



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)

**Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (A)**

**26 November 2023**

## Our priests are:

Fr Peter Harris (*Parish Priest*)

Fr Marco Lazzaron (*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 15 and 22 January 2024 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.

## ST ELIZABETH'S REFLECTIONS

**SERVICE**— Monday 27 November 2023, 4.30pm - 6pm

Everyone is welcome to attend the service, and join for refreshments afterwards. For personal candle or written dedications, email: [pauline.meaney@stelizab.eths.org.uk](mailto:pauline.meaney@stelizab.eths.org.uk)

**THE EXCHANGE**— is based at the B/Stortford Baptist Church and is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1.00–4.00pm. It accepts good quality second hand items and passes them on, free of charge to those in need.

CONTACTLESS QR code

↓ PARISH OFFERINGS ↓



**THANK YOU AND WELCOME BACK!**— to Fr Antonio Ritaccio who joins us again this weekend to celebrate Mass. Fr Antonio was our Assistant Priest at St Joseph's some 22+ years ago, so it is wonderful to welcome him back.

**WORLD YOUTH SUNDAY**— As well as being the feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King, it is also World Youth Sunday. We especially pray for all young people in our parish, that they experience Christ's love for them in all that they do and come to know more deeply that they are valued members of our community.

**RESONATE**— Thursday 14 December 19:00 - 21:00 Vaughan House, 46 Francis Street SW1P 1QN. Resonate is Westminster Youth Ministry's primary event for young adult Catholics aged 18-35, looking to explore and learn more about their faith. Stephen is a London-based composer and singer, who specialises in choral music. He will be exploring the topic of A Christmas Carol: The Origin of Carols and How to Sing Them.

**SALVATION ARMY CHRISTMAS TOY APPEAL**— The Salvation Army are striving to provide families who are finding things difficult, in Bishop's Stortford and across the wider East Herts area, with toys and food to enjoy on Christmas Day. If you would like to help there are three ways to get involved: Prayer, monetary donations to the Salvation Army or Toy and Gift Donations for children aged 0-10 years. Please drop off any brand new toys, crafts, Board Games, Books, Chocolates (i.e. Selection Boxes) Soap boxes, Make-up sets, wrapping paper and tape to Major Alan Frederiksen or Rachael Hart c/o Bishops Stortford Independent, 7 Palmers Lane, Bishop's Stortford, CM23 3XB. The Entertainer is open for Click and Collect and are running its usual appeal where they will match any toys bought for The Salvation Army between 1st– 30th November 2023. Thank you.

**WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL**— the mother Church of our diocese has improved the lighting of its main sanctuary. The previous aged and inefficient system had to be replaced as spare parts were no longer available and is being funded by the Friends of Westminster Cathedral. They are asking for help by supporting their Big Give Campaign with online donations. For donations made from 12.00 noon on Tuesday 28 November and before 12.00 noon on Tuesday 5 December every £1 given is worth £2 with matched funding and £2.25 if you can tick the Gift Aid box. The link to the donation site is <https://bit.ly/FriendsBG23>.

## BISHOP'S STORTFORD CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Next Saturday 2 December from 9.30am until 4.30pm, the roads in North Street, Market Square, Potter Street, and South Street, will be pedestrianised for the Christmas Fayre stalls. The Windhill Churches Centre will be hosting a Holly Fayre organised by St Michaels Church.

**TABLE TENNIS CLUB**— Sunday 26 November 7pm-8.30pm will be the last meeting of the year until 14 January 2024 in the WCC. There is no joining fee, but we do suggest donations of £3 per person (£6 per family group) to help cover the cost of equipment and for the use of the hall. (cash only please) It is a parish club and all are welcome from ages 7 to 70+. Those under 18yrs of age need to be accompanied by an adult.

## CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE

Applicants for St Joseph's School for PRIMARY places in 2024 /25 who require a 'Certificate of Catholic Practice' can either download an application form from the resource page on our website or alternatively collect an application form for a certificate from No 3 Windhill, the Sacristy after Mass or the parish office in person. Once completed it should then be posted through the letter box of No 3 Windhill marked for Fr Peter's attention **with a stamped addressed envelope, please**. The certificate will be posted to you in the envelope that you provide. The school deadline for applications is 15 January 2024.

**HOLY TRINITY NIGHT SHELTER** —needs volunteers. Please contact David Perry via email [htnsmanager@outlook.com](mailto:htnsmanager@outlook.com) or call 01279 651671