packed with activities to do, pray, read and watch, this online resource will give you ideas on how to connect with God, your family and others. Download the CELEBRATE SUMMER pack for free today: rcstortford.org.uk/celebrate

ROYAL PARKS HALF MARATHON IN AID OF THE PASSAGE —SUNDAY

8 OCTOBER 2023 — Run past some of the capital's most historic landmarks, including Buckingham Palace, Horse Guards Parade and the Royal Albert Hall. Although undulating in parts, the course is not hilly and is great for both experienced and first-time half marathon runners. Registration fee: £20. Fundraising goal: £300. All money raised will go towards supporting those currently experiencing or threatened by street homelessness so that we can end homelessness for good. <https://passage.org.uk/>



FREE ONLINE SAFEGUARDING TRAINING FOR VOLUNTEERS OF THE DIOCESE

—For volunteers (especially those who work in close contact with children and/or adults at risk), EduCare online training is strongly advised to be completed. To access the free training, email safeguardingadmin@rcdow.org.uk your name, the name of your parish, and your role. You will be registered with Educare and can access the online modules.

MARY'S MEALS— request unwanted foreign currency no matter how old or obscure. After the summer break, special Mary's Meals envelopes will be available at the back of church. Currently the charity feeds over 2.4 million young children one good meal every day in their place of education. Your foreign currency can help feed the next hungry child. UK coins/notes that aren't legal tender also accepted.

FIX THE FOOD SYSTEM LETTER SIGNING
CAFOD are co-ordinating a large letter

signing campaign to support organic farmers experiencing the impact of climate change and their right to use their own seed varieties to ensure long-term food security and resilience. The letter is displayed at the back of St Joseph's church. Please sign your name in support. The letter will be sent to CAFOD and shared with the World Bank before a meeting in October. The World Bank supports new laws pushing farmers to use seeds sold by agribusiness controlled by giant corporations.