

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

Sunday 16th September 2018 – 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9am Mass Gavin Daniel & Family Intention
 11am Mass Marie Thérèse Cuff RIP
 12.30pm Baptism Sedem Jonathan Kofi Freitas
 Eliona Uwazuluonye Chakwusimulibe Onyia
 6pm Mass Home Mission Day

Most Holy Redeemer (Sayesbury Road, Sawbridgeworth):
 9.00am Mass People of the Parish

Holy Cross (at St Andrew's, Church Lane, Much Hadham):
 11.15am Mass People of the Parish

Monday 17th September – St Robert Bellarmine, Bishop & Doctor

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9.30am Mass – Bishop Robert Casey Special Intention

Tuesday 18th September – feria

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9.30am Mass Kevin O'Neill RIP

Wednesday 19th September – St Januarius, Bishop & Martyr

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

NO MASS

Thursday 20th September – Sts Andrew Kim Tae-gôn, Priest,

Paul Chông Ha-sang & Companions

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9.30am Mass – John J Knoll RIP

Friday 21st September – St Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9.30am – Private Intentions

Saturday 22nd September – Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

1pm Marriage – Natasha Gretta Centa & Stephen John Cowan

5pm- 5.45pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament &
 Sacrament of Reconciliation

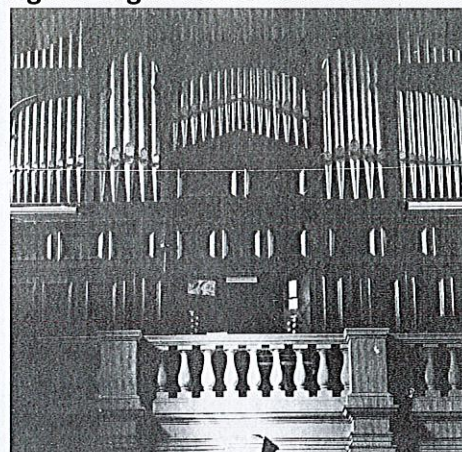
6pm Mass – People of the Parish



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.

The original organ at the back of St. Joseph's!!



CHURCH DECORATION UPDATE -The Painting of the St Joseph's Sanctuary ceiling with gold stars has now been completed and looks fabulous! This week the vault and clerestory has been spray painted a lighter colour blue, with a few finishing touches on the Choir loft still to be done. Work will also continue on the spandrels. We hope that Fr Peter will be in for a very pleasant surprise upon his return!

PARISH MAGAZINE - Articles welcome for the next edition of the Magazine, deadline Friday 21st September. Please email items for inclusion to astriddavies@hotmail.co.uk or to the Parish Office.

THE PURSUIT -What does it mean to find happiness in today's world? Come join us to explore what is true, good and beautiful in our lives today and establish a solid foundation for life's next step. The Diocese of Westminster Youth Ministry are hosting a retreat day for those in school years 11-13 to see where God fits within these new phase of life. Sat 28th Sept | 10am-9pm | £20 (inc meals) HA5 3EP | contact: youth@rcdow.org.uk | www.dowym.com

ENCOUNTER –meet next Fri. 21 Sept at Windhill Churches Centre. 'To be a pilgrim' Talk & discussion on pilgrimage, led by Robert Purcell. 10am coffee 10.30 meeting opens 12.30pm shared lunch - please bring food to share. 2pm day ends. All welcome for all or part of the day. Enquiries: B/S 652060/656482

POPE FRANCIS: A Man of His Word (12a) There will be a screening at the Rhodes Arts Complex on Monday 24th September at 2pm & 7.30pm of the documentary film directed by Wim Wenders, focusing on Pope Francis, as he travels the world speaking to those in need and delivering a message of hope. Tickets are £8 Concessions £6, Group booking discount for 10 or more tickets Running time | 1h 36m -Book online | <https://rhodesartscomplex.ticketssolve.com/shows/873595505> Box Office | 01279 710200

ST MARY'S SCHOOL OPEN EVENING for prospective Year 7 students for 2019 takes place on Wednesday 26th September 2018 at 6pm – 8.30pm. An application for admission must be made by the parents / carers of a child in Year 6 to the Local Education Authority in which they live. Hertfordshire residents must use the form supplied by Hertfordshire County Council available at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions Essex residents must use the form supplied by Essex County Council. **The deadline for these applications is 31 October 2018.** A Supplementary Information Form (SIF) should be completed and returned to the Admissions Officer, Mrs M Gravenor –by email m.gravenor@stmarys.net or by post, no later than 31 October 2018.

THIS YEAR NO CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE IS REQUIRED FOR ST MARY'S APPLICATIONS

ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL RECEPTION APPLICATIONS will open on 5/11/2018 and close on 15/1/2019. We have been advised that a **Certificate of Catholic Practice MAY BE REQUIRED** as part of the St Joseph's reception application process. The process for Nursery applications will be advised in due course.

CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE - Applicants for St Joseph's School for **RECEPTION places in 2019** may wish to obtain a Certificate of Catholic Practice. A white 'embossed' application form for a certificate can be collected from No 3 Windhill, the Sacristy or the Parish Office, in person. Once completed it should then be posted through the letter box of No 3 Windhill marked for Fr Peter's attention **with a stamped addressed envelope please.** The Certificate will then be posted to you. The School deadline is 15/1/2019

NEW ADULT WELCOMERS INVITED TO JOIN – Thank you to those who have already signed up – we will be in contact with you shortly.

BEGINNING EXPERIENCE -There is a healing weekend for men and women who find themselves single again following separation, divorce or the death of a partner at the Domus Mariae Centre, Chigwell, Essex from 5th to 7th October 2018. For more details please contact Freda 01322-838415 or Sandra 01293-783965 or email johnabrotherton@hotmail.co.uk

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL is seeking new Foundation Governors to be appointed by the Diocese. Anyone interested should e-mail governors@stjosephs207.herts.sch.uk for more information

GOSPEL STREET -Saturday 10th November, at 7.30pm CTBS is hosting a performance of Gospel STREET by Riding Lights Theatre Company in the Charis centre, Water Lane. This is a fast-paced, entertaining piece of theatre which challenges the audience to respond to the gospel message. It is suitable for all ages, from 12 and upwards. Tickets are £10 / £8 for Concessions. 01904 613000/ 07852 287631 or www.ridinglights.org/gospel

'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, says the Lord; no one can come to the Father except through me'

KERALA FLOODS: an SVP appeal

THANK YOU very much indeed for the very generous response to the SVP Kerala appeal last week. In total we are pleased to say that we raised a combined total of £1,846.11 (£1,469.15 from St Joseph's, £250.86 from Holy Cross and £126.10 from Most Holy Redeemer). We are still accepting donations, so if you missed out last week and would like to help to raise £153.89 to increase the total to a nice round £2k, please drop any donations to number 3. Cheques can be made payable to 'SVP'. Thank you very much.

THE FOOD BANK is in need of volunteers. Hours - 9-30am-11.3am or 11.30-13.00. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday. If you can spare an hour or two contact Food Bank on 074327 85976 or email bsfoodbank.coordinator@gmail.com

WELCOME BACK to Monsignor Harry Turner who joins us from Harpenden this weekend to celebrate Mass.

DEANERY PILGRIMAGE TO KRAKOW, 26th May–1st June 2019 with Fr Philip Miller and Northern Star Travel. Price is £700- and further info is available with booking forms by the newsletters. Deadline is 31st October for submitting booking forms and £200- deposit direct to Northern Star. But please also ring Hoddesdon Presbytery (01992-440986) to let Fr Philip know that you are booking

THE ECUMENICAL PEACE VIGIL will be on Sunday 23rd September at 3pm at Holy Cross. It will be a chance for reflection and prayer led jointly by Fr Carlos and Revd Steve Bates from St Andrews. All welcome.

RESONATE WEEKEND RETREAT 26-28 OCTOBER organised by Westminster Youth Ministry-Looking to take a step back from the busy modern life and explore the ways your faith can energise your day to day? Why not join us for an 18-35 young adults weekend retreat to do just that? Situated in the picturesque and tranquil grounds of Waxwell Farm, Pinner, the retreat will focus on taking the profound theology of our faith and exploring how it can be practically lived out in our 21st century world. A healthy mix of talks, discussion and reflection time will enable you to really break open these topics and give time for you to discern what this looks like on a personal level. The price for the retreat is £100 includes accommodation & food. Places are limited so don't miss this fantastic opportunity! For more info see our web site or the link below

<http://dowym.com/events/resonate-weekend-retreat/>

HOME MISSION DAY COLLECTION

There will be a collection this weekend for the Home Mission Appeal



Parish Administrator – Debbie Jackson

Parish Office: 01279 654063 (9am-3pm Mon - Fri)

Parish Centre Bookings and All Enquiries:

bishopsstortford@rcdow.org.uk

Safeguarding enquiries only

bishopsstortfordsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk



Collections 8/9 September 2018 Loose Coin & Envelopes

St Josephs and the English Martyrs:

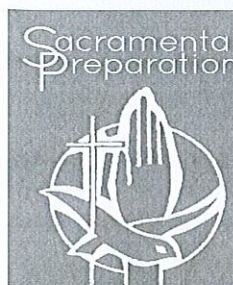
Collection: £ 1291.05 August S/ Order £7421.34

Holy Cross

Collection: £ 70.50 August S/Order £955.00

Most Holy Redeemer:

Collection: £106.97 August S/Order £655.33



Baptism: Forms and information are available from the Parish Office.

Marriage: enquiries call the Parish Office or email

RCIA: Applications open

First Reconciliation & First Holy Communion
 Applications open until 5/9/18

Confirmation: Applications closed for 2019

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.

Sunday Message

THE WORD

Year B • Psalter Week 4

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you,
that your prophets be found true.
Hear the prayers of your servant,
and of your people Israel.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

COLLECT

Look upon us, O God,
Creator and ruler of all things,
and, that we may feel the working of your
mercy,
grant that we may serve you with all our
heart.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of
the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 50:5-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.
The Lord has opened my ear.
For my part, I made no resistance,
neither did I turn away.
I offered my back to those who struck me,
my cheeks to those who tore at my beard;
I did not cover my face
against insult and spittle.
The Lord comes to my help,
so that I am untouched by the insults.
So, too, I set my face like flint;
I know I shall not be shamed.
My vindicator is here at hand. Does anyone
start proceedings against me?
Then let us go to court together.
Who thinks he has a case against me?
Let him approach me.
The Lord is coming to my help,
who dare condemn me?
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 114

Response:
I will walk in the presence of the Lord,
in the land of the living.
or
Alleluia!

1. I love the Lord for he has heard
the cry of my appeal;
for he turned his ear to me
in the day when I called him. (R.)
2. They surrounded me, the snares of death,
with the anguish of the tomb;
they caught me, sorrow and distress.
I called on the Lord's name.
O Lord my God, deliver me! (R.)
3. How gracious is the Lord, and just;
our God has compassion.
The Lord protects the simple hearts;
I was helpless so he saved me. (R.)
4. He has kept my soul from death,
my eyes from tears
and my feet from stumbling.
I will walk in the presence of the Lord
in the land of the living. (R.)

SECOND READING

James 2:14-18

A reading from the letter of St James.

Take the case, my brothers, of someone who
has never done a single good act but claims
that he has faith. Will that faith save him? If
one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in
need of clothes and has not enough food to
live on, and one of you says to them, "I wish
you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty,"
without giving them these bare necessities of
life, then what good is that? Faith is like that:
if good works do not go with it, it is quite
dead.

This is the way to talk to people of that
kind: "You say you have faith and I have good
deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith
by showing you my good deeds – now you
prove to me that you have faith without any
good deeds to show."

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, says the
Lord;
no one can come to the Father except
through me.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mark 8:27-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Mark.

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages
round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he
put this question to his disciples, "Who do
people say I am?" And they told him. "John
the Baptist," they said, "others Elijah; others
again, one of the prophets." "But you," he
asked, "who do you say I am?" Peter spoke
up and said to him, "You are the Christ." And
he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone
about him.

And he began to teach them that the Son
of Man was destined to suffer grievously,
to be rejected by the elders and the chief
priests and the scribes, and to be put to
death, and after three days to rise again; and
he said all this quite openly. Then, taking
him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with
him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he
rebuked Peter and said to him, "Get behind
me, Satan! Because the way you think is not
God's way but man's."

He called the people and his disciples
to him and said, "If anyone wants to be a
follower of mine, let him renounce himself
and take up his cross and follow me. For
anyone who wants to save his life will lose
it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake,
and for the sake of the gospel, will save it."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with
the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,

(all bow during the next three lines)

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the
Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,
the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored
and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and
apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness
of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the
dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Look with favour on our supplications, O Lord,
and in your kindness accept these, your
servants' offerings,
that what each has offered to the honour of
your name
may serve the salvation of all.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

How precious is your mercy, O God!
The children of men seek shelter in the
shadow of your wings.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

May the working of this heavenly gift, O Lord,
we pray,
take possession of our minds and bodies,
so that its effects, and not our own desires,
may always prevail in us.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

WHO DO YOU SAY JESUS IS?

MARK 8:27-35

One of the uncomfortable features of Mark's account is that no one understands properly who Jesus really is until the declaration of the centurion at the cross.

No one has any privileged insight into Jesus' identity, and the early part of the Gospel shows misunderstanding on the part of different groups of people. So when Peter answers Jesus' question to the disciples as to whom they believe him to be with the words "You are the Christ", Jesus does not accept it in the way he does in Matthew's version of the story.

For Mark, Peter has not received a special revelation from God, so his reasoning that Jesus is the Messiah, the Christ, must come from his observing Jesus as teacher and healer, which is not sufficient to show a proper understanding of Jesus as the Son of God: this comes from the cross. Also, the term *Messiah* (or "the Christ") had political and nationalistic overtones which could lead to people having false expectations about Jesus and his mission. The first prediction of the Passion comes as a corrective to this view.

The story of Jesus being tested by Satan followed immediately on Jesus' being baptised and revealed as the "Son of God". How does Jesus understand being the Son of God? The correct answer for Mark lies in the cross. But Peter does not understand this and tries to deflect Jesus from the path laid out for him. Jesus rebukes him, calling him Satan. Thus the same test comes, but this time through a human being, one who is close to Jesus and acting out of the best of motives. Jesus is on a journey during which his true identity will be revealed. His followers are on the same journey and Jesus tells them that anyone who would be a disciple must also take up their own cross and follow. Like master, like disciple. ■

LEARN

There is no account of the birth of Jesus in the Gospel according to Mark.

The Gospel according to Mark has been described as "a Passion narrative with a long introduction".

The theology of the cross dominates Mark's account of the life and ministry of Jesus.

Peter is the spokesperson for the disciples in the Gospel tradition.

DO

Make the Sign of the Cross. Remember that the cross is the sign of the extent of God's love for you and the measure of Jesus' willingness to carry out his mission.



REFLECT

Mark's Gospel narrative opens with Jesus as an adult. There is no account of his birth which reveals to human beings who Jesus truly is. The idea that Jesus' family members could therefore misunderstand who he really is, is difficult for many of us to grasp since we are so familiar with the narratives of the birth of Jesus from Luke and Matthew, which centre on the characters of Mary and Joseph. But we have to read each Gospel story on its own terms and struggle with the uncomfortable questions which arise, without bringing in details from elsewhere to smooth over the difficulties.

Many of us who have been brought up in the Christian faith cannot understand the bafflement which those who have no Christian background feel when faced with the claim that Jesus is the Son of God. Some such Christians actually envy those who have come to believe through a process of struggle and questioning rather than having been taught and accepted the faith from an early age. Those who come later have had to answer for themselves the question Jesus puts to Peter: "Who do you say I am?" But we are all being asked that question; we have to answer for ourselves, and not just rely on what we were told a long time ago. ■

SAY

Jesus is the Christ.