



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 Baptism of the Lord

11 January 2026

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 via Zoom will be Monday 19 & 26 January 2026 8.15pm—9.30pm. It is a pre requisite to attend the course prior to arranging a Baptism. Please book a place via the parish office

ADULTS CONFIRMATION 2026

If you are a baptised Catholic, but have never been confirmed and would like to prepare to do so, we will be starting our adult confirmation preparation on Wednesday 14 January 2026, with meetings being on Wednesday evenings (with the exception of two Thursday evenings) at 8pm in the parish centre. If you are interested, please speak to Fr Marco in the first instance or email bstortfordcatechist@rcdow.org.uk for further info. Forms are available in the sacristy and can be picked up on request from Fr Marco.

CONTACTLESS QR code
↓ PARISH OFFERINGS ↓



PEACE SUNDAY 2026— Next Sunday 18 January 2026. Pope Leo has announced the theme – 'Peace be with you all: Towards an 'unarmed & disarming peace' . Donation envelopes are available at the back of the church for Pax Christi.

RITE OF ACCEPTANCE MASS/WELCOME FOR OUR RCIA CANDIDATES — Sunday 18 January at the 6pm Mass will be our Rite of Acceptance Mass. Everyone is very welcome to attend. This Mass will also be our Youth Mass and so might just be a little longer than usual.. but it will be very special!

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 18-25 January— On Sunday 25 January 2026 at 4pm at St Joseph's there will be an ecumenical celebration at the end of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. This years' theme of 'One Body, One Spirit' reminds us that we are called to unity to work for peace for people everywhere.

MARY'S MEALS —We are still collecting foreign currency for Mary's Meals, to help feed hungry children, so if you have any loose change, please consider dropping it into our collection basket. Thank you very much.

SAVE THE DATE 2026— Mass for Matrimony Saturday 23 May 2026 2:30pm at Westminster Cathedral. Further info to follow in due course.

COME & SEE VOCATIONS MORNINGS 2026 —Saturday 28 February, 10am-1.30pm - St Anselm's, Southall - St Anselm's Rectory, The Green, Southall UB2 4BE, Saturday 14 March, 12 noon-3.30pm - St Bonaventure's Church Hall - 81 Parkway, Welwyn Garden City AL8 6JF Refreshments and a light lunch will be provided. To find out more and to register your attendance at one of the days, please contact: Canon Roger Taylor - Vocations Promoter rogertaylor@rcdow.org.uk or Deacon Tito Pereira – Assistant Director Permanent Diaconate 07977 599110 or titopereira@rcdow.org.uk

PARISH TABLE TENNIS CLUB —meets on various Sunday evenings at the Windhill Churches Centre between 7pm and 8.30pm. There is no joining fee, but we do suggest donations of £3 per person (£6 per family group) to help cover the cost of equipment and for the use of the hall (cash only please). The next sessions are: Jan 11 & 25 Feb 8 & 22 Mar 8 & 22 It is a parish community club, and all are welcome from ages 7 to 70+. At present children and teenagers under 18 need to be accompanied by an adult.

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING— Saturday 21 February 2026 at 11am at St Joseph's. Our training is open to any member of the Parish who would like to become an altar server, for those who couldn't come to our last training session and to any existing servers who may wish to refresh their skills. If you have any questions, please speak with Fr Marco or Robert Purcell

CANDLES AT ST JOSEPH'S— As a temporary measure we have decided to place loose votive candles on the candles stands at St Joseph's as unfortunately several whole trays containing 100 candles have been 'disappearing' from the church recently.

MAJELLANS BABY AND TODDLER GROUP — meet every Monday of term time in the parish centre. We return on Monday, 12 January 2026, from 9.30-11.30am. We welcome mums, dads, grandparents, carers and their little ones 0-4yrs old for a fun morning of play, art and craft, music and song with a welcome cuppa for the adults and a smiling face to greet you! There is a small fee of £2.50 per family. Come and join us - whether it is your first time or you have been before - we'd love to see you!

SOUL FOOD MONDAY - On Monday 12 January. We will be watching the recent 2024 film "Cabrini" about the Italian immigrant to New York, Francesca Cabrini, who arrives there in 1889 and - upon witnessing the poverty - embarks on a daring journey to provide housing and healthcare for society's most vulnerable. As the film is 2hrs15min, we would like to begin a little earlier than usual and start watching by 7.15pm. So we invite everyone to arrive from 7pm for refreshments, which will also be available during the movie. All welcome - this movie is recommended from those 12yrs old and above.