



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 Baptism of the Lord

12 January 2025

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.

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE

The next two-part baptism preparation course will be on 13 and 27 January 2025 at 8:15pm via Zoom. You are required to attend a course before you arrange a date for your child's baptism. Please contact the parish office to book.

PARISH TABLE TENNIS CLUB

Sunday 12 January
after 6pm Mass (7-8.30pm).
Future dates for the club are:
Jan 26
Feb 9 & 23
Mar 9 & 23, Apr 6
at the Windhill Churches Centre
There is no joining fee, but we do suggest donations of £3 per person (£6 per family) to help cover the cost of equipment & for the use of the hall (cash only please). All are welcome, from ages 7 to 70+. Those aged under 18 yrs. need to be accompanied by an adult please.

CONTACTLESS QR code

↓ PARISH OFFERINGS ↓



SOUL FOOD MONDAYS - Monday 13 January 2025. Each faith exploration evening starts at 7.30pm every Monday of term time, with refreshments served from 7.15pm. The first six weeks will be a series on the Creed. You are welcome to come every week or just drop in as and when you are able. We look forward to seeing you there!

PAX CHRISTI— As the Catholic Movement for Peace in England and Wales, Pax Christi relies on your support to continue their work of peace making. The Peace Sunday appeal is 19 January. Donation envelopes are available if you would like to help. Thank you.

YOUTH NIGHT - Friday 17 January 2025, 6.30pm - 8.30pm. Open to all those in Years 7 - 13 at school. Youth night this month is a Movie Night and we will be watching the film "Heaven is for Real", based on a true story about a boy who has a unique, life-changing experience. Popcorn and Hot chocolate will be provided. We invite you to bring a pillow, blanket or beanbag. All those of secondary age are most welcome, even if you have not been to a youth night before - bring your friends! Next month, our Youth Night will be a bowling night at Ace of Lanes on Friday 14 February. We have a few spaces still available for anyone who would like to come. The cost of the bowling is £11 per person for two games, to be paid in advance. If you wish to eat whilst bowling, we recommend bringing around £6 extra on the night. Drinks will be provided. Booking and payment for this is in advance, so please email Sophie at bstortfordcatechist@rcdow.org.uk as soon as possible if interested. Finally, if anyone is available to become a regular adult volunteer at our youth night, please do email Sophie. The commitment would be monthly or less, if we have enough volunteers.

A YEAR OF HOPE— An Introduction to the Jubilee Year with the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development. 2025 is a Jubilee year, but what does that mean? Catholic talk show host and author Nana Churcher, and CAFOD's Simon Giarchi will be hosting Fr Jan Nowotnik (Director of Mission for the Bishop's Conference), Christine Allen (CAFOD's Director) and Kayode Akintola (CAFOD's Head of Africa) and more for a lively start to the Jubilee. With a special appearance by Catholic band Ooberfuse. Saturday 18 Jan, 10:30am-midday, online. All welcome. Register here for free. www.cafod.org.uk/jubilee

RCIA RITE OF WELCOME— Sunday 12 January at 6pm Mass. Please keep in your prayers our Enquirers, Candidates, Sponsors and Catechists attending the Rite of Welcome Mass

TOILETS AT ST JOSEPH'S— A new paper towel dispenser has been installed in the toilets at St Joseph's and the noisy hand dryer deactivated. Please place all used hand towels in the bin provided. A polite reminder that all children should be supervised when visiting the facility.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH — to those parishioners who have kindly made a donation towards the refurbishment of our St Therese of Lisieux Altar at St Joseph's.

VOCATIONS COME & SEE MORNING— Saturday 25 Jan 10am-2pm Vaughan House, 46 Francis St. SW1P 1QN for those interested in exploring a vocation to the Priesthood or Permanent Diaconate. To register email Canon Roger Taylor: rogertaylor@rcdow.org.uk

KINTSUGI HOPE WELLBEING GROUPS— are a safe and supportive space designed to help us see our 'value and worth, and grow towards a more resilient and hopeful future.' The course runs for up to 12 weeks and covers areas including: anxiety, anger, perfectionism and forgiveness. They are for anyone who may not be struggling right now but wants to be proactive in managing their mental health and wellbeing or for those who want a better understanding of themselves or others. The next Wellbeing Group will be starting on Thursday 13 February 2025 9.45am for a 10am start in the St Barnabas/ Emmaus Centre. If you are interested in joining this course, or if you would like to know more about future courses then please contact info@stjamesthorley.com