



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-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

19 October 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.



THE BLESSING OF GRAVES

will take place
at 3pm
on Sunday 2 November
in Bishop's Stortford Cemetery.

NOVEMBER

is the month of Holy Souls.
If you would like the names of your deceased loved ones added to our Book of Remembrance this year displayed at St Joseph's please email your list of names to the parish office or post through the door of number 3. Donations for Holy Souls may now also be made using the DONA machines at St Joseph's, the 'Holy Souls' option.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

Pope Leo invites all Catholics to support Missio — his charity for world mission through a special collection this weekend
Envelopes are available

CONTACTLESS QR code

↓ PARISH OFFERINGS ↓



HAPPY BIRTHDAY FR MARCO— We send our love and prayers to Fr Marco as he celebrates his birthday this coming week.

BON VOYAGE FR PETER— Please keep Fr Peter in your prayers as he will be away from the parish after this weekend. Next weekend we welcome Monsignor Canon James Cronin who will celebrate the 9am & 11am Masses at St Joseph's.

PLEASE ARE YOU ABLE TO HELP— Parishioner Sophie Watts is asking for support for her brother James who is suffering from brain cancer. Please see the link to read James' story <https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-james-tasha-through-his-cancer-battle>

OPEN DAYS— for prospective parents applying for a Reception place at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School in September 2026 will be on Thursday 6 & Tuesday 18 November @9:30am. To book a space, please contact the school office on 01279 652576 or email admin@stjosephs207.herts.sch.uk. Please note completed forms and supporting documentation cannot be submitted to the school office until Monday 3 November 2025. As well as completing and submitting the Supplementary Information Form to the school office, you must also apply for a school place online. The online application process for Under 11s (Reception) commences on Monday 3 November & closes on Thursday 15 January 2026.

CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE—Applicants for St Joseph's School for PRIMARY places in SEPTEMBER 2026/7 who may 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 or Fr Marco's attention with a stamped addressed envelope, please. The certificate will be posted to you in the envelope that you provide. Please allow plenty of time if you do require a certificate.

SPIRITUAL CLASSICS BOOK CLUB ONLINE - Starts Wednesday 30 October St Alphonsus Ligouri, in his classic 'How to converse with God'. Join us as we read and reflect on his wisdom in our online book club on Wednesday evenings leading up to Christmas. For more information and to book please email Martin via bookclub@rcdow.org.uk

PILGRIMAGE 2026

We are now planning a new pilgrimage for 2026 and would love to hear your thoughts. The prices shown are approximate and may vary depending on the number of participants and the services included. The period we are possibly looking at is the week of summer half-term (23-31st May), or possibly in the summer (e.g. after 22nd July).

Option 1: One day pilgrimage in a UK Shrine/holy place (e.g., Clare Priory, Aylesford, or Walsingham), travelling by coach, estimated cost: £40-60 per person. A moment of reflection on the Saints.

Option 2: a 3/4-days pilgrimage in or outside the country (e.g., York, Durham and Lindisfarne, or Lisieux and Douai) travelling by plane/coach, estimated of £350-500 per person. On the footsteps of the English Martyrs and/or in thanksgiving for the new side altar for St Therèse of Lisieux.

Option 3: a 5/6 days pilgrimage (either Fatima and Santiago de Compostela, or Assisi and Siena) travelling by plane/coach, estimated £700-1000 per person. A classic pilgrimage, either marking the feast of St James the Apostle (25th July), or the 800th anniversary of the death of St Francis of Assisi (1226).

If interested please let Fr Marco know (by 2 November '25) your preferred option, suggested dates or any other pilgrimage ideas. This does not represent a firm commitment but helps us to potentially choose the most popular destinations & negotiate group rates.