



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 Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

18 August 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.

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

A date for your diary

Saturday 5 October 2024

10am to 11am

St Joseph's—further details to follow..

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE

Our next two-part Baptism preparation course which is run via Zoom will be on Monday 7 October & Monday 14 October 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 more info.

MARY'S MEALS

We have just sent off another 20 kg of old and foreign coin to help raise funds for this charity which feeds over 2.4 million children every day. Thank you to everyone who has donated to date.

CONTACTLESS QR code
↓ PARISH OFFERINGS ↓



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

NEW PARISH INITIATIVE FOR 2024-2025—'SOUL FOOD MONDAYS'—starting Monday 2 September 2024, 7.30pm—9.30pm in the Windhill Churches Centre. Following the success, in previous years, of short courses during Advent and Lent, we are expanding our provision to the parish for this academic year. We will be offering weekly faith exploration sessions every Monday evening of the year (with the exception of half terms and school holidays). The format will include: social time, video content or a live speaker, small group discussion/questions for reflection, opportunities for prayer. The aim of every session is three-fold, to provide an opportunity to build community and deepen bonds between us, to offer formation around various topics of our Catholic faith, & to create space for sharing & reflection. Each evening will be open to everyone (though suitable for adults) and free of charge. They will be drop-in style sessions, in that you would not be obliged to attend every session. You'd be welcome to just turn up on any given night. Even though some sessions will be part of a series of evenings, each evening will hold up as a standalone session. Where appropriate, some of the content will be recorded and loaded onto the parish website or links provided to allow for catch up. Finally, do please note that teens wishing to come will need to have a good level of maturity & be accompanied by a parent, if under 18. The year will start with a group viewing of "The Chosen" TV series Season 1, along with exploration of scripture. If you haven't seen this inspiring piece of television, come and check it out! There will be no judgement as to your reasons for coming, but our hope is that we would be united in our desire to grow in faith together. Come, Lord Jesus! For these evenings to go smoothly, we'd be very grateful for any help you can give (one-off or regular), from serving refreshments to leading a small group discussion. Please contact Sophie: bstortforcatchist@rcdow.org.uk for details or if you have any questions.



'Dear young people, please reflect on the wonder of God's love for us just the way we are, not the way society or we say we should be, but as we are with all our faults and our limitations. Trust in God because He is our Father who loves us.' Pope Francis 12/8/24

PARISH BBQ— Tickets are now on sale!!



The Parish BBQ this year is on Sunday 8 September. A great event on the Monastery gardens behind St Joseph's church, to meet other parishioners and enjoy a pimm's or two. If you are able to help prior to the event or can help on the day, please contact Debbie Hourihan on 07847 714781. Raffle prizes & bottles for a tombola are needed, please leave any donations in the tub at the back of St Joseph's church. **Tickets are now available in the parish office, after some Masses or from Debbie Hourihan at a cost of £4 each or £15 for a family of 4. Cash only please. Unfortunately tickets can not be reserved without payment.** Thank you very much.