



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

The Most Holy Trinity

26 May 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.



EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER TRAINING

Saturday 1 June 2024 at 11am

Fr Peter and Fr Marco will run a training session for all new Eucharistic Ministers on Saturday 1 June 2024 at 11am at St Joseph and the English Martyrs.

A separate refresher session will take place at a later date for existing Eucharistic Ministers



THANK YOU and WELCOME to

Fr. Lorenzo Andreini

who very kindly is celebrating the 9am and 11am Mass at St Joseph's this Sunday whilst Fr. Peter is on his holiday.

CONTACTLESS QR code

↓ PARISH OFFERINGS ↓



CAN YOU HELP? — Please does anyone have a photo of the Old Parish Centre in Apton Road that they would be happy to share for an online post on the history of St Joseph's School. Please contact Debbie in the office if you do. Many Thanks.

ORGAN PROM FUNDRAISING CONCERT FOR GROVE COTTAGE — Saturday 29 June 7pm St Michaels Church. Free admission with Guest Organist Jonathan P. Eyre

ACT NOW TO STOP DIY ABORTION UP TO BIRTH — MPs Diana Johnson and Stella Creasy have both tabled amendments to the Government's Criminal Justice Bill that would decriminalise abortion. In different ways, they would essentially legalise DIY abortion up to birth, for any reason. Please contact your MP urgently, asking them to oppose these extreme and barbaric proposals. You can do this using SPUC's easy to use webtool, at <https://www.spuc.org.uk/abortionamendments>. The amendments will be debated on **4 June**, so please contact your MP NOW. Please pray for the defeat of these amendments, for protection of unborn babies and help for mothers in need.

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE — Our next two-part Baptism preparation course which is run via Zoom will be on Monday 24 June & Monday 1 July 2024 at 8pm with Sophie, our Catechetical Coordinator. It is a requisite for parents to attend the course before their child is baptised in the parish. Please contact the office for further details.

CATHOLIC MARITIME CHARITY STELLA MARIS — (formerly called Apostleship of the Sea) is very grateful for the financial support of its work on Sea Sunday last year and invites parishioners to join an online update and thank you webinar on Tuesday 28 May from 7:30pm to 9:00pm. You will hear about the impact of your generosity on the lives of seafarers, fishers, and their families over the last year. Its CEO and chaplains will share inspiring stories of how they have helped seafarers and fishers through your support. To register for this virtual event: www.stellamaris.org.uk/thankyou2024

LIFTING THE 50% CAP ON CATHOLIC SCHOOL ADMISSIONS — For the past 14 years the Church has been making the case to remove the 50% cap on school admissions which has had a disproportionate effect on Catholic school provision. The Government has at last announced the lifting of the Cap, subject to the outcome of a consultation which **closes on 20 June**. The proposals will also allow the Catholic Church to establish special academies alongside our existing special schools. It is essential that there is a strong response to this consultation, so that the Church can continue to play its part in the provision of schools in all parts of the education sector on an equal footing with other groups. We therefore encourage as many people as possible to respond positively to this consultation. Catholic schools are more diverse than any other type of school. Even with higher levels of pupil deprivation, they achieve better results. Removal of the cap will help to sustain that diversity in the longer term. We encourage Catholics in England and Wales to respond positively to this consultation. The e-action response is now available on the Bishops' Conference website and can be accessed through the following link: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/lifting-the-faith-schools-cap/>

'Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, the God who is, who was, and is to come. Alleluia!'

PARENTING TEENS FOR A LIFE OF FAITH-ONLINE COURSE

There is a brand new course offered by the "Parenting For Faith" team being run online for six Tuesday evenings altogether in June and July from 8pm-9pm, with the first session being on Tuesday 4 June. The cost to the parish would be £60 altogether to join onto the course. So the more parents who take part, the cheaper it is (i.e. 6 parents it would be £10 each, 12 parents £5 each etc). The zoom would include parents from other churches, but the breakout rooms would be with parents from our parish only (so we can chat together about our context and get to know each other). Please invite your friends (they don't have to be Catholic - this is a Christian course for all parents of teens!) If you are interested, please email Sophie at bstortfordcatechist@rcdow.org.uk