



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 Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

21 July 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.



Catholic listeners
Compassionate, confidential, faith helpline

CATHOLIC LISTENERS

www.catholiclisteners.com/ is a phone service & website dedicated to being present, when you want to talk to someone about faith and life's big questions.

Tel: 0800 448 0704



THANK YOU VERY MUCH

to everyone who donated to the Stella Maris collection (Apostleship of the Sea) on Sea Sunday. So far, £894.41 has been raised. Envelopes are still available at the back of the church should you wish to help this worthy cause.

MARY'S MEALS

We are still collecting any old currency & foreign coins for Mary's Meals. Please just drop in the collection basket. Thank you

CONTACTLESS QR code

↓ PARISH OFFERINGS ↓



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2025— Application forms for registration to our Parish First Holy Communion programme 2025 for children who will be 8 years old or older on or before 31 August 2025 and who live in the parish are now available

for collection at Mass in the Sacristy. Parents/ Carers are requested to sign to say that they have collected a form. Completed forms with a copy of a Baptism certificate (unless baptised within the parish) **must** be submitted to 3 Windhill, **before Monday 5 August 2024.** Late entries will not be accepted.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2024/25—If you will be in Year 10 or above from September 2024 and would like to prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, application forms are now available to collect in person from the Sacristy after weekend Mass. The completed form should be addressed to Fr Peter and posted into Number 3 Windhill **before Friday 6 September 2024** — no late applications will be considered. You should live within the parish boundaries (Bishop's Stortford, Much Hadham and Sawbridgeworth) to apply. Anyone living elsewhere should contact their local Catholic church and request to join their preparation programme. Along with your paper application form, please also email Sophie Sullivan at: bstortfordcatechist@rcdow.org.uk, so that she can send you further details. The first meeting will take place the week commencing 14 October 2024, with the programme starting November 2024 to July 2025

PLANNED GIVING, VOLUNTEER & GIFT AID FORMS— If you have not yet return your planned giving, Gift aid or Volunteer forms, it's not too late! Please post them through the door of no. 3 Windhill. Spare forms are available at the back of the church if needed.

OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM—The Vatican has granted permission for Our Lady of Walsingham to be celebrated as a new Feast in the dioceses of England, starting this year on 24 September. Cardinal Arthur Roche, Prefect of the Dicastery for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, wrote to Cardinal Vincent Nichols, in response to his request last year that the Obligatory Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Walsingham be raised to the rank of Feast. He explained that normally it wouldn't be moved but an exception would be made. He said: 'Given the historic importance of this shrine for the Church in England and Wales, dating back just over one thousand years, and given the growing devotion to Our Lady of Walsingham to which you attest, the Dicastery has decided that, by way of exception, your request may be granted.' The Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham was established in 1061, according to the text of the Pynson Ballad, when devout noblewoman Richeldis de Faverches asked in prayer for inspiration so that she could carry out a special work in honour of Our Lady. The Pynson Ballad says that Our Lady appeared to Richeldis and showed her in spirit the House of the Annunciation where the Angel greeted Mary in Nazareth, and asked her to build a replica in Walsingham as a perpetual memorial of the Annunciation. Cardinal Roche said he hoped that the new Feast day would strengthen the faithful.

SPONSORED BIKE 'N' HIKE CHURCH FUNDRAISER— Plan your own route & visit participating churches to raise funds. Saturday 14 September 9am to 5pm. Detailed sponsorship packs are available at the back of the church with everything you will need!



PARISH BBQ—SAVE THE DATE

The Parish BBQ this year is on Sunday 8 September. Please save the date. A great event on the Monastery gardens behind St Joseph's church, to meet other parishioners and enjoy a pimms or two. Further information to follow. If you are able to help sell tickets after Mass prior to the event or can help the day before or on the day, please contact Debbie Hourihan on 07847 714781. Raffle prizes & bottles for a tombola are wanted, please leave any donations in the tub at the back of St Joseph's church. Any thing from champagne to a bottle of sauce gratefully received. Thankyou!