



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 Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

4 October 2026

Our priests are:

Fr Axcel Soriano (*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, 4.30 to 5.30 pm.

BAPTISM PREPARATION

The next two-part 'Zoom' Baptism preparation course will be Monday 5 October & Monday 19 October 8.15pm with Sophie. It is a prerequisite to attend the course before a date is arranged for your child to be baptised.

Please contact the office for more info and to be enrolled.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

6/10 Zamknit at MHR

12/10— Soul Food Monday

16/10—Youth Games Night

MASS COUNT

The annual mass count is taking place again this weekend.

MARRIAGE CARE

provides a relationship counselling service for couples when life gets tough and it is hard to find a positive solution.
www.marriagecare.org.uk

CONTACTLESS QR code

↓ PARISH OFFERINGS ↓



ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS— Confessions and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament now start at 4.30pm on a Saturday and finish promptly at 5.30pm to allow Father to prepare for the start of the 6pm vigil mass. Appointments can also be made directly with Father Axcel or Fr Marco for confessions to be heard after week day morning mass

SOUL FOOD MONDAY— 12 October 2026 7.30pm in the Windhill Churches Centre. We will be looking at the life of St Benedict. All are welcome to attend. Refreshments served from 7.15pm. Bring a friend!

COME & SEE VOCATIONS MORNING – Sat 17 Oct, 10.30-1.30 at Ealing Abbey, Charlbury Grove W52 DY. Could God be calling you? If you have ever wondered whether God might be calling you to serve the Church as a Priest or Permanent Deacon, come and learn more about the Priesthood and Permanent Diaconate. Hear from those already serving in their vocations and meet others who are also discerning their vocation. Refreshments and a light lunch will be provided. To find out more and register your attendance: contact Canon Roger Taylor, Vocations Promoter by email at: vocationspromoter@rcdow.org.uk or Deacon Ian Edwards Assistant Director, Permanent Diaconate ianedwards@rcdow.org.uk

NEW HANDRAILS AT ST JOSEPH'S— We hope that by this time next weekend our new hand rails will have been fully installed in the church allowing easier access to the sacristy, sanctuary and our Lady chapel for visiting priests and parishioners.

EXPLORING THE MINISTRY OF READING— Saturday 31 October 10.00am-1.00pm Vaughan House, Westminster A morning of formation for Readers led by Sr Karen Marguerite d'Artois OP. For more info/ to book a place, e-mail: catadmin@rcdow.org.uk or tel. 020 7798 9152 Suggested donation of £5 (to be paid online). Booking is essential.

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL— will be having open days for prospective Reception 2027 parents on the following days: Thursday 15 October @ 9:30am Tuesday 20 October @ 9:30am and Thursday 26 November @ 9:30am To book a space contact the school office 01279 652576. Applications for Reception 2026-27 open on 2 November 2026 and close on 15 January 2027. To apply please make an application online via your local council and by completing a Supplementary Information Form which can be downloaded via the school's website. To support your child's application you will be asked for a copy of your child's baptism certificate.

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES 2027—An email has now been sent to all applicants. Please contact Sophie on bstortfordcatechist@rcdow.org.uk if you have not received it.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO MAKE A REGULAR DONATION TO OUR COLLECTION?

Our DONA card machines have continued to be a little bit temperamental over the last few weeks whilst we still patiently await the arrival of our new replacement machines. Hopefully they should be with us in the next few weeks! The QR code on this newsletter links to the DONA page and there is also a link on our website. If you would like to make a regular weekly/ monthly donation by a standing order without the need to use the machines please collect a standing order form from the back of the church. If you are a Gift Aider, even better! Thank you. The Parish Bank details are :

Sort Code: 40 05 20

Account Number: 31094629

Account Name: WRCDT Bishops Stortford