



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 Presentation of the Lord

2 February 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.



ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR MATRIMONY AT WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL

Saturday 17 May 2025 at
2:30pm

The Cardinal invites couples in the Diocese celebrating in 2025 their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, and 60th (and any year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage. **Please give the parish office** these details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, number of years married, postal address, email (or phone number, if no email)

before 1 April 2025

Details of attendees are then sent by the parish to family@rcdow.org.uk

Give something, however small, to the one in need.
For it is not small to one who has nothing.
Neither is it small to God, if we have given what we could.

St Gregory Nazianzus

CONTACTLESS QR code
↓ PARISH OFFERINGS ↓



COMBONI MISSION APPEAL— This weekend at St Joseph's we welcome Fr Javier from the Comboni Mission(Verona Fathers) to celebrate Mass and to talk about the Mission appeal.' The Comboni Missionaries are an international Catholic religious and missionary Order founded by Bishop Daniel Comboni in Verona (Italy) in 1867, specifically to serve the missionary endeavour of the Catholic Church.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS— Fr Marco, who will be away from the parish this week on a pilgrimage to Italy and Fr Peter who returns from his short break this weekend.

JUBILEE OF ARTISTS COMPETITION—<https://youth.rcdow.org.uk/february-jubilee-of-artists/> The theme of the Jubilee Year is 'Pilgrims of Hope'. Throughout the ages, art has played a central role in the way the Church teaches about God's plan of salvation for us. Historically, when only the most educated could read and write, visual art both evangelised and catechised (stained glass windows, altar-pieces, sculpture and painting...). Westminster Youth Ministry are launching a competition for those aged 11– 35 years to create a piece of artwork that represents 'Hope'. Artwork will be judged by the Westminster Youth Ministry team. The winning pieces and the runners-up will be exhibited in their Retreat Centre and online for all to see. Please submit a clear image of your artwork via the relevant portal (see website link above) (select your age group), and if successful they will be in contact with further info. Submission deadline is the 3 March 2025.

SOUL FOOD MONDAYS - Monday 3 February 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 this week for part 5.

VOCATIONS COME & SEE MORNING— If interested in exploring a vocation to the Priesthood or Permanent Diaconate, then please come along to one of the Vocations Team's 'Come & See' Vocations Mornings on: Saturday 8 February, 10am-2pm at SS Peter & Paul parish hall, 38 Camborne Ave, Northfields, W13 9QZ Saturday 1 March, 10am-2pm at Sacred Heart of Jesus and St Joseph parish hall, 1 King Edward's Road, Ware, SG12 7EJ Refreshments and a light lunch will be provided. To find out more and to register attendance at one of the days please contact Canon Roger Taylor, the Vocations Promoter, at robertaylor@rcdow.org.uk or Deacon Tito Pereira, Assistant Director of the Permanent Diaconate, at titopereira@rcdow.org.uk or phone 07977 599110.

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR— Immediately after the 9.30am Mass on Tuesday 4 February at St Joseph's, there will be our monthly novena. All are welcome.

MARRIAGE WEEK UK— 7-14 February <https://marriage-week.org.uk/> "If you are fortunate to be in a marriage, you should look after it ".Improve your relationship, and see how and who can help you transform a good marriage into a great marriage.

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE—Our next two-part Baptism preparation course which is run via Zoom will be on Monday 24 March & Monday 7 April 2025 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 information.

CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE

Applicants for St Joseph's School for NURSERY places in SEPTEMBER 2025 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 marked for Fr Peter's attention **with a stamped addressed envelope, please**. The certificate will be posted to you in the envelope that you provide.