



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 14th February 2016 – 1st Sunday of Lent

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9am Mass – Candidates for the Sacraments
11am Mass – Sue Mc Lachlan 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

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

Monday 15th February – Lent feria

9.15am Morning Prayer
9.30am Mass – Joseph Smith RIP

Tuesday 16th February – Lent feria

9.15am Morning Prayer
9.30am Mass – Julia Baynau RIP
12.30 Mass at Most Holy Redeemer, S'worth

Wednesday 17th February – Lent feria

9.15am Morning Prayer
9.30am Mass – Mike Murphy RIP

Thursday 18th February – Lent feria

6.30 AM Mass – People of the Parish
9.15am Morning Prayer
9.30am Mass – Albert William Mitchell RIP

Friday 19th February – Lent feria

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9.15am Morning Prayer
9.30am Mass – Lent Fast Day

Saturday 20th February – Lent feria

5.15 – 5.45pm - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Sacrament of Reconciliation
6pm Mass John Hudson 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.

Fr Peter writes:

Dear Parishioners of St Joseph's,
I am delighted to be able to tell you that we have got the necessary permissions for the Accessible toilets. This work will probably take nearly 14 weeks to complete since there is structural work to do. Please be patient whilst this progresses. There will be no access to the toilets during this time but we hope to make the toilets in the Windhill Churches Centre available during weekend Masses. I will let you know when this work is about to begin.

After much planning and the obtaining of permissions over the last two years we are now also ready to start the work on rewiring the Church and the installation of the new lighting scheme. These works will begin on **Monday 15th February!!** The scheme has been carefully planned by our consultants with especial regard for low energy etc.. We should see a considerable drop in our electricity bills and the need for replacement bulbs!

In practical terms, this work should be completed on April 22nd. We will be able to use the Church for Morning Prayer, Mass and Rosary each weekday, but **from 7.30am to 9.15 and from 10.15 to 4pm the men will be working and the Church cannot be open due to health and safety legislation** The Church will be handed back to us at some point each Friday evenings until 7.30am on Monday mornings.

Certificate of Catholic Practice

If your child was born between 1st September 2012 and 31st August 2013, you can apply for a Nursery place to start in September 2016. The application process opened on Tuesday 9th February 2016 and closes on Friday 18th March 2016. Allocation of places is on Tuesday 26th April 2016

All applicants to Catholic Schools from now on are invited to obtain a "Certificate of Catholic Practice" from their Parish Priest. To enable Fr Peter to provide this Certificate parents will need to collect an "Information for Certificate of Practice" form from him or the Parish Office. According to the information you supply on this form, Fr Peter will or will not be able to issue you with a Certificate. The Bishops have made it clear, in agreement with the Government that "weekly attendance" is necessary to qualify as a "practicing Catholic family". There is room on the "Information form" for anything to be noted to assist Fr Peter to make a judgement to enable him to issue a "Certificate" or not.

"Lent comes providentially to reawaken us, to shake us from our lethargy." Pope Francis 2015

LENT – please take one of the large yellow leaflets giving all details of Lent and Holy Week. Copies of "WALK WITH ME" for Lent are also available at £1 – they are an excellent accompaniment to Lent and we encourage everyone to have one.

Cardinal's Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 14th May 2016 at 3pm.

The Archbishop will be inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their **10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60)** wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2016. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email /telephone number to the Parish Office by the 7th March 2016.

Birthday Celebration – Everyone is invited to the WCC this Sunday 14th February 2016 after the 6pm Mass for a 'Bring and Share' party to help Father Peter celebrate his 65th Birthday. Wine will be served.

Most Holy Redeemer Beetle Drive Sat 20th February 6pm for 6.30 start Family Ticket £10 Single £3 Bring & Share Cakes

Parish Magazine: Copy for the next issue needed by Friday 19th February. Please e-mail contributions to astriddavies@hotmail.co.uk or leave with Debbie in the Parish Office.

CAFOD Lent Fast day Lunch: Friday 19th February, 12 - 1.30pm at St Joseph's in the WCC. Soup/bread & cheese/tea/coffee for £3. Children free. All proceeds to CAFOD Fast Day appeal.

"Lift up your hearts" is the title of this year's diocesan course for Lent and is on the theme of mercy. It explores mercy's roots in the love of the Father, Christ's crucifixion and the work of the Holy Spirit within each one of us. The Tuesday Group at St Joseph's is following this course and will meet each Tuesday in Lent starting on Tuesday 16th February. The meetings start at 10.15 am and finish at 11.30 am will be held in the Upper Room in Windhill Churches Centre. All are welcome - see the Yellow leaflet for other groups in the Parish

The MHR second collection during Lent will be for CAFOD.

Thanks to everyone who came to share potatoes and pancakes on Tues. this week... apologies to those who missed out on the potatoes, we had far more people than expected.. Special thanks to Yvonne for her pancake making. £265 was raised for the SVP Sudan Appeal. **Please note there will be no Wed Group next week.**

FOODBANK: St. Joseph's is collecting for the Foodbank during Lent. Please leave 'in date' donations in the cupboard below the newspapers at the back of the church. Basic tinned/dried/packet foodstuffs all welcome; "most needed" items are listed on the cupboard door

Open Mic Sign-up sheet is now at the back of St Josephs Church. Donations for tombola prizes can be left in the Sacristy or Parish Office. For info call Kate 508595.



The Door of Mercy Book written by Fr Ivano, who visited us recently and gave a fabulous presentation, is available for only £2 on the CTS stand.

"Lourdes in the year of Mercy". Are you interested in joining a parish group, going to Lourdes this year from 24th - 30th July with the Westminster Diocese? The pilgrimage under the leadership of Cardinal Vincent Nichols, has Pope Francis' own theme, 'Merciful like the Father' as its keynote. Costs where two share a room are approximately £600 by rail and £750 by air, plus travel insurance if needed of £28. Come and join us. Contact Patrick & Pauline Haynes 652411 for further info/forms

SmartLoving is an excellent marriage enrichment weekend seminar on 5th & 6th March 2016 from 9am-4pm at the High Leigh Conference Centre, Lord Street Hoddesdon Herts, EN11 8SG. It is a non-residential weekend, packed full of sessions to help you reflect and share together as a couple, drawing on the wisdom of authentic Catholic teaching. It is for all ages and stages of marriage - to help you turn a good marriage into a GREAT marriage! Topics include the gift of sexuality, formation by our family of origin, trust and control and forgiveness and healing amongst others. The cost is £110 per couple (there is the option of an extra £75 supplement for nearby B&B accommodation). Price includes all materials, lunches and dinner on Saturday night and all refreshments. There is a Vigil Mass on Saturday evening and the opportunity for Confession. To book please contact Maria at family@rcdow.org.uk or speak to parishioners, Sophie and Mike Sullivan, for more info.

Sleep Easy raises funds to support East Herts YMCA and to bring awareness to youth homelessness. Sleep rough 9pm on the 5th to 7am on the 6th March, at the 1st B/Stortford & Hockerill Scout HQ Birchanger Woods so others don't have to! Contact www.easthertsymca.com/event/sleepeasy2016

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.



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 6/7th February 2016
St Josephs and the English Martyrs
Collection: £ 1425.45 Standing Orders: £1278
Holy Cross
Collection: £96.55 Standing Orders: £220
Most Holy Redeemer
Collection: £185.61 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