



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

+Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

29 March 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.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT ST JOSEPH'S FOR CHILDREN

12 noon on Good Friday at
St Joseph's



Your Parish Needs

YOU!!

We need several volunteers please to act as Stewards/ Welcomers at each Mass during the Easter Triduum.

This role involves ensuring that the aisles and exits remain clear in case of an emergency, to welcome everyone and to distribute hymn books, mass sheets etc.

There is a sign up sheet in the Sacristy if you are able to help.
Thank you

ECUMENICAL STATIONS OF THE CROSS

at St Andrew's Church at 7.00 pm on
Monday 30 March 2026.

CONTACTLESS QR code
↓ PARISH OFFERINGS ↓



HOLY WEEK SHEETS— detailing events and Mass times for the Easter Triduum are available in church. Information can also be found on our website.

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR ALL GIFT AIDERS—The HMRC requires that you must pay more income tax than the total of all Gift Aid amounts claimed in a tax year and the penalties for failure to comply with this rule can be severe.

The 2025-26 tax year ends on 5 April and we will claim the Gift Aid for the tax year soon afterwards. If you are registered with the parish for Gift Aid and your circumstances have changed so that you are no longer eligible, you **MUST** please inform us before 5 April so that we can amend our records to ensure that our claims are correct. If you are not registered for Gift Aid with the parish but you are eligible to claim, please consider doing so as it will add 25% to your offertory donations without costing you anything. Please contact the Parish Office.

CHRISM MASS—Westminster Cathedral Tuesday 31 March 12 noon— There will be NO 9.30am Mass at St Joseph's on this day, but the church will be open 9am –3pm for private prayer as usual.

DONATION ENVELOPES— The new planned giving donation envelopes for those parishioners who kindly donate using this method are ready for collection in the Sacristy

DONATIONS FOR EASTER— If you are away for the Easter weekend, and wish to make an Easter offering, our DONA machines are set up for this purpose! The QR code on this newsletter & the donation page on our website also link directly to the DONA machine.

WE KEEP IN OUR PRAYERS— our Priests, Parishioners, Catechists, Sponsors and RCIA candidates who will be baptised, confirmed or received into the church this Easter.

THE PARISH OFFICE— will be closed on Good Friday and Easter Monday for the Bank holidays and will reopen as usual on Tuesday 7 April at 8.30am –3pm

DIVINE MERCY PILGRIMAGE TO AYLESFORD PRIORY— on Saturday 11 April led by Marian Fathers as a Preparation for Divine Mercy Sunday. The coach will leave Ealing Broadway station at 7.30 am and depart from Aylesford at 5 pm. Pls call Millie on WhatsApp 07957594646 if you would like to join.

RE-COMMISSIONING OF EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION— All Eucharistic Ministers from the three churches in our parish are invited to renew their commitment as extraordinary Ministers at the parish Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday at St Joseph's at 7.30pm.

'Waving their branches of palm, they cried: Hosanna in the Highest'

IMPORTANT - ARE YOU A VOLUNTEER IN OUR PARISH?

The Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) have made Level 3 Safeguard training mandatory for all Clergy, staff, and **Volunteers** regardless of their role within a parish and whether or not they have a DBS. **Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility!**

Volunteers can access the Level 3 training free of charge by following this link

<https://training.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk> The online training does not have to be done in one sitting as progress will be saved. When you are logging in, please be sure to add 'Diocese of Westminster' and your 'volunteer role' for our records.

We ask that when volunteers have completed the CSSA level 3 module please let your Parish administrator know your name, your volunteer role and the date you completed the Level 3 training module so that parish safeguard training record can be updated. Parish training records throughout the Diocese will be subject to a CSSA safeguarding audit and review so your assistance and commitment to completing the training is very much appreciated. **Thank you very much to everyone for their response so far!**