



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 Epiphany of the Lord

5 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.

POVERTY IN LONDON HELPING THE POOR

Men's clothes, small toiletries (shampoo, shower gel, tooth paste, tooth brushes, razors, shaving foam, Roll on deodorant), and new underwear are being collected by the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, St Fidelis Friary, Killip Close, Canning Town, E16 1LX. Telephone 0207 4740766. If you have spare clothing that you no longer need and are able to get to them, please consider donating to their cause. Thank you.

CONTACTLESS QR code
↓ PARISH OFFERINGS ↓



SOUL FOOD MONDAYS - Monday 6 January 2025. We kick off the New Year with a return of our parish faith exploration evenings called "Soul Food Mondays". Each 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, starting on Monday 6 January with a session called "Why We Believe". You are welcome to come every week or just drop in as and when you are able. We look forward to seeing you there!

ENCOUNTER— meet next Fri 10 January in the Windhill Churches Centre. "Let art open our hearts & draw us ever closer to the divine." Fr Patrick van der Vorst will be using Christian artworks as a gateway into the beauty & depth of our faith. 10am Coffee 10.30 Talk & discussion 12.30 Shared lunch 2pm day ends. All welcome for all or part of the day. Enquiries: BS 652060/656482

PARISH YOUTH NIGHT—Our next youth night takes place on Friday 17 January 2025, starting at 6.30pm. All young people of secondary school age are most welcome (if you are in yr7 -13 at school). There is no fee, just feel free to come along! Our next youth night is a movie night - the title to be announced in next week's newsletter. If it's your first time at a youth night, all we ask is that the adult dropping you off fills in a consent form.

THE EXCHANGE— is based at the B/Stortford Baptist Church and is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1.00–4.00pm. It accepts good quality second hand items and passes them on, free of charge to those in need.

NOVENA— The monthly Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour will take place at St Joseph's immediately after the 9.30am Mass on Tuesday 7 January 2025. Everyone is very welcome to attend.

A MASS IN WORD AND SIGN— on the second Sunday of each month in British Sign Language and Spoken English, organised by Caritas Deaf Service St. Mary and Michael, Commercial Road, Stepney, London E1 0AA We look forward to seeing you on 12 January 2025, 10:30am - 11:30am

MARY'S MEALS— We are still collecting foreign coins, stamps, jewellery, old mobile phones, cameras, sat navs, iPod/ MP3 players, iPads for Mary's Meals. Please ensure that you have wiped any data from the devices before donating in the box at the back of St Joseph's. Thank you very much.

LOCAL VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES— in Hertfordshire, from schools and youth work to libraries and helping outdoors. <https://tinyurl.com/4y89x3mn>

LGBT+ CATHOLICS— 12 January 2025, 5:30pm - 7:30pm. LGBT+ Catholics Westminster attend the 5.30pm Mass on 2nd & 4th Sundays of each month at Farm Street Jesuit Church, 114 Mount Street, London W1K 3AH. The Mass is followed by refreshments in the parish's Arrupe Hall. Visit www.lgbtcatholicswestminster.org.

POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTION FOR JANUARY—For the right to an education. Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE

Applicants for St Joseph's School for PRIMARY places in 2024 /25 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.

The school deadline for applications is 15 January 2024 .