



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 Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

22 September 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.

THE PARISH OFFICE

The Parish office is closed until Thursday 3 October whilst Debbie is on her summer holiday.

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.

ANNUAL MASS COUNT

This weekend will be the 1st week of the Diocesan Annual Mass count which runs for four consecutive weekends.

A DAY WITH MARY

Westminster Cathedral Saturday 12 October 2024 at 9.45am

CONTACTLESS QR code
↓ PARISH OFFERINGS ↓



40 DAYS FOR LIFE—Following this year's successful March for Life in early September, calling for a change in legislation regarding the unborn, 40 Days for Life is a way of continuing our prayers and action for those who have no voice. The 40 Days for Life start on Friday 27 September and go on until Tuesday 5th November 2024. You can sign up to join a prayer vigil near you during those 40 days at www.40daysforlife.com. Our nearest prayer vigil will be in Southend-on-Sea. Contact Sophie for more info: bstortfordcatechist@rcdow.org.uk

CATECHIST RECRUITMENT—Are you looking for a way to contribute to parish life? Maybe you are someone who enjoys working with children? Or are you the parent of a child who has already been through First Holy Communion and keen to give back in some way? If the answer to any of these questions is "yes", then please consider becoming a First Holy Communion Catechist. A Catechist is a volunteer who offer to help to pass on the faith to others. Helping with First Holy Communion preparation involves working with small groups of children to work through activities to solidify understanding of their faith and especially of the Mass. Volunteers invariably get as much out of it as they give and there is a wonderful team of parishioners working alongside you to support you. No prior experience needed – just a willingness to give it a go. A simple DBS check would need to be carried out. If interested, please contact Sophie: bstortfordcatechist@rcdow.org.uk

SOUL FOOD—Our next Soul Food Session, on Monday 23 September, will be a continuation of our viewing of the T.V. series "The Chosen". We will watch episodes 6 & 7 of season one, beginning promptly at 7.30pm, with refreshments available from 7.15pm. Anyone who would like to catch up with season one so far can do so at: www.thechosen.tv

MARY'S MEALS RECYCLING BOX—As well as donating old and foreign currency, we wish to start collecting other items for a new Mary's Meals initiative to raise funds to feed hungry children. A recycling box will soon arrive in the parish in which you can place any unwanted mobiles, iPads, game consoles, watches, gold, silver & costume jewellery, UK & foreign stamps and cameras, any age or condition. An ideal time for a good clear out to benefit a very worthy cause!

ENCOUNTER—meet next Fri 27 September at St Theresa's Stansted from 10-2pm. David Morson will lead the meeting on "Glimpses of the Divine in the Gospels". Please bring a bible. 10.00 am Coffee; 10.20 meeting opens 12.30 shared lunch; please bring food to share; 2.00pm meeting ends. All welcome for all of part of the day. Enquiries: 01799 542385 or BS 652060

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL OPEN EVENING—Wednesday 25 September 6pm—8.30pm. Meet the staff, tour the facilities and learn more about the wide range of opportunities available for students. To book tickets please visit www.stmarys.net

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING—Saturday 5 October 10am—11am at St Joseph's. Our training is open to any member of the parish who would like to become an Altar Server, those who could not come to the last training session and any existing server who wish to refresh their skills

CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE—Applicants for St Joseph's School for PRIMARY places in 2025/26 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 with a stamped addressed envelope, please. The certificate will be posted to you in the envelope that you provide. The school deadline for completed applications is 15 January 2025.