



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 Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

28 January 2024

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.

SPECIAL COLLECTION—APPEAL FROM THE LATIN PATRIARCH IN JERUSALEM

There will be a special collection after each Mass this weekend to raise funds. Please consider giving what you can to help.
Thank you



OUR TELEPHONE SYSTEM WILL BE CHANGING— BUT THE NUMBER REMAINS THE SAME

On Tuesday 30 & Wednesday 31 January 2024 the Parish BT analogue telephone landline will change over to a digital 'Cloud Voice system' which will work from our internet. We hope that the changeover will be relatively simple, but please be advised that there will be an interruption to our telephone lines and possibly the live stream service as the changeover takes place during 30/31 January 2024. Apologies in advance. Thank you.

CONTACTLESS QR code
↓ PARISH OFFERINGS ↓



ANNUAL MASS OF OUR LADY AT LOURDES—On Saturday 10 February 2024, 2.30pm, Cardinal Vincent will celebrate the Annual Mass of Our Lady of Lourdes at the Cathedral, during which anointing of the sick will be offered. If you would like to attend please contact the Parish office **ASAP** so that we can order tickets for you. This will assist the Cathedral plan for the Mass and the anointing.

Tickets are in three categories:

1. Wheelchair users who require anointing
2. Walking sick users who require anointing
3. Those assisting the sick, who **do not** require anointing.

ADVANCED NOTICE FLAME 2025—Calling all young people of the parish (aged 14 +). On Saturday 15 March 2025 the next Flame youth conference takes place. The title of next year's event is "Unstoppable" and it is the largest Catholic youth event in England and Wales. It is a day which promises inspiring speakers, incredible live music, and prayer & adoration and will be sure to give your Catholic Faith a boost - it is an event not to be missed, so, please put the date in your diary and invite your friends to consider coming. The more, the merrier! There is the possibility of getting early bird tickets when bookings open at the end of January this year. Therefore, to gauge interest in the event and so we can pre-book a number of tickets for our parish, which you can then purchase from us at a later date, please email Sophie at: bstortfordcatechist@rcdow.org.uk to register your interest **by the first week of February 2024**. Thank you

CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE —Applicants for St Joseph's School for **NURSERY** 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 8 March 2024.

FOUNDATION GOVERNORS NEEDED—Catholic education is a high priority. The Governing Body at St Josephs primary school is looking for highly committed foundation governors (not parent governors). Your contribution would be ensuring that our children gain access to a positive educational environment and achieve as high as possible. It is very important that we give our children the best education we can, so please think about it. If you feel you would like to know more about the role, please contact Veronica Taylor (Chair of Governors) on 07721489600. Thank you.

RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY— "Seeing one another in the life of the Church". We are all children of God, regardless of our race and background. This year's theme seeks to promote reflection, discussion and action on our theme and to encourage us to carry this through in the weeks and months after Racial Justice Sunday. For this year's resources, we are celebrating the diversity of those who have led holy and exemplary lives. Our Catholic saints walked in this world as we do and were men and women of heroic virtue that can intercede for us to bring our prayers to the Lord.

DIVINE MERCY AFTERNOON OF REFLECTION—Saturday 10 February 2024 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm at St Georges R.C. Cathedral, Westminster Bridge Road London SE1 7HY All Welcome. Please call Millie on 07957594646 for info.

ANNUAL MASS FOR MATRIMONY—will

be celebrated in the Cathedral by the Cardinal on Saturday 25 May at 2.30pm for couples celebrating significant wedding anniversaries. Full information and invitation will be issued shortly by the Diocesan Co-ordinator for Marriage and Family Life, Deacon Roger Carr-Jones.