



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](http://www.rcstortford.org.uk)

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

3 May 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.

#### SOUL FOOD MONDAY

On 11 May at 7.30pm we will be welcoming an outside speaker, Fiona Whitehead. Fiona will be sharing an introduction to the Theology of the Body, which is a ground-breaking teaching developed by Pope St John Paul II, and centered around the dignity of the human person, especially as it pertains to relationships and sexuality. It is an incredible treasure of the church, so do come along to find out more. All welcome, from older teens upwards.

#### VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD

If you would like to talk to someone about a vocation to the priesthood, contact the Vocations Promotion Team:

**Canon Roger Taylor**

[vocationspromoter@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:vocationspromoter@rcdow.org.uk)

**Fr Mike Maguire**

[vocations@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:vocations@rcdow.org.uk)

#### CONTACTLESS QR code

↓ PARISH OFFERINGS ↓



**THE PRIEST TRAINING FUND**—supports the formation of men who are responding to God's call to serve as priests in our diocese. Your support helps make this formation possible. It is a direct way of strengthening the life of the Church and ensuring that future generations will continue to receive the sacraments and pastoral care. If you are able, please give generously. You may use one of the donation envelopes available in church or also donate via [rcdow.org.uk/PriestTrainingFund](http://rcdow.org.uk/PriestTrainingFund). Please also continue to pray for vocations and for those currently in formation. Thank you to everyone who donated last weekend, £1,196.35 has been raised in the parish, so far..

**PENTECOST PRAYER BREAKFAST** Saturday 23 May 10am – 12pm St Barnabas Centre, Church Lane, Thorley, CM23 4BE

**PLANT SALE**— Saturday 23 May 11am—1pm St James' Church, Thorley.

**VACANCY FOR HEAD OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**— at St Mary's Catholic School. This is a key role within the school, with responsibility for leading and developing RE as a core subject and supporting the Catholic life and mission of the school. Recruitment pack link <https://mynewterm.com/jobs/148499/EDV-2026-SMCS-31816>. Closing date 4 May.

**ZAMKNIT**— Tuesday 5 May 2-4pm in the Most Holy Redeemer Extension. All welcome.

**CHRISTIAN AID WEEK**— takes place from 10th - 16 May. Envelopes are available at the back of Most Holy Redeemer for donations to this worthy cause. Please take one home and return with your donation on Sunday 17 May. If you are eligible to sign the Gift Aid declaration, 25% of the donation value will be added for Christian Aid. Thank You.

**BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY 4 MAY**— Morning Mass will be at 10am at St Joseph's and the Parish office will be closed until Tuesday 5 May at 8.30am

**RADIO MARIA ENGLAND**— Be a part of a LIVE radio show recording on Saturday, 9 May at St Joseph's Parish Hall (Windhill Churches Centre). Radio Maria and All Kinds of Catholic will be interviewing our very own Sophie Sullivan on the radio and invite you to join them from 2:30pm, with the event concluding at 4:30pm. After the weekend Masses on 9 & 10 May, Radio Maria will also be present, speaking about their mission, the Youth Radio Show that students at St Joseph's Catholic School hosts monthly and inviting you to be part of Our Lady's Radio in this country. You'll be able to find out about the variety of shows they produce and how you can tune in! [radiomariaengland.uk](http://radiomariaengland.uk)

**CANDLE SAFETY**— Please ensure that children are always supervised in church and DO NOT light candles or handle matches unaccompanied. Hot wax & fire are an obvious risk (burns/hair/clothing catching alight) especially when leaning/ reaching over the stands.

#### 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!**