



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 Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

6 October 2024

Our priests are:

Fr Peter Harris (*Parish Priest*)

Fr Marco Lazzaron (*Asst*)



PRAY IN A SPECIAL WAY FOR PEACE IN LEBANON AND ISRAEL

A Message from Cardinal Vincent Nichols



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.

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 is the 3rd week of the Diocesan Annual Mass count for 4 consecutive weekends.

THE BETHLEHEM NATIVITY GROUP

A Missionary from Bethlehem will visit St Joseph's this weekend to briefly talk about the Holy Land & sell religious articles made out of Olive wood to help support poor Christian families.

CONTACTLESS QR code
↓ PARISH OFFERINGS ↓



'As we are all aware, the intensity and scope of the conflict have increased. In response to the developing situation, Pope Francis has called for day of fasting and prayer. This is to take place next Monday, 7 October 2024, the first anniversary of the Hamas attacks in Israel. 'I ask everyone,' he says, 'to participate in a day of prayer and fasting for peace in the world.' The Vatican News website has more detail at <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2024-10/pope-7-october-to-be-day-of-prayer-and-fasting-for-peace.html>.

Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzaballa, the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, has also invited us to mark next Monday as a day of prayer, penance and fasting for peace in the Holy Land. He speaks of the 'need to pray, to bring our pain and our desire for peace to God. We need to convert, to do penance, and to implore forgiveness.' You can read the Patriarch's message at <https://www.lpj.org/en/news/a-day-of-prayer-fasting-and-penance>. I should be grateful if you could respond to these requests from the Holy Father and the Patriarch in your parish. As 7 October is the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, You might also like to encourage those parishioners who are not able to participate in public prayers to pray the Rosary privately, or to mark Monday in some way as a fast day.'

SOUL FOOD—Monday 7 October 2025 7.30pm in the Windhill Churches Centre (refreshments from 7.15pm) Giving Hope! Meninadança brings hope to street girls who are victims of the "exploitation highways" of Brazil. They provide "Pink Houses" to rescue and care for over 500 girls and to remind them of their true worth and value, particularly through dance. We are privileged to be able to welcome three girls rescued in this way – Rany, Moany and Maluiza will be visiting our parish to share a dance presentation called "Stones and Flowers", which powerfully describes the plight of these girls and the amazing work being done to save them. We will also hear from the founder of the organisation, who will give us an insight into this vital work. So, come and be inspired! It will be an unforgettable evening! We recommend this evening for those aged over 16.

PACT - is the national Catholic charity providing support to prisoners, people with convictions and their children and families. Prisoners' Sunday falls on 13 October 2024. You can find out more about Prisoner's Sunday on <https://www.prisonadvice.org.uk/faith/events/prisoners-sunday/>

ZAMKNIT - Most Holy Redeemer Tuesday, 8 October 2-4 pm . All are welcome.

MARY'S MEALS RECYCLING BOX— As well as donating old and foreign currency, we are collecting other items for a new Mary's Meals initiative to raise funds to feed hungry children. A recycling box has arrived 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!

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.