



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 11th November 2018 – 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9am Mass Deceased Loved Ones & Friends & Those who have no-one to pray for them
11am Mass Solemn Requiem for all who have died in War
6pm Mass Barry Randall RIP

Most Holy Redeemer (Sayesbury Road, Sawbridgeworth):

9.00am Mass Our Sick and Retired Priests

Holy Cross (at St Andrew's, Church Lane, Much Hadham):

11.15am Mass People of the Parish

Monday 12th November – St Josaphat, Bishop & Martyr

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9.30am Mass – Gavin Daniels and Family Intention

Tuesday 13th November – feria

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9.30am Mass – Special Intention Bridget Halligan

Wednesday 14th November – feria

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9.30am Mass – Special Intention Judith Burdett

Thursday 15th November – St Albert the Great, Bishop & Doctor

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9.30am Mass – Jonathan Bramall RIP

Friday 16th November – St Edmund of Abingdon, Bishop

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9.30am Mass – Gavin Daniels and Family Intention

Saturday 17th November – Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

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

6pm Mass - John McCombes 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.



We must empty purgatory with our prayers.

St. Padre Pio MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS – Envelopes are

available at the back of the three Churches for those relatives you wish to be added to the November List of the Dead

PARISH AGM – Come along, catch up and connect! Here's an opportunity to find out more about what has been going on and offer suggestions on what next. All parishioners are invited to attend on Sunday, 9th December at the Parish Centre from 7pm-8.30pm. Drinks and nibbles will be served. Put the date in your diary **now** and we look forward to seeing you.

LOURDES FUTURE JUMBULANCE PILGRIMAGES AND HCPT

PILGRIMAGES- Building on our first Parish Jumbulance pilgrimage to Lourdes at the beginning of October we are delighted to announce that the Jumbulance vehicle will be visiting St Joseph's on a goodwill visit on the weekend of November 17th and 18th. It will be parked on Windhill and everyone at the Masses will have a chance to go on board and see what it is all about.

We hope that in the spring we will fundraise to establish a Parish "Lourdes Fund" that will be able to support future Jumbulance pilgrimages and HCPT pilgrimages from our Parish.

ENCOUNTER meet next Fri.16 Nov in Windhill Churches Centre.

'Gaudete et Exultate: Rejoice & be Glad' a review & discussion of the recent booklet on the call to holiness from Pope Francis. **10am** coffee **10.30** meeting opens **12.30** shared lunch: please bring food to share **2pm** day ends. All welcome for all or part of the day. Enquiries: B/S 652060/656482

MHR ANNUAL LUNCH will be on **Sunday 25 November** from 1.15pm in the Sawbridgeworth Cricket Club pavilion. If you have already signed up please remember to pay ASAP Thank you.

ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL RECEPTION APPLICATIONS The application process for primary school places for Reception 2019/2020 opens on Monday 5th November to Tuesday 15th January 2019. Please see our website for further details and copy of our school admission's policy. Also on our website are details of school visits for prospective parents- www.stjosephs207.herts.sch.uk. Places for these need to be booked via the school office please on 01279 652576.

CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE- Applicants for St Joseph's School for **RECEPTION** places in 2019 should collect a white 'embossed' application form for a certificate 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.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 2018



THERE BUT NOT THERE

CENTENARY OF THE END OF WWI

Eight men from what was then our young and small Parish, died in WWI and their names are commemorated in an illuminated manuscript that hangs next to the Sacristy door. It records that the beautiful wooden Choir Stalls in the Sanctuary were installed in their memory. St Joseph's are participating in the "There but not There" project (go to www.therebutnotthere.org.uk and see the works that will be supported by this initiative). Throughout this weekend you will see 8 silhouettes "sitting" in different locations in the Church benches, each with a plaque giving the name of the person commemorated. They will sit among us once gain as they did in life. Please use this opportunity to say a prayer for their souls and also to pray deeply that the scourge of war may be taken from our world today.



Francis Birdseye
Joseph Carter
Frederick Harris
Alfred Kitchener
Bernard Marshall
Walter Robinson
Frederick Robinson
Clarence Sell
May they rest in Peace

THANKYOU to everyone involved at our three Churches who so generously give their time and talents each week at Mass and to those particularly who have been involved in the WW1 local Centenary events this weekend. A special mention also to our talented Flower guild and the Senior Parish Art group who have created some beautiful floral tributes and art work.
WORLD DAY OF THE POOR – Sunday 18th November- Pope Francis has asked the entire Catholic community to mark World Day of the Poor on Sunday 18th November. The theme for this year is 'this poor man cried, and the Lord heard him'. This year Caritas Westminster asks that you not only remember those in poverty in your prayers and but reach out in practical ways.
PENNY COLLECTION – Thanks to all who supported the J&P lunch which raised £140 for the Penny collection for the St Lawrence Community Zambia.
PARISH MAGAZINE – Contributions welcome, seasonal or otherwise for the last issue of this year. Deadline is Fri 30 Nov. Please email to astriddavies@hotmail.co.uk or leave with the Parish office. Thank you

SICK AND RETIRED PRIESTS COLLECTION NEXT WEEK



Today's second collection is for the Sick & Retired Priests' Fund. This ensures our elderly and sick priests are financially supported in their senior years, after a lifetime of service. Our priests baptised us, counselled us in times of sorrow, and celebrated with us in times of joy. Since we have received so much from their generosity, it is now our turn to assist them in their old age. The fund ensures that their housing, medical, convalescence, companionship and spiritual support needs are met. Please be generous. Most priests retire with modest means. In later years their ability to live independently can be adversely impacted by their declining health, mobility or frailty. You can also donate online at www.rcdow.org.uk/donations. Thank you for your generosity
SAYING GOODBYE SERVICE – Methodist Central Hall, Westminster on Sunday 25 November at 3.30pm. A service for anyone who has either personally lost a baby at any stage of pregnancy, at birth or in early years, or who has been affected by a family members or friends loss. Whether the loss was recent or 80 years ago, everyone is welcome to attend. We gladly welcome anyone who is grieving the fact that they haven't had children. This may be due to circumstance, infertility or for other reasons - but all are welcome. More info on the Mariposa Trust Charity www.sayinggoodbye.org

ADVANCED NOTICE FOR YOUR DIARY – Saturday 1st December 12 noon at St Andrew's with Holy Cross – 'The Advent Address 2018' given by The Revd Canon Michael McAdam – 'Presents or Presence?' Getting Ready for Christmas – what Advent means to me? All welcome.
ADVENT FAYRE- to be held on Sun. 2nd December after 9am Mass at Most Holy Redeemer. Cakes and Teresa's Jewellery will be on sale. A raffle will also be held. Please help by donating prizes which can be placed in the box in the Church porch. Proceeds will be shared equally between St. Lawrence School, Zambia and the Cardinal Hume Centre.
HARMONAIRES FAMILY CHRISTMAS CONCERT – Sat 15 December at 11am at St Joseph's Church 'Jingle All the Way'. Tickets: £5 Adult/£3 children .Available on 07916 153 898 www.theharmonaireschoir.com



'Even if you have to die, says the Lord, keep faithful, and I will give you the crown of life'

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.



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

Thank you

Collections 3 /4 November 2018 Loose Coin & Envelopes

St Josephs and the English Martyrs:

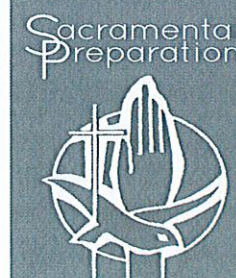
Collection: £ 1488.82 September S/ Order £7521.34

Holy Cross

Collection: £ 136.50 September S/Order £895.00

Most Holy Redeemer:

Collection: £201.95 September 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 closed for 2019

Confirmation: Applications closed for 2019

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Let my prayer come into your presence.
Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

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

Almighty and merciful God,
graciously keep from us all adversity,
so that, unhindered in mind and body alike,
we may pursue in freedom of heart
the things that are yours.
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 1 Kings 17:10-16

A reading from the first book of the Kings.
Elijah the Prophet went off to Sidon. And
when he reached the city gate, there was a
widow gathering sticks; addressing her he
said, "Please bring a little water in a vessel
for me to drink." She was setting off to bring
it when he called after her. "Please," he said,
"bring me a scrap of bread in your hand."
"As the Lord your God lives," she replied, "I
have no baked bread, but only a handful of
meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just
gathering a stick or two to go and prepare
this for myself and my son to eat, and then
we shall die." But Elijah said to her, "Do not
be afraid, go and do as you have said; but
first make a little scone of it for me and bring
it to me, and then make some for yourself
and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks,
the God of Israel:

'Jar of meal shall not be spent,
jug of oil shall not be emptied,
before the day when the Lord sends
rain on the face of the earth.'

The woman went and did as Elijah told her
and they ate the food, she, himself and her
son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug
of oil emptied, just as the Lord had foretold
through Elijah.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 145

Response:

My soul, give praise to the Lord.

or

Alleluia!

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. (R.)
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bowed
down.
It is the Lord who loves the just,
the Lord who protects the stranger. (R.)
3. The Lord upholds the widow and orphan
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age. (R.)

SECOND READING Hebrews 9:24-28

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

It is not as though Christ had entered a man-made sanctuary which was only modelled on the real one; but it was heaven itself, so that he could appear in the actual presence of God on our behalf. And he does not have to offer himself again and again, like the high priest going into the sanctuary year after year with the blood that is not his own, or else he would have had to suffer over and over again since the world began. Instead of that, he has made his appearance once and for all, now at the end of the last age, to do away with sin by sacrificing himself. Since men only die once, and after that comes judgement, so Christ, too, offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself, and when he appears a second time, it will not be to deal with sin but to reward with salvation those who are waiting for him.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Even if you have to die, says the Lord,
keep faithful, and I will give you
the crown of life.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mark 12:38-44

(For Shorter Form, read between > <)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

In his teaching Jesus said, "Beware of the scribes who like to walk about in long robes, to be greeted obsequiously in the market squares, to take the front seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets; these are the men who swallow the property of widows, while making a show of lengthy prayers. The more severe will be the sentence they receive."

> He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the treasury, and many of the rich put in a great deal. A poor widow came and put in two small coins, the equivalent of a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, "I tell you solemnly, this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury; for they have all put in money they had over, but she from the little she had has

put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on." <

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, we pray, O Lord,
upon the sacrificial gifts offered here,
that, celebrating in mystery the Passion of
your Son,
we may honour it with loving devotion.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I
shall want.

Fresh and green are the pastures where he
gives me repose,
near restful waters he leads me.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Nourished by this sacred gift, O Lord,
we give you thanks and beseech your mercy,
that, by the pouring forth of your Spirit,
the grace of integrity may endure
in those your heavenly power has entered.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Sunday Message

THE WORD

Year B • Psalter Week 4

MODEL OR VICTIM?

(MARK 12:38-44)

Widows are mentioned twice in our Gospel passage today. In the first section, Jesus criticises the scribes who show off in public by the manner of their dress and demeanour. Then he takes them to task over enriching themselves at the expense of some of the most poor and vulnerable members of the community. They are guilty not only of exhibitionism but also of hypocrisy.

The figure of the widow returns when Jesus and his disciples observe the way people contribute to the upkeep of the Temple. The usual interpretation of Jesus' remarks about the woman putting in "all she had to live on" is that he is commending her for her piety and generosity. But this may not be the case. The Temple and its clergy are not presented in a positive light in Mark's account of the Gospel. One of the characteristics of the prophetic books of the Bible is a suspicion of institutionalised religion, and those preachers often excoriate the place and its ministers for persuading poor people, like the woman in this scene, to part with the little they had. So should the widow have put in what she gave to the treasury? Is Jesus holding her up as a model of the "poor but pious" people so beloved of a certain type of Lives of the Saints? Or is he presenting her as the victim of a system which is interested primarily in its own wealth and status? Is Jesus thus indirectly condemning the Temple, which he had already described as a "den of thieves"? There is no way of answering the question definitively, but there is sufficient evidence to make it a real possibility. ■

SAY

The Lord cares about the
widow and orphan.

LEARN

The scribes were educated individuals who could function as administrators, lawyers and theologians as they were well-versed in the Law.

The scribes are (mainly) presented as the opponents of Jesus along with the chief priests and elders.

These groups are mainly political figures whose power base is the Temple.

The Pharisees do not figure alongside these groups in the passion narrative.

DO

Take an interest in how your parish is run. Examine the financial statement. Discuss with other parishioners the question of mission or maintenance and the reason why your parish should exist. What should its purpose be?

**REFLECT**

One of the problems with reading reports of what a person has said is that we cannot be sure of the tone of voice in which she or he is speaking. This is certainly true of the remarks of Jesus to his disciples concerning the action of the poor widow. Is he talking in a way that suggests praise, holding up the woman as an example for others to emulate? Or is he outraged at the way advantage is being taken of a devout and trusting person?

Organised religion is always in danger of becoming more concerned with its own structures and needs, and of losing sight of its proper purpose. The tension between the ways of understanding the Church in terms of maintenance or mission is always with us – or should be. What Jesus and the prophets say is uncomfortable and is meant to be disturbing, calling on the leaders of the community to examine their consciences and to treat people with respect for their individual circumstances. The way the

chest for the offerings was constructed meant that the coins went in with a distinct clatter, so it was possible to have an idea of how much an individual had contributed. The widow's couple of copper coins would have made a faint sound, but perhaps Jesus heard in that a resounding condemnation of a religious system which was more concerned about position and profit than being a means by which people could reach their God. What was true for the religion of Jesus' day is valid for ours now. ■