



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-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

7 September 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.

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

ZAMKNIT

Tuesday 9 September 2pm to 4pm at Most Holy Redeemer
All are welcome.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE

The office will be closed from Monday 15—Friday 26 September inclusive whilst Debbie is on her 'summer' holiday.

ALTAR SERVERS MASS

at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 4 October 2025 at 2.30pm. Any Altar Servers keen to find out more should contact Sophie by email bstortfordcatechist@rcdow.org.uk

TABLE TENNIS—7/9 after 6pm Mass

CONTACTLESS QR code
↓ PARISH OFFERINGS ↓



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.

SOUL FOOD MONDAY re-starts this coming Monday, 8 Sept, which will be a talk by Fr Marco about Walsingham, in anticipation of our pilgrimage there on 20th of this month. The talk will be followed by night prayer in the church - ALL are welcome, whether or not you are coming to Walsingham on pilgrimage. Please note that, after a good trial last year for Soul Food Mondays, we continue this year, but on a monthly basis - on Mondays from 7.30pm - 9pm (with refreshments from 7.15pm). We also will encourage parishioners who prefer a daytime formation programme to consider attending our Encounter mornings - please see the back of the church or the website for a full list of dates, but here are the ones prior to Christmas: Soul Food Mondays - 8 Sept, 13 Oct, 17 Nov, 15 Dec 2025 @ St Joseph's Parish Hall in the Windhill Churches Centre

ENCOUNTER MORNINGS - 26 Sept & 17 Oct @ St Theresa's, Stansted and 14 Nov & 5 Dec @ St Joseph's Parish Hall in the Windhill Churches Centre

HERTFORDSHIRE SUMMIT—for all young people aged 14-17, on Saturday 22 November from 1-7pm at Our Lady, Queen of Apostles in Welwyn Garden City AL7 3TP. The afternoon will include games, time to socialise, prayer, adoration and Mass. Any young person interested should send an email to Sophie at bstortfordcatechist@rcdow.org.uk by the end of September. We will aim to go as a group, so will need to know numbers so we can organise transport etc.

YOUTH NIGHTS 2025-2026 - are back for the new academic year! We do not meet in September, so the first meeting will take place on Friday 17 October 2025 from 6.30-8.30pm. All young people of secondary age are welcome to attend (school years 7-13). We especially look forward to welcoming our new year 7's to join us - bring a friend! The only thing required is that a parent/carer fill in a consent form the first time you attend. A full list of dates will soon be available to collect at the back of the church. You can also visit our webpage for more details: <https://rcstortford.org.uk/youthnight/>

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