



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

The 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

13 August 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.

MARY'S MEALS— request unwanted foreign currency no matter how old or obscure. After the summer break, 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 a hungry child. UK coins/notes that aren't legal tender accepted.

FOUND PROPERTY— Lots of items left after Mass are still waiting to be claimed. They are located at the back of the church. Please do look!

CONTACTLESS QR code
↓ PARISH OFFERINGS ↓



HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION—Next Tuesday, 15 August is the solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This is a holy day of obligation which means that all Catholics are required to make every effort to attend Mass. There will be two Masses at St Joseph's: 9:30 am and 7:30 pm.

FR ANTONIO'S LAST FEW WEEKS IN THE PARISH—Fr Antonio will officially be "on holiday" from 14 to 25 August inclusive. He does not intend to go away as he will have to finish his packing and make other preparations for his move to Harrow. Please note that although he will be around, he will not be undertaking official duties such as celebrating Mass, etc. However, he hopes to be at all the Masses on 26/27 August (either presiding or concelebrating) to see and say goodbye to everyone. A big van will take all his belongings to Harrow on 29 August but fear not — Fr Antonio will return for the 11am Mass and his farewell party on Sunday 24 September! With Fr Peter also taking his summer breaks, we thank Fr Lazarus for keeping our Masses going.

WORLD YOUTH DAY SUMMER PICNIC —Join Westminster Youth Ministry on 2 September for a taste of Lisbon at their Summer Picnic. This event is aimed at any young person (12-35) in the diocese who couldn't make it to World Youth Day. It will explore the theme for World Youth Day, 'Mary arose and went with haste', with workshops activities, testimonies & Mass with Bishop Paul McAleenan. Sign up: www.rcstortford.org.uk/summer-picnic.

GRIEFLINE— is a local resource offering emotional support across West Essex and East Herts to anyone struggling with their grief around the loss of someone. Talk to a trained volunteer offering emotional support and a listening ear. Talk about your grief in a safe and confidential space with someone who understands what you're going through and get help accessing other services. Call 01279 945089, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday to Friday. Visit www.griefline.co.uk.

ST ELIZABETH'S 'WALK TO LOURDES' — To mark their 120th year, St Elizabeth's are taking on the challenge of walking 681 miles, the equivalent distance from Much Hadham to Lourdes, France. All funds raised will be put towards fun and engaging community trips for students, College learners and adult clients. To support the cause visit www.justgiving.com/campaign/walktolourdes.

FHC PROGRAMME: This is the last week-end to collect a registration form. Deadline is Friday 18 August.

CONFIRMATION: Registration forms are still available from the sacristy after every Sunday Mass. Deadline is 18 September.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE— The parish office will be closed for the first two weeks in September when Debbie has her summer holiday. If you have any notices for the newsletter or any specific requests during this time, please let her know well in advance ASAP. Thank you.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS FOR THE SICK

AND HOUSEBOUND WANTED— If you would like to become an Eucharistic Minister for those in our parish who are sick or housebound, so that they may receive the blessed sacrament, in their home, please contact Debbie in the parish office. You would be required to fill in a few forms for a DBS check. Training would be given.

DID YOU KNOW?—that since we installed our public access defibrillator, at St Joseph's, it has been called into action eight times by those in need.