



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 Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

19 July 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.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION 2026–2027

Application forms are now available in the Sacristy after Mass.

You must be 15 years or older before 31 August 2027 (Year 10 and above) and live in the parish

You will need to provide a photocopy of your Baptism Certificate if you were not baptised at St Joseph & The English Martyrs, Holy Cross or Most Holy Redeemer.

The preparation sessions and a compulsory residential retreat will take place between October 2026 and July 2027, with an introductory meeting for parents and candidates scheduled in mid October. The date of the Confirmation Mass for 2027 will be allocated by the Bishop and confirmed at a later date.

Completed forms must be submitted to 3 Windhill before Monday 7 September 2026

CONTACTLESS QR code
↓ PARISH OFFERINGS ↓



THANK YOU VERY MUCH— to EVERYONE who attended Fr Peter's Hog Roast and Tea party last weekend. It was so lovely to see so many people enjoying themselves! Special thanks to our amazing band of helpers who kindly gave up their time and worked really hard and very long hours in the hot sun and the equally warm WCC making it all happen- You all did a brilliant job! Thank you also to our fabulous cake & scone providers—we had some delicious and really creative and fun culinary masterpieces worthy of 'Bake off!' Thank you to our marvellous music maker, marquee erectors and dismantlers, party decorators, security team, gate marshals, table and chair shifters, our sandwich delivery human chain, salad makers, drink makers & pourers, rubbish collectors, recyclers, bunting and table cloth creators, washer and dryer uppers and the 'clear up as though nothing had ever happened' team. Thank you EVERYONE!

HELP NEEDED PLEASE— Following the party, we have a lot of large white linen tablecloths which now need washing to be ready for the next parish event and would like to share the workload if possible please. If you have a washing machine and are able to help by washing, drying and ironing perhaps just a couple of tablecloths please may you kindly contact Debbie in the parish office. Thank you very much.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2027—Application forms for registration to our Parish First Holy Communion programme 2027 for children who will be 8 years old or older on or before 31 August 2027 AND who live in the parish are now available for collection after Mass in the Sacristy. Completed forms with a copy of a Baptism certificate must be submitted to 3 Windhill for the attention of Fr Marco **before Monday 31 August 2026**. Late entries will not be accepted.

READERS—are invited to a special day of formation specifically for Parish Readers/ Lectors, on Saturday 12 September at the Rosary Priory (Niland Centre) in Bushey WD23 4EE. Contact Sophie bstortfordcatechist@rcdow.org.uk if you plan to go or for info.

FLAME 2027 —Saturday 6 March 2027 at Wembley's OVO Arena. FLAME is an event and the largest gathering of Catholic Young People in the country. It is an initiative of CYMFED - the Catholic Youth Ministry Federation - and is a national youth congress for young people aged 14/15 and above, as well as for university students and young adults. It really is a festival for all our young people! The trip is being kindly subsidised and the cost of this day event will be approx. £30 per young person/participant. This will cover your entry ticket and transport to the venue. If you would like to secure a place please email Sophie, bstortfordcatechist@rcdow.org.uk ASAP and before Friday 11 September.

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!**