



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 Thursday 8:30 am to 3:00 pm Friday 8am –12pm(remote)

Administrator/ Safeguarding: Mrs Debbie Jackson | **Catechetical Co-ordinator:** Mrs Sophie Sullivan

www.rcstortford.org.uk

The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8 February 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.

ADVANCED NOTICE

Apologies, but there will be **NO Adoration or Confessions** on **Saturday 14 February** due to Fr Peter and Fr Marco attending the Installation Mass of Archbishop Elect Richard Moth

YOUTH NIGHT

Friday 13 February 2026
Calling all young people:
February's Youth Night is a Movie Night in the WCC.
We meet to start promptly at 6.30pm and aim to finish around 8.30pm. It's free to attend - we only ask that a parent fill in a consent form when they drop you off. Do bring a pillow or cushion with you if you wish.
Youth Night is open to all young people of secondary school, aged 11-17 years old (school yrs7-13). Please feel free to come, even if it's your first time and invite a friend!



Next weekend is Fr Peter's
75th birthday!

CONTACTLESS QR code
↓ PARISH OFFERINGS ↓



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 any current servers who may wish to refresh their skills. Please speak with Fr Marco or Robert

BISHOP'S STORTFORD ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

—Monday 9 March 2026 7.30pm. At South Mill Arts, 1-3 South Road, CM23 3JG. An opportunity for residents to have their say on anything they consider to be important to the people of Bishop's Stortford. This is not a meeting of the Town Council; it is a meeting facilitated by the Town Council. It is your meeting! Questions will not be sought or accepted in advance of the meeting. It is also an opportunity for some of the Town's local groups and charities to showcase their work and to make the community aware of their services and opportunities to volunteer

CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE—Applicants for St Joseph's School for NURSERY places in 2026 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 provided. Please allow plenty of time if you do require a certificate.

SOUL FOOD MONDAY—Do join us for this month's Soul Food Monday, which takes place this Monday, 9 February, starting at 7.30pm in the parish centre, behind the church. Refreshments are served beforehand, from 7.15pm. This month we take time to begin a discovery of the saints, where we will consider the call on all of our lives to become saints. On Monday, we will do so with an in-depth video and time of reflection on the life of St Patrick. All are most welcome, whether you are come regularly or whether it's your first time!

SAVE THE DATE— HOLIDAY BIBLE WEEK 2026— 3- 7August. The theme this year will be Rescue! AGM: 5 March, HBW Sunday: 8 March, Registration: 8 March, Launch night for volunteers: 18 June. Holiday Bible Week (HBW) started in 1987, drawing together children from across Bishop's Stortford and the surrounding area to learn more about the Bible together. Since 1987 Holiday Bible Week has grown to host 500+ children each year, in tents on a local school playing field. Hundreds of Christians from across our town volunteer to help make Holiday Bible Week happen. There's a role for everyone – from spending the week with a particular age group to helping keep the site safe and friendly for everyone. More info to follow....

MARRIAGE CARE —provides a relationship counselling service for couples when life gets tough & it is hard to find a positive solution www.marriagecare.org.uk : 0800 389 3801



ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 23 May 2026 at 2:30pm.

The Archbishop is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5th 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2026. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give the parish office the following details before Monday 13 April: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and contact email (or telephone number, if no email). Closer to the time, the Agency for Evangelisation will send out an invitation from the Archbishop to the couples.