



# 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 28<sup>th</sup> April 2019 - Second Sunday of Easter

**St Joseph and the English Martyrs:**

9am Mass - John Desmond Clark RIP

11am Mass - Helen Diment RIP

12.30pm Baptism - Kevin Nicholas Padurariu

Henry Christopher Wiggan

6pm Mass - Alice Garrett RIP

**Most Holy Redeemer (Sayesbury Road, Sawbridgeworth):**

9am Mass - Sr Lelia RIP

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

11am Mass - People of the Parish

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April - St Catherine of Sienna**

**St Joseph and the English Martyrs:**

9.30am Mass - Noel Hurley RIP

**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April - St George, Martyr, Patron of England**

**St Joseph and the English Martyrs:**

9.30am Mass - Mary Ann Wild RIP

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May - St Joseph the Worker**

**St Joseph and the English Martyrs:**

9.30am Mass - Ray Ward RIP

11.30am Requiem Mass - Anthony John 'Tony' Loustalan RIP

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May - St Athanasius, Bishop & Doctor**

**St Joseph and the English Martyrs:**

9.30am Mass - Mary Carberry RIP

3pm Requiem Mass - Christine Elizabeth Melia RIP

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May - St Philip and James, Apostles**

**St Joseph and the English Martyrs:**

9.30am Mass - Julia Walsh RIP

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May - The English Martyrs**

**St Joseph and the English Martyrs:**

1.30pm Marriage - Isabelle Bricka & James Mullarkey

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

6pm Mass - Hilary Knutzen 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 any donation. Thank you very much.

## FR PETER WRITES:

*Dear Parishioners,*

I cannot tell you how much I have appreciated all your good wishes, kind thoughts and heartfelt prayers for me over these last few weeks. They've been a great source of reassurance to me. The truth is I don't feel "grown up" enough to have had a heart attack!! I have been resting quietly away from the Parish and shall continue that for one more week. I expect to be with you for the weekend of May 4/5 and I am looking forward to seeing you all. Needless to say I shall be taking things not at full pelt for the first few weeks! I must take this opportunity to thank Fr Carlos for all that he has managed to cover whilst I have been away, especially during Holy Week which many of you have told me was a holy and precious time for you. My thanks also to Debbie in the Parish office for all that she has carried. I have remembered you in my prayers in this wonderful Easter season of new life and promise of things to come and ask you to continue to remember me.

With my love and prayers

*Fr Peter*



**WELCOME BACK AND THANKYOU** to Mgr. Canon Harry

Turner who joins us again this weekend to celebrate Mass.

**PARISH MAGAZINE** - Deadline for the next edition of the Magazine is **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May**. Plenty of time for news & views please! Items for inclusion may be e-mailed to [astriddavies@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:astriddavies@hotmail.co.uk) or left in the Parish Office.

**SPIRIT IN THE CITY FESTIVAL, 31 MAY & 1 JUNE 2019.** Theme 'Life to the Full'. Catholic Faith Festival celebrating and witnessing faith in London's Leicester Square. Starts Friday evening from 7pm in Notre Dame de France Church. Saturday all day in the Square gardens. Includes live stage music, street evangelisation, prayer teams, all day Adoration, Confessions, feet washing, activities for children, talks, etc. Come be refreshed and renewed in your faith. For more information, contact Allegra, [info@spiritinthecity.org](mailto:info@spiritinthecity.org) or call 0791 5537125. Or why not join the Mission Team and help others encounter Christ through one of these areas? To register as a helper, visit [spiritinthecity.org](http://spiritinthecity.org)

*"Blessed are we who have not seen and yet believe!"*

**NO REFRESHMENTS THIS WEEKEND** - Apologies for any disappointment caused but there will be no refreshments served after Mass this weekend 28<sup>th</sup> April due to a large event at the Windhill Churches Centre

**PILGRIMAGE HOLIDAY TO LOURDES BY JUMBULANCE - PLACES GOING**

**FAST** - Travelling on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September - Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October 19.

Currently we need 4 helpers, it would be beneficial to have another medic and we have 3 spaces for VIP's (those that are sick, disabled or terminally ill) Full week in Lourdes in 4\* Hotel full board, Group programme for the week - £750. Limited Subsidies available for nurses and 16-25 years old in full-time education. For more information contact either John Wright on 07739 789169 or Debbie Hourihan on 07584-623472

**ABSAILING FOR ACROSS** - Jassen Sathan will be abseiling down Harlow water tower on 4<sup>th</sup> May to raise funds for Across. If you would like to sponsor him please visit: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jassen-sathan>

**BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE** - The next course for parents wishing to baptise their Child will be on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May, followed by 11<sup>th</sup> July in the WCC with Fr Carlos. Please contact the office to register. The course will consist of a one-hour session and will start at 7.30pm

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS** - Thank you to everyone who attended the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday and to those Eucharistic Ministers who renewed their commitment to serve. If you were unable to attend the service or add your name to the 'Eucharistic Minister Renewal sheet' at the time please do let the office know so that we can update our records. Thank you

**COME ALONG** on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May at Bishop's Stortford library at 10.30-12.00. Sessions are aimed to bring together people who may not go out very much and want to chat and perhaps learn and share ideas. Our first session we will be a trip down Memory Lane, including looking at some old photos of Bishop's Stortford and sharing a story or two along the way. Tea and coffee provided.. Drop in when you can, a warm welcome awaits.

**SAVE THE DATE FOR MHR 2019 WINE TASTING QUIZ** on Saturday 22nd June 19:00 at 4 Roseacres, Sawbridgeworth. Tickets £12.50. Proceeds to St Lawrence community Zambia. Contact John Shanley 01279 726301 - [johnjshanley@hotmail.com](mailto:johnjshanley@hotmail.com)

**TABLE TENNIS CLUB** - There will be Table Tennis Club this Sunday. Future dates for the club are 12/05, 26/05. Please note that all children attending the club will need to be accompanied by a responsible adult. Adults are welcome to play or just watch. We have players of all ages from 7 to 70. Please do not park in the car park as this is only available for use at Sunday Mass times. The cost is £2 per person (£5 for families) which goes to cover the cost of using the hall and for the purchase of new equipment. For further details telephone Chris or Anne Brolly 01279 324231.

## CHRISTIAN AID WEEK, 12th-18th May 2019



Raising funds to make childbirth safe for mothers & babies in Sierra Leone. More information at the back of St Joseph's Church together with a list of roads which our Church has been allocated. Please consider joining the ecumenical effort in Bishop's Stortford and become a collector. We need to cover some 30 roads. Many thanks! Enquiries: BS 652060

**THE WESTMINSTER MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE**

**MINISTRY** is organising a Marriage Enrichment Day (11:30 - 15:30) at Westminster Cathedral (Vaughan House) on Saturday, 11 May 2019. Attendance is free, lunch provided and open to all. To book a place please email [family@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:family@rcdow.org.uk)

**WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY / THY KINGDOM COME**

**May 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>, 12noon to 2pm & 7-9pm,  
 Vestry Prayer Room United Reformed Church**

'So much to give thanks for, so much to pray for and just 10 sessions to join together to do it'. There will be prayer pointers, leaflets, books, maps & newspapers, a prayer tree, spaces to write, etc. Please make a commitment to come and join us at any session, for however long you can manage, to give time to God, to pray with others, and to make a difference.

**SRI LANKA** - Following news of multiple explosions at Churches and hotels in Sri Lanka on Easter Sunday, which have claimed at least 250 lives and left hundreds injured, Cardinal Vincent has written to Archbishop of Colombo Cardinal Albert Malcolm Ranjith, Sri Lankan High Commissioner to the UK Manisha Gunasekera, and Sri Lankan Catholics in the diocese to offer condolences and prayers. We also remember the Sri Lankan community in the UK with loved ones affected overseas by these atrocities



'May the risen Lord strengthen all people in Sri Lanka, and nurture in them an unquenchable hope, both in the promise of heaven and in our capacity to contribute to the building of a peaceful society.'



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 enquiries only

[bishopsstortfordsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:bishopsstortfordsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)



Easter Collections April 2019 Loose Coin & Envelopes

**St Josephs and the English Martyrs:**

Collection: Loose - £ 2277.44 Envelopes - £437.40

Easter Envelopes - £783.28

Holy Places - £520.04

Flowers - £534.20

No Collection at Most Holy Redeemer or Holy Cross due to cancellation of Mass.



**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

Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia:  
 For he whom you merited to bear, alleluia.  
 Has risen, as He said, alleluia.  
 Pray for us to God, alleluia.  
 Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.  
 For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.



**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

Receive the joy of your glory, giving thanks to God,  
who has called you into the heavenly kingdom, alleluia.

**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**

God of everlasting mercy,  
who in the very recurrence of the paschal feast  
kindle the faith of the people you have made  
your own,  
increase, we pray, the grace you have  
bestowed,  
that all may grasp and rightly understand  
in what font they have been washed,  
by whose Spirit they have been reborn,  
by whose Blood they have been redeemed.  
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** Acts 5:12-16

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.  
The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.  
The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

**PSALM** Psalm 117

Response:  
Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,  
for his love has no end.  
or  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

1. Let the sons of Israel say:  
"His love has no end."  
Let the sons of Aaron say:  
"His love has no end."  
Let those who fear the Lord say:  
"His love has no end." (R.)

2. The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the corner stone.  
This is the work of the Lord,  
a marvel in our eyes.  
This day was made by the Lord;  
we rejoice and are glad. (R.)

3. O Lord, grant us salvation;  
O Lord grant success.  
Blessed in the name of the Lord  
is he who comes.  
We bless you from the house of the Lord;  
the Lord God is our light. (R.)

**SECOND READING** Apocalypse 1:9-13:17-19

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse.  
My name is John, and through our union in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God's word and witnessed for Jesus; it was the Lord's day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me, shouting like a trumpet, "Write down all that you see in a book." I turned round to see who had spoken to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lamp-stands and, surrounded by them, a figure like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle.

When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said, "Do not be afraid; it is I, the First and the Last; I am the Living One. I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of the underworld. Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are still to come." The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus said: "You believe because you can see me.  
Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe."  
Alleluia!

**GOSPEL** John 20:19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, "Peace be with you," and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, "Peace be with you."

"As the Father sent me,  
so am I sending you."

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

"Receive the Holy Spirit.  
for those whose sins you forgive,  
they are forgiven;  
for those whose sins you retain,  
they are retained."

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, "We have seen the Lord," he answered, "Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe." Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. "Peace be with you" he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, "Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe." Thomas replied, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him:

"You believe because you can see me.  
Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe."

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

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

**PROFESSION OF FAITH**

I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
(all bow during the next two lines)

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;  
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting.  
Amen.

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Accept, O Lord, we pray,  
the oblations of your people  
(and of those you have brought to new birth),  
that, renewed by confession of your name and  
by Baptism,  
they may attain unending happiness.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails,  
and do not be unbelieving but believing,  
alleluia.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Grant, we pray, almighty God,  
that our reception of this paschal Sacrament  
may have a continuing effect  
in our minds and hearts.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

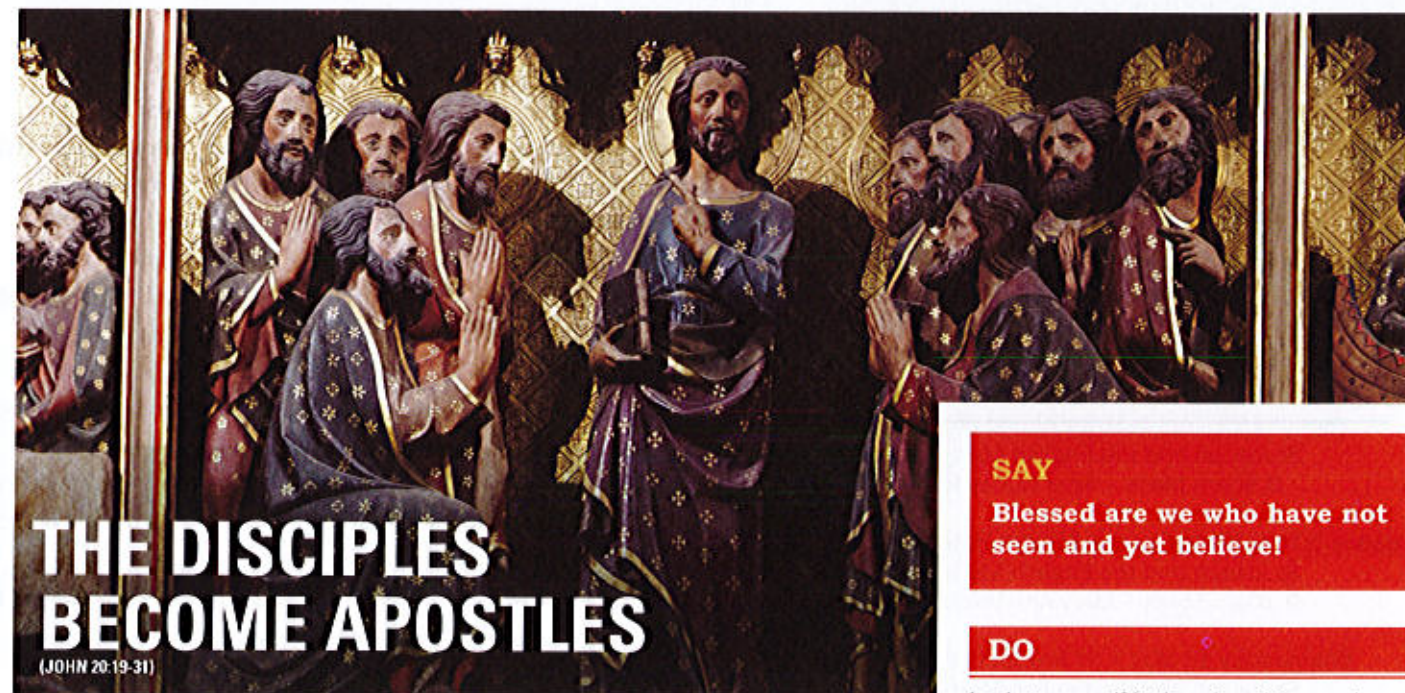
# Sunday Message

28 APRIL 2019

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

**THE WORD**

Year C • Psalter Week 2



Intricately carved frieze inside Notre Dame Cathedral depicting Jesus' appearance to the disciples in Galilee

## THE DISCIPLES BECOME APOSTLES

(JOHN 20:19-31)

The Fourth Evangelist never describes the twelve closest disciples of Jesus as *apostles* in his account. They have no share in his ministry.

But now that he has returned to the Father by way of the cross, the glorified Jesus bestows on them the Holy Spirit and sends them out, as the Father had sent him. In the Holy Spirit, the disciples have the continuing presence of Jesus among them, and this is the basis of their peace. The group of frightened, cowering individuals is now filled with joy and empowered for their mission.

In the second episode, Thomas represents the person who comes to a proper understanding of Jesus *without* miraculous proof. He does not believe simply on the word of the others, but equally he does not come to faith by accepting Jesus' challenge to probe his wounds with his finger and hand: in John the evangelist's view, this would not be true faith, but the kind of belief based on signs or wonders, which he has condemned. It is to Thomas that John gives the ultimate confession of faith in Jesus as "My Lord and my God!" The scene (and the Gospel) reaches its climax with Jesus' declaration, "Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe." ■

**REFLECT**

Put yourself in Thomas' shoes: or rather, realise that he is standing in your shoes. Thomas represents those who hear the word of the Gospel, but would still like rather more evidence. It is important that we notice that Thomas comes to believe in the risen Jesus in the same way as the other disciples, on the basis of an experience of Jesus' presence, without the added element of actually touching him physically. This would not be the kind of faith that those coming after could possibly have, that is, people

like ourselves. Jesus does not say to his sceptical disciple, "You believe because you have touched me." For John, the value of a sign is that it points the reader to Jesus and provokes questions about who Jesus is: it does not prove anything by itself, but is a stage in the person's growing in faith. Thomas progresses from being the sceptic to the one who makes the supreme confession about Jesus.

The original Gospel ended with the saying known as the Johannine Beatitude, which says, "Happy are those

**SAY**

Blessed are we who have not seen and yet believe!

**DO**

Look at yourself in the mirror. The words "Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe" apply to you. You are a disciple who has received the Holy Spirit. Decide to live each day in the light of this.

**LEARN**

John does not talk about faith as something we possess: he always uses the verb to *believe*.

*Believing* means being in a loving relationship with Jesus, as shown in the description of "the disciple whom Jesus loved".

Thomas does not actually touch the wounds in Jesus' hands and side.

The bishop uses the greeting "Peace be with you" to express the presence of the risen Jesus among the worshipping community.

who have not seen and yet believe." There is very little in the Fourth Gospel about ethics or behaviour, but the main theme is believing. Faith means entering and remaining in a loving relationship with Jesus, and everything else will flow from that. At the end of John's account, there is no ascension: Jesus does not leave his disciples, but remains with them in the Holy Spirit. The Gospel is more than an account of what Jesus said and did in his lifetime: it is a message for us today; we are the ones who have not seen and yet believe. ■