



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 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 Third Sunday of Lent

8 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

led by our Parishioners after morning Mass on Fridays.
Every one is welcome.

RCIA- THE SCRUTINIES

During the 3rd, 4th, & 5th Sundays of Lent, our RCIA Elect will celebrate the Scrutinies which are rites of self-searching and repentance, rooted in the Lenten readings. They are not to judge the Elect, but to help them uncover what is weak and strengthen what is good in their hearts before receiving the Sacraments of Initiation at Easter. They will be celebrated during the 9am Mass Sunday, 8 March, 6pm Saturday, 14 March and 11am Sunday, 22 March. Please all our RCIA cohort in your prayers as they continue their spiritual purification and enlightenment.

CONTACTLESS QR code
↓ PARISH OFFERINGS ↓



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.catholicssafeguarding.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.

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 .

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. Alongside the core safeguarding training, a range of additional courses are also available, including Domestic Abuse Awareness, Dementia Awareness, and Human Trafficking. Thank you very much.

YOUTH NIGHT - MARCH 2026—Please note a change of date: Our next youth night will now take place on Friday 27 March, 6.30pm - 8.30pm (due to an unforeseen clash with the previous advertised date). It will be the last day of term, but should make for a relaxed evening to celebrate the term and, also, give us an opportunity to prayerfully look ahead to Holy Week. We will be doing some art and craft on a Lenten theme and it will be followed by Stations of the Cross - to which family members and others who wish to join our young people would be most welcome. The Stations will be from 7.45pm in the church. Entry through the side door that evening please, should you wish to join us.

SAVE THE DATE— On the weekend of Saturday 11 July at 7.30pm & Sunday 12 July at 3pm we will be hosting an evening Parish Hog roast followed by a traditional afternoon tea party to give thanks and to celebrate the impending retirement of Fr Peter. Further information will be given in due course, but please do make a note in your diary now! Good company is assured and sunshine (*hopefully*) guaranteed!!

HOLIDAY BIBLE WEEK REGISTRATION— opens this Sunday. Please visit <https://holidaybibleweek.co.uk/> to register your child to attend or to volunteer 3-7 August.

SOUL FOOD MONDAY 9 MARCH 2026

Our next monthly Soul Food gathering, we will continue our look into the lives of the saints. In March, we will look at St Francis of Assisi and the inspiration he gave to reach out to the poor and the vulnerable.

We meet in the parish centre, for a 7.30pm start, with refreshments served from 7.15pm.

Everyone is most welcome to attend. Maybe you can use this Lent as a good excuse to come and try out something new, by discovering another way of being spiritually fed & also building fellowship between one another. It's a wonderful evening to be a part of!