



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 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4 February 2024

Our priests are:

Fr Peter Harris (*Parish Priest*)

Fr Marco Lazzaron (*Asst Priest*)



MARY'S MEALS— would like to thank everyone in the parish for their wonderful generosity in response to our Foreign Currency initiative. We donated 20kg of coin and notes which raised a terrific £721.21 which means

Mary's Meals will be able to feed 37 children one good meal every school day for a whole year because of your support. Please continue to pray for the work of Mary's Meals. We will keep our collection of foreign currency going so please drop any coins or notes in an envelope in the collection basket. Thank you.

ACROSS TO LOURDES 2024— 12-21 September. Our Bishop's Stortford Across group have now booked the dates for our pilgrimage to Lourdes with Across for 2024. We are looking to take 7-8 VIPs from our parish on a holiday with Our Lady, travel, meals and accommodation in a four star hotel all included. We will also need able bodied helpers, medics doctors or nurses), priests. This trip is open to the young and old of the parish and a great way to help build our community - maybe something to pledge to do as part of your Lenten journey! If you are interested knowing more or want to book a place, please complete the expression of interest form <https://bit.ly/48LAEgu>. Alternatively contact John Wright directly (johncharles.wright70@gmail.com or 07739789169)

YOUTH NIGHT—Calling all young people (in secondary school, Yrs 7-13). Our next Youth Night is on Friday 16 February and it will be a "Prayer and Pizza" Night, starting at 6.30pm until 8.30pm. We will be having some time of prayer through Christian Meditation and that will be followed by pizza and some group games together. We will be offering Cheese & Tomato and Veggie Pizzas, as it is Lent. We would suggest a £5 donation towards pizza per person (or whatever you can afford). Do come along and start your half term break the right way - we look forward to seeing you there. Newcomers more than welcome - all we would ask is that you fill in a consent form upon arrival.

CALLING ALL GOLFERS!— Our next Charity Golf Day will be on Friday 10 May at Great Hadham Golf Club. More details will be in next week's newsletter.

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.

WEEKLY DONATION ENVELOPES— The new series of numbered donation envelopes will start in April and so we now need to place an exact order and pay for those boxes required. If you wish to continue with envelopes, then please do so. Alternatively, if you would rather switch to one of the electronic methods of payment then please contact the parish office ASAP so that we do not order a numbered box for you. The Finance team will assist with this and help to preserve any Gift Aid status. Thank you.

REFRESHMENTS— Every Sunday after the 9am Mass at St Joseph's, everyone is invited for refreshments at the St Joseph's hall in the WCC. Thank you to the Robertson, Sullivan & Wright families for kindly giving their time and organising this each week.

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 posi-

tive 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. For more information about the role, please contact Veronica Taylor (Chair of Governors) on 07721489600. Thank you

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.



THANK YOU

Gaza Collection

St Joseph's—£1819.10

Holy Cross—£138.11

Most Holy Redeemer —£285.09

RETRouvaille — Do you need in your marriage? Retrouvaille has helped many couples find new hope, nourishment and growth in their marriages. If you want to uncover or reawaken the love, trust and commitment that brought you together and work through difficult times in your marriage contact Retrouvaille confidential for more information about our 2024 programmes. There is no group therapy or group work. Our next programme commences with a Virtual weekend on 8 - 11 February 2024 or there is a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 14-16 June 2024. Call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443, email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk/

CONTACTLESS QR code
↓ PARISH OFFERINGS ↓

