



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-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

31 August 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.

SOUL FOOD MONDAY

Save the date! As part of our Soul Food Mondays, Fr Marco will give an introduction to Mary and Nazareth on Monday 8 September at 7.30 pm in the WCC. It will be a great opportunity for those preparing to attend the Diocesan pilgrimage to Walsingham on 20 September, but all are very welcome to attend.

MARY'S MEALS

We are still collecting foreign currency for Mary's Meals to help feed hungry children. Please continue to drop any spare or old currency in the collection basket. Thank you very much.

FR BOB STYLES SJ RIP

The Requiem Mass for Fr Bob will be live streamed on 3/9/25 at 12.30pm at Boscombe via Youtube on their website <https://corpuschristiboscombe.org.uk/watch-mass-live/>

CONTACTLESS QR code
↓ PARISH OFFERINGS ↓



FOUR PLACES HAVE BECOME AVAILABLE FOR THE PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

On Saturday 20 September 2025, Fr Marco will be accompanying a group of our parishioners on the Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham led by Cardinal Vincent with the theme in this Jubilee Year of 'With Mary, we are Pilgrims of Hope, Sharing Mary's Joy'. We have already booked and paid for a 39 seater coach for the 2 hour journey and now find ourselves with 4 spare places. If you would like to come, the cost is £37 which includes a return trip on the coach and a £5 Pilgrim levy. We will leave St Joseph's at 7.30am arriving at Walsingham for the 10am start and finishing at 4.30pm arriving back at St Joseph's at around 6.30pm traffic pending. Please contact Fr Marco or the parish office for further information and to confirm your place ASAP if you would like to join us. We will be advertising the places in other parishes also.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION 2025-2026—If you are in year 10 from September 2025 (and turning 15 by 31 August 2026), and you live in the parish, then you are eligible to apply to join our confirmation preparation programme this coming academic year. If you are not from the parish, you will need to apply to make your confirmation at your local church. The Sacrament of Confirmation offers a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit on those who seek to go deeper in their faith. The preparation programme helps candidates to come to a place of readiness to make their own "yes" to being a practising catholic. It requires some maturity and a willing to be open to learn and grow in faith during the academic year ahead. Anyone who would like to apply should write an email to: bstortfordcatechist@rcdow.org.uk and ask for more details. We will then let you know when you can pick up an application form. In the email please write a few lines outlining a bit about yourself and why you feel this is the right time to make your confirmation. All applications will need to be completed by Monday 8 September 2025 and no later.

MEMORIAL MASS WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL— For John Bradburne on Saturday 13 September at 2pm. From 3pm-5pm there will be refreshments, live music by Zimbabwean musicians & London Strings, an exhibition of relics & inspiring speakers. Tickets £25 www.johnbradburne.com or phone 07979 187498

BISHOP'S STORTFORD FOOD BANK HARVEST APPEAL— Most needed items— fruit juice, tinned meat, tinned fish, UHT milk, soup, tinned veg, tinned fruit, biscuits, crackers, toilet rolls, baby wipes, long life sponge, puddings, tea/coffee/ hot chocolate, peanut butter, jam/ honey etc, www.bishopsstortfordfoodbank.com

NEXT WEEKEND— The celebration of Mass returns at Most Holy Redeemer and Holy Cross on Sunday 7 September 2025

ADVANCED NOTICE OF THE OFFICE CLOSURE— The office will be closed from Monday 15—Friday 26 September inclusive whilst Debbie is on her summer holiday.

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR—Tuesday 2 September immediately after Mass at St Joseph's. All are very welcome.

FREE ONLINE SAFEGUARDING TRAINING FOR VOLUNTEERS OF THE DIOCESE

For volunteers (especially volunteers that work in close contact with children and/or adults at risk), Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) LMS online training is strongly advised to be completed. Volunteers can access the training free of charge by following this link: <https://training.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk/> When you are logging in, please be sure to add Diocese of Westminster and your role for our records. We encourage all volunteers to complete the Level 3 course regardless of role. Please note the training will refer to reporting concerns to the Safeguarding Co-ordinator; In the Diocese of Westminster you should report concerns to: 1) Your PSR in Parish (Debbie Jackson) or 2). The Safeguarding duty inbox safeguarding@rcdow.org.uk For assistance with safeguard training contact safeguardingadmin@rcdow.org.uk