





# 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 Carlos Quito

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](mailto:bishopsstortford@rcdow.org.uk) • Website: <http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/bishopsstortford>  
 Live streaming from St Joseph's: [www.churchservices.tv/bishopsstortford](http://www.churchservices.tv/bishopsstortford)  
 Diocese of Westminster Charity No. 233699

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017 -**

**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**

**ST JOSEPH AND THE ENGLISH MARTYRS:**

9am Mass Tom Martin RIP  
 11am Mass Yousif Abou& Yolanda Tominna RIP  
 12.30pm Baptism Harry Hudson Wilsher  
 6pm Mass Special Intention

**MOST HOLY REDEEMER (Sayesbury Road, Sawbridgeworth):**  
 9.00 am Mass - The People of our Parish

**HOLY CROSS (at St Andrew's, Church Lane, Much Hadham):**  
 11.15 am Mass- The People of our Parish

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018 - Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God**

*St Joseph and the English Martyrs:*  
 10 am Mass - Victor Bainov RIP

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January - St Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen**

*St Joseph and the English Martyrs:*  
 9.30 am Mass - Georgina O' Neil RIP

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January- The Most Holy Name of Jesus**

*St Joseph and the English Martyrs:*  
 9.30am Mass - Patricia Kennard RIP

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January -Christmas feria**

*St Joseph and the English Martyrs:*  
 9.30am Mass - Richard & David Morris Special Intention

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January -Christmas feria**

*St Joseph and the English Martyrs:*  
 9.30am Mass - Members of the Gaylard Family RIP

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> January- Christmas feria**

*St Joseph and the English Martyrs:*  
 5pm- 5.45pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Sacrament of Reconciliation  
 6pm Mass - Johanna Duhig 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 with your donation.  
 Thank you very much.



**Thank you!!**

*Fr Peter and Fr Carlos, send their sincere thanks to 'everyone' who generously gave their time and helped over the Christmas period. We are blessed to have so many willing volunteers in our parish from those who clean the Churches, read, sing, play music, serve, create beautiful flower arrangements, run groups, organise, visit the sick, look after the repositories, make tea, hand out hymn books, collect money and count money, the list is endless...! They would also like to thank everyone for the kind gifts, cards and good wishes which they very gratefully received and extend their prayers and every good wish to you for a Happy, Blessed and prosperous New Year!*

**FOODBANK** - All 3 Churches are collecting for the Foodbank from now until New Year. Please leave donations in the cupboard / boxes at the back of the churches where you will also find a list of most wanted items. Thank you.

**CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE**-Applicants for Nursery Schools in 2018 may like to collect an orange coloured application form for a certificate. Collect from No 3 Windhill or the Parish Office in person. Once completed it should then be posted through the letter box of number 3 Windhill marked for Father Peter's attention **with a stamped addressed envelope please**. The certificate will be posted to you.

**2018**

**A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY** -The PPC wish to invite you (or even urge you!) to join them at a **'Not the New Year' Gathering** on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2018 from 7-8.30pm** in the Parish Centre. Drinks and light refreshments will be served so put the date in your diary NOW and come along to find out what's been happening and influence what's planned. Catch up with fellow parishioners and strengthen the connections across our parish community.

**THE SPA CLUB** - Senior Parish Art Club have created all of the back drops around our Crib at St Josephs. Thank you to Monica and all of our fabulous artists!



**NATIVITY PLAY** -Although the world stops celebrating Christmas on 26 December, we continue our feasting! We will do so with a Parish-wide Children's Nativity Play at 2pm on 6 January 2018 at Most Holy Redeemer, Sawbridgeworth .We need children to participate in the play and adults to volunteer with the preparations, especially with costumes. There will also be some mystery guests with some mystery delights!! Please contact Fr. Carlos if you would like to help. Please help continue the Christmas Spirit.

**TALKS ON THE CATHOLIC FAITH** - Starting on 8 January 2018, we will begin a series of talks on topics concerning on our Catholic faith. These talks have a RCIA tune. Since, however, there are no RCIA candidates preparing for Baptism, we wish to open this to anyone who wishes to know more about the faith. They will take place on Mondays at 8pm in the Windhill Churches Centre. There is no need to sign up or obliged to attend all of them. The Sessions will continue until July. Please come along!



**SAVE THE DATE- QUIZ NIGHT Saturday, 20 January-** The Parish Social Committee invites you to attend this fund-raising event towards our Parish pilgrimage to Lourdes. Tickets and more information will be available shortly. The Parish Social Committee would like to thank all its supporters and volunteers who have helped ensure the success of all our social events over the past year. We look forward to seeing you at our events in 2018



**SVP COFFEE MORNING** - Please note Coffee morning will be on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018 10am - 11.30am in the Windhill Churches Centre All welcome.  
**NO TEA OR COFFEE** this weekend after Mass (31<sup>st</sup>) due to a Baptism party in the hall. Thank you to everyone who has helped make refreshments over the past year. Happy New Year!

**MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE - New Year Resolutions**-The **Amoris Programme** provides practical initiatives.  
[http://rcdow.org.uk/att/files/m%20f%20/amoris%20initiative%204\\_jan\\_resolutions\\_resources1.pdf](http://rcdow.org.uk/att/files/m%20f%20/amoris%20initiative%204_jan_resolutions_resources1.pdf)

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE 51<sup>st</sup> WORLD DAY OF PEACE 1 JANUARY 2018

**Migrants and refugees: men and women in search of peace**  
 Heartfelt good wishes for peace

Peace to all people and to all nations on earth! Peace, which the angels proclaimed to the shepherds on Christmas night, is a profound aspiration for everyone, for each individual and all peoples, and especially for those who most keenly suffer its absence. Among these whom I constantly keep in my thoughts and prayers, I would once again mention the over 250 million migrants worldwide, of whom 22.5 million are refugees. Pope **Benedict XVI**, my beloved predecessor, spoke of them as "men and women, children, young and elderly people, who are searching for somewhere to live in peace." In order to find that peace, they are willing to risk their lives on a journey that is often long and perilous, to endure hardships and suffering, and to encounter fences and walls built to keep them far from their goal. In a spirit of compassion, let us embrace all those fleeing from war and hunger, or forced by discrimination, persecution, poverty and environmental degradation to leave their homelands.

We know that it is not enough to open our hearts to the suffering of others. Much more remains to be done before our brothers and sisters can once again live peacefully in a safe home. Welcoming others requires concrete commitment, a network of assistance and goodwill, vigilant and sympathetic attention, the responsible management of new and complex situations that at times compound numerous existing problems, to say nothing of resources, which are always limited. By practising the virtue of prudence, government leaders should take practical measures to welcome, promote, protect, integrate and, "within the limits allowed by a correct understanding of the common good, to permit [them] to become part of a new society." Leaders have a clear responsibility towards their own communities, whose legitimate rights and harmonious development they must ensure, lest they become like the rash builder who miscalculated and failed to complete the tower he had begun to construct. See the full Message of His Holiness Pope Francis on our Parish web site

*O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
 and ransom captive Israel,  
 that mourns in lonely exile here  
 until the Son of God appear:  
 Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel  
 shall come to thee, O Israel.*

Parish Administrator - Debbie Jackson   
 Parish Office: 01279 654063 (9am-3pm Mon - Fri)  
 Parish Centre Bookings and All Enquiries:  
[bishopsstortford@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:bishopsstortford@rcdow.org.uk)  
 Safeguarding  
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*Thank you*

Collections 23-26th December 2017 Loose Coin & Envelopes  
**St Josephs and the English Martyrs:**  
 Collection: £1,506.51 Christmas £5,253.26  
**Holy Cross**  
 Collection: £85.60 Christmas £45.00 Cardinal Hume £151.41  
**Most Holy Redeemer:**  
 Collection: £109.70 Christmas £50.10 Cardinal Hume £157.00

**Sacramental Preparation**

**Baptism:** Forms and information are available from the Parish Office.  
**Marriage:** enquiries call the Parish Office or email  
 RCIA : Applications open 17/4/17 Course starts Sept.  
**First Reconciliation & First Holy Communion**  
 Applications Closed  
**Confirmation:** Applications now closed