



The Catholic Parish of Bishop's Stortford



St Joseph and the English Martyrs, Bishop's Stortford
Holy Cross, at St Andrew's, Church Lane, Much Hadham
Most Holy Redeemer, Sayesbury Road, Sawbridgeworth
 Parish Priest: Fr Peter Harris • Assistant Priest: Fr Fortunato Pantisano

Parish Office: Windhill Churches Centre, 1st Floor • 10am - 3pm Monday to Friday
 Postal Address: 3 Windhill, Bishops Stortford, Herts CM23 2ND
 Tel: 01279 654063 • Email: bishopsstortford@rcdow.org.uk • Website: <http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/bishopsstortford>
 Live streaming from St Joseph's: www.churchservices.tv/bishopsstortford
 Diocese of Westminster Charity No. 233699

Sunday 6th March 2016 – 4th Sunday of Lent Laetare Sunday

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:
 9am Mass – Josephine Garvey RIP
 11am Mass – Pat Maher RIP
 6pm Mass – People of the Parish

Most Holy Redeemer (Sayesbury Road, Sawbridgeworth):
 9.00am Mass
Holy Cross (at St Andrew's, Church Lane, Much Hadham):
 11.15am Mass

Monday 7th March – Lent feria Sts Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs

9.15am Morning Prayer
 9.30am Mass – James Grimes RIP

Tuesday 8th March – St John of God, Religious

9.15am Morning Prayer
 9.30am Mass – The Sick and Housebound
 12.30 Mass at Most Holy Redeemer, S'worth

Wednesday 9th March – Lent feria St Frances of Rome Religious

9.15am Morning Prayer
 9.30am Mass – Bridie Morris RIP

Thursday 10th March – Lent feria

6.30 AM Mass – The Needy and Hungry of the World
 9.15am Morning Prayer
 9.30am Mass – Frank Fahy RIP

Friday 11th March – Lent feria

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:
 9.15am Morning Prayer
 9.30am Mass – Geraldine Gallagher RIP

Saturday 12th March – Lent feria

5.15 – 5.45pm – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament &
 Sacrament of Reconciliation
 6pm Mass – Seamus Grimes RIP

Mass requests

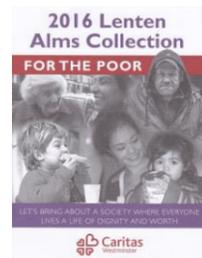
Please fill in the envelope provided, the date & time you would like the Mass with a contact number/ E-mail address and hand in to the Sacristy, Parish Office or 3 Windhill.
 Thank you very much.

LENT INITIATIVES

There are a number of opportunities for members of the Parish to be involved in the different "pillars" of Lent. There is the **CAFOD annual Lenten Fast Day** - envelopes are available at the back of our Churches.



There is also **the annual Lenten Collection for the Diocese** which the Cardinal has asked this year to go to Caritas, the Diocesan agency that works so hard with those who are poor, in many different ways, in the Diocese. There are envelopes for this also available.



So, these are both opportunities that you might like to take up if you are still looking for something that involves "Almsgiving".

Penance is also an important part of our Lenten observance and we have a tradition of a **Lenten Penitential Service** at St Joseph's open to all of the Parish. It will take place at 7.30pm on Friday 11th March - **please take one of the special cards to remind you of the date.** We hope that as in previous years we will have 8 priests to hear confessions around the Church at the end of the Service.



Charity Golf day on Friday 8th April 1pm at the Manor of Groves Golf Club organised by St Joseph's Fundraising Committee to raise funds for the Parish. Entry forms are at the back of all Churches. For info contact Angela Tyson 655316

Thank you to everyone at Holy Cross who has contributed to the CAFOD second collection. To date £1021.45 has been raised.

Mum's prayer group next Wednesday 9th in the WCC at 8-9:30pm All welcome.

St Joseph's feast day celebration Sat 19th March. Bring & share supper. All welcome Please bring a dish to share from 5.15pm in the WCC.

LOURDES JULY 24-30th 2016 - If you are interested in joining the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes this year as a parish group, please sign the list at the back of church to receive the booking form which contains all the relevant info Patrick & Pauline Haynes. 652411

St Joseph's Parish walk. Sunday 15th May. Due to popular demand we will be doing the Much Hadham walk again leaving from St Andrews Church at 2pm. We will stop for refreshments on the way. **All welcome.** Approx. 4 miles, sensible shoes advised. Contact Fiona 01279 501948

Tea... Wednesday 16th March at 60 Mazoe Road from 2.15 p.m. Join us for tea/ cakes/ crumpets..... and chat. Everyone welcome. Contact Jill 657575 if you need information or transport.

Encounter meet next Fri. 18 March at St Theresa's Stansted 'A Holy Week reflection: The things Jesus carried; lessons we can take for Holy Week in words, poetry and music' led by Kate Barrance. Come ready to describe a special occasion; what you wore; what you provided for it... **10am** coffee **10.30** meeting opens **12.30** shared lunch **2pm** day ends. All welcome for all or part of the day. Enquiries or lift required: B/S 652060/BS 656482

Holiday Bible Week AGM - Thursday 10th March, Bishops Stortford Baptist Church 8pm for a review of 2015 and plans for 2016, followed by cheese & wine. All welcome! info@holidaybibleweek.co.uk

Thank you very much to everyone who helped promote and donated to the Missio Red Box campaign. £4600 was raised in the Parish adding to the £2,999,816 total raised in England and Wales for the Charity which will make a huge difference.

Newspapers and Magazines – Unfortunately due to lack of sales and associated costs we have had to take the decision to cancel our weekly deliveries of 'The Tablet', The Catholic Herald, The Catholic Times and the Novena magazine to St Josephs. We apologise for this. All are available for private subscription either directly through the relevant publication itself, internet or local newsagent.

St Mark's West Essex Catholic School Harlow aim to produce a commemorative magazine as part of their Golden Jubilee Celebrations. Any past pupils, or staff, who would like to submit a **short piece/poem** on their memories of their time at St Mark's should forward it to: Admin@st-marks.essex.sch.uk and mark it Golden Jubilee

Planned Giving Envelopes for Tax Year starting 6th April 2016:

The new Planned Giving Envelopes will be available for you to collect (from the old information area at the back of the church) on the weekend of 19th and 20th March. Your new envelopes will have the same number as before, and the boxes will be arranged in numerical order. The new envelopes must NOT be used until the weekend of 9/10 April.

Gift Aid: The Tax Year ends on 5th April and we will be submitting our Gift Aid Claim for 2015/16 soon after that. If you are registered for Gift Aid but are no longer eligible because you will have stopped paying UK Income Tax before 5th April 2016 it is important that you let us know immediately, with the date that you stopped paying tax. You can let us know by email at bishopsstortford@rcdow.org.uk, a note to No 3, or phone 01279 654063 (10am to 3pm) & leave a message.

Planned Giving: Our weekly Offertory Collections are currently 10% lower than a year ago. So that we can maximise our income and help to pay for the daily running of the Church and Parish we would encourage those of you who are not already members of our Planned Giving scheme to join – application cards are available at the back of the church. Contributions can be made using weekly envelopes or by Standing Order – which is more efficient for both the donor and the parish. Standing Order Forms are also available at the back of the church. If you are a UK Tax Payer and not already registered for Gift Aid, we would urge you to do so. This will enable the parish to obtain an additional 25p for every £1 that you contribute – with no cost to yourself. Last year St. Joseph's parish claimed back over £26,000 in Gift Aid. To register you will need to complete a Gift Aid Declaration Form, available from the back of the church.

Saturday 16 April, 7pm – Harlow Chorus 40th Anniversary Concert at Chelmsford Cathedral, including Fanshawe's African Sanctus. If interested in tickets / coach, please contact Alan Hodgson on 01279 600430, alanhodgson599@btopenworld.com, ASAP

St Mary's Catholic school require a part-time Learning Support Assistant with immediate start date – 31 August 2016 to support students with a variety of additional and special needs throughout the school. The post is temporary because it relies on external funding but it is possible that the post will continue if funding continues. Hours from Monday-Friday during school term-time. Salary is payable on Hay Scale 2 (points 11-14 full time salary £15,207 - £16,231) starting at point 11.



Parish Administrator – Debbie Jackson
 Parish Office: 01279 654063 (10am-3pm)
 Parish Centre Bookings:
bishopsstortford@rcdow.org.uk
 Child Protection: Keith Irvine
safeguardstjoes@virginmedia.com
 SVP (St Joseph's): 0750 409 9571



Collections 27/28th February 2016
St Josephs and the English Martyrs
 Collection: £ 1644.60 Standing Orders: £1278
Holy Cross
 Collection: £81.80 Standing Orders: £220
Most Holy Redeemer
 Collection: £215.90 Standing Orders: £82



Baptism: Forms and information are available from the Parish Office.
Marriage: enquiries call the Parish Office or email
First Reconciliation & First Holy Communion - Recruiting now completed at the 3 Churches
Confirmation: now closed for 2016

Hail, holy Queen, mother of mercy; hail, our life, our sweetness, and our hope! To you do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to you do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, your eyes of mercy towards us; and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of your womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.