



# 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 26<sup>th</sup> May 2019 - Sixth Sunday of Easter

*St Joseph and the English Martyrs:*

9am Mass - Mr & Mrs Nash 69<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary  
11am Mass - Mark Long RIP  
12.30pm Baptism - Charlotte Finola Olive Westwood  
Lily-Rose Vivien Shepherd  
6pm Mass - Helen Diment RIP

*Most Holy Redeemer (Sayesbury Road, Sawbridgeworth):*  
9am Mass - Bill Mc Neice RIP

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

## Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May - St Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop

*St Joseph and the English Martyrs:*

10am Mass - Molly Mc Cann RIP

## Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> May - Easter feria

*St Joseph and the English Martyrs:*

9.30am Mass - John Clarke RIP

## Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May - Easter feria

*St Joseph and the English Martyrs:*

9.30am Mass - Gavin Daniel & Family Special intention

## Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> May - The Ascension of the Lord

*St Joseph and the English Martyrs:*

9.30am Mass - Lavinia Ballard Special Intention  
7.30pm Mass - People of the Parish

## Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May - The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

*St Joseph and the English Martyrs:*

9.30am Mass - Frank Kelly RIP

## Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> June - St Justin, Martyr

*St Joseph and the English Martyrs:*

5pm-5.45pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament &  
Sacrament of Reconciliation  
6pm Mass - Marie Darfi 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.

MASS ON BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY will take place at 10am and not 9.30am.

**STRESS IN YOUR MARRIAGE?** - Retrouvaille is a program for married couples that feel bored, disillusioned, frustrated, or angry in their marriage. This programme has helped 6,000 couples who were experiencing difficulties in their marriage in the past year.

There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the programme commencing with a weekend on 7<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> June 2019 in Welwyn Garden City. Call or text 0788 7296983 or 0797 3380443 or email [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

**PLANT SALE**- The Justice & Peace Group is holding a plant sale on Sunday 9th June, outside St Joseph's Church after/between 9am and 11am Masses. Good choice of summer plants available

**EVENING PRAYER AT HOLY CROSS** - Between Ascension and Pentecost we will be meeting for evening prayer in the church on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday [3,4 and 5 June] at 6pm and holding a Taizé service on Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> June, also at 6pm. If you are able, please join us to pray for 'Thy kingdom come'.

**HOLY CROSS EASTER GARDEN** - Please be sure to take a look at the Easter garden near the Choir stalls at Holy Cross.

**HOLIDAY BIBLE WEEK** -Wonderfully we have had over 400 children sign up for this year's HBW but need many more helpers. We have tent leaders already this year so all volunteers will be joining experienced leaders! Young people can also volunteer. For more info please visit <https://holidaybibleweek.co.uk/>

**LOOKING FOR A HOME** for an 11 year old, all-black, healthy, short-hair female lap-cat. She prefers to be indoors. Very gentle temperament. She needs a single person who is home a lot, no children, no noise, and no other pets. Please contact Sister Ruth by email [sister.ruth23@gmail.com](mailto:sister.ruth23@gmail.com), or phone the Parish Office.

**JUNIOR READING ROTA**-Young people wanted to help with the reading ministry at 9am mass. If you have a child in year 4 or above we would love to have them help with the reading ministry please get in touch with David Wilkinson [wilkinsondavid@mac.com](mailto:wilkinsondavid@mac.com)

**GOVERNOR VACANCIES AT ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL** - We have two Foundation Governor spaces on our Board that need filling as well as two co-opted spaces from September 2019. Please see the parish web site for more information. If you are interested and would like to discuss the matter further then you can e-mail Suzanne Fitzgerald [cofgovs@stjosephs207.herts.sch.uk](mailto:cofgovs@stjosephs207.herts.sch.uk) who can arrange to call you at a convenient time and is also happy to show you around the school.

## PRIEST TRAINING FUND

Canon Stuart will be speaking at Most Holy Redeemer and Holy Cross this weekend on supporting the Priest Training Fund. This fund pays for the priestly formation of men for the Catholic priesthood. There are currently 45 men studying at Allen Hall seminary, 27 of whom are for our own Diocese. Last year eight men were ordained to the priesthood. The fund also supports the ongoing enrichment and formation of our ordained priests. Your gift ensures we can provide training for these men responding to Christ's call to dedicate their lives to serve God's people. Please be as generous as you can. Please also pray for vocations and for all priests. If you do not have a donation leaflet, plenty are still available at the back of the church. Thank you. You can also donate via [www.rcdow.org.uk/donations](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/donations)

**THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD**- Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> May is a **Holy Day of Obligation**. Mass will be celebrated at 9.30am and 7.30pm at St Josephs.

**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER** is the largest pro-marriage organisation in the world and promotes weekend experiences for Married Couples who want to make their good marriage even better. It also provides weekends for Engaged Couples who want to have the best possible start for their marriage The next weekend's being held in England for interested couples is Niland, Bushey 29-30 June. Any couple interested in making one of these weekends can find full details on the website <https://wwme.org.uk> or contact Patrick & Pauline Haynes 01279 652411 for more information

**RETREAT DAY FOR PARISH LAY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION AND OF THE WORD**- with Sister Karen Marguerite OP and Sister Anne Walsh OP.

Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> June 2019, Niland Conference Centre, Rosary Priory, 93 Elstree Road, Bushey Heath, WD23 4EE. Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2019, Vaughan House, 46 Francis Street, London SW1P 1QN. 10.00am - 3.00pm (refreshments from 9.30am). Suggested donation £15 per person. Please bring a packed lunch. Coffees/Teas are available. Register with [livingfaith@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:livingfaith@rcdow.org.uk) or leave a voicemail 020 7931 6078. Please indicate which venue you are registering.

**CARITAS VOLUNTEER FAIR** - Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June -The Caritas Volunteer Service will be holding its annual Volunteers' Fair showcasing volunteering opportunities from across the Diocese. Find out more about the work and the roles available and hear talks and testimonials from different organisations. The event will be on Saturday 8th June, from 1:00-3:00pm, at St Aloysius' Parish Hall, Phoenix Road, Euston, NW1 1TA. To get your free ticket, email [caritaswestminster@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:caritaswestminster@rcdow.org.uk), or call 020 7931 6077.

**BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE** - The next course for parents wishing to baptise their Child will be on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July in the WCC with Fr Carlos. Please contact the office to register. The course starts at 7.30pm and lasts one hour.

## ADVANCED NOTICE - FR PETER'S SILVER JUBILEE



Fr Peter will celebrate the 25th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood with a special 'Parish Outdoor Mass' on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June at 11am to be celebrated on the Monastery lawn situated at the rear of St Joseph and the English Martyrs Catholic Church (weather permitting!). There will be no other Mass services celebrated on this morning at St Joseph's, Holy Cross or Most Holy Redeemer.

For those who are unable to join us outside on the lawn, we hope to be able to also 'live stream' the Mass which will be shown via the online service but also on the screen in the Windhill Churches Centre.

After the Mass everyone is invited to stay for a picnic to be eaten either on the Monastery gardens or in the garden behind the back of the Windhill Churches Centre. Please bring your own food. Refreshments will be provided. Extra car parking facilities will be made available courtesy of St Mary's School.

All of our Priests are special, dedicating their lives to the service of God and to us his people, they are there from the very beginning of our Christian life in Baptism and continue to administer God's grace to us through the Sacraments right through to the end of our lives, none of this would happen without our Priests! If you would like to make a monetary gift /donation for Fr. Peter on the occasion of his Silver Jubilee, special donation envelopes will be available after Mass.

Further information will follow as we continue to plan this special event. We will be seeking your help as we will need volunteers from all three Churches to assist with a variety of jobs including Eucharistic Ministers, Marshalls, Tea/Coffee makers, Offertory Collectors, Welcomers, People to help fetch and carry and clean up the grounds and the WCC afterwards etc. If you are able to help us please do let the Office know. Thank you very much.

*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.*



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)



Collections 18/19 May 2019 Loose Coin & Envelopes

*St Josephs and the English Martyrs:*

Collection: Loose- £544.86 Envelopes- £613.90 D/ Debit £6986.34

*Holy Cross*

Collection: Loose £66.20 Envelopes- £10.00 D/ Debit- £1210.00

*Most Holy Redeemer:*

Collection: Loose £127.68 Envelopes- £36.00 D/Debit - £645.33



**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**

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard;  
proclaim to the ends of the earth:  
The Lord has freed his people, 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**

Grant, almighty God,  
that we may celebrate with heartfelt devotion  
these days of joy,  
which we keep in honour of the risen Lord,  
and that what we relive in remembrance  
we may always hold to in what we do.  
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 15:1-2, 22-29

A reading from the Acts of Apostles.  
Some men came down from Judaea and  
taught the brothers, "Unless you have  
yourselves circumcised in the tradition of  
Moses you cannot be saved." This led to  
disagreement, and after Paul and Barnabas  
had had a long argument with these men  
it was arranged that Paul and Barnabas  
and others of the church should go up to  
Jerusalem and discuss the problem with the  
apostles and elders.

Then the apostles and elders decided  
to choose delegates to send to Antioch  
with Paul and Barnabas; the whole church  
concurred with this. They chose Judas known  
as Barsabbas and Silas, both leading men in  
the brotherhood, and gave them this letter to  
take with them:

"The apostles and elders, your brothers,  
send greetings to the brothers of pagan birth  
in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia. We hear that  
some of our members have disturbed you  
with their demands and have unsettled your  
minds. They acted without any authority from  
us, and so we have decided unanimously to  
elect delegates and to send them to you with  
Barnabas and Paul, men we highly respect  
who have dedicated their lives to the name  
of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accordingly we  
are sending you Judas and Silas, who will  
confirm by word of mouth what we have  
written in this letter. It has been decided by

the Holy Spirit and by ourselves not to saddle  
you with any burden beyond these essentials:  
you are to abstain from food sacrificed to  
idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled  
animals and from fornication. Avoid these,  
and you will do what is right. Farewell."

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

**PSALM**

Psalm 66

Response:

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.  
or  
Alleluia!

- O God, be gracious and bless us  
and let your face shed its light upon us.  
So will your ways be known upon earth  
and all nations learn your saving help.  
(R.)
- Let the nations be glad and exult  
for you rule the world with justice.  
With fairness you rule the peoples,  
you guide the nations on earth. (R.)
- Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.  
May God still give us his blessing  
till the ends of the earth revere him. (R.)

**SECOND READING** Apoc 21:10-14, 22-23

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse.

In the spirit, the angel took me to the top of  
an enormous high mountain and showed me  
Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down from  
God out of heaven. It had all the radiant glory  
of God and glittered like some precious jewel  
of crystal-clear diamond. The walls of it were  
of a great height, and had twelve gates; at  
each of the twelve gates there was an angel,  
and over the gates were written the names of  
the twelve tribes of Israel; on the east there  
were three gates, on the north three gates,  
on the south three gates, and on the west  
three gates. The city walls stood on twelve  
foundation stones, each one of which bore  
the name of one of the twelve apostles of the  
Lamb.

I saw that there was no temple in the city  
since the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb  
were themselves the temple, and the city did  
not need the sun or the moon for light, since  
it was lit by the radiant glory of God and the  
Lamb was a lighted torch for it.

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus said: "If anyone loves me, he will keep  
my word, and my Father will love him, and  
we shall come to him."  
Alleluia!

**GOSPEL**

John 14:23-29

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Jesus said to his disciples:

"If anyone loves me he will keep my word,  
and my Father will love him,  
and we shall come to him  
and make our home with him.  
Those who do not love me do not keep my  
words.

And my word is not my own:  
it is the word of the one who sent me.  
I have said these things to you  
while still with you;  
but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit,  
whom the Father will send in my name,  
will teach you everything  
and remind you of all I have said to you.  
Peace I bequeath to you,  
my own peace I give you,  
a peace the world cannot give, this is my  
gift to you.  
Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.  
You heard me say:  
I am going away, and shall return.  
If you loved me you would have been glad  
to know that I am going to the Father,  
for the Father is greater than I.  
I have told you this now before it happens,  
so that when it does happen you may  
believe."

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**

May our prayers rise up to you, O Lord,  
together with the sacrificial offerings,  
so that, purified by your graciousness,  
we may be conformed to the mysteries of  
your mighty love.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

If you love me, keep my commandments,  
says the Lord,  
and I will ask the Father and he will send you  
another Paraclete,  
to abide with you for ever, alleluia.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Almighty ever-living God,  
who restore us to eternal life in the  
Resurrection of Christ,  
increase in us, we pray, the fruits of this  
paschal Sacrament  
and pour into our hearts the strength of this  
saving food.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

# Sunday Message

26 MAY 2019

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

**THE WORD**

Year C • Psalter Week 2



As we approach the end of the Easter season, the Gospel today looks toward the departure of Jesus and the sending of the Paraclete.

It seems that the disciples still do not fully understand the message of Jesus, as they are apparently reluctant to let go of Jesus. He promises two gifts: one is the Paraclete, the other is Jesus' peace. The purpose of the Paraclete will be to teach the disciples, unfolding the meaning of what Jesus has taught them. The Paraclete will take Jesus' place and keep alive the memory of Jesus among and within the disciples, those who knew Jesus personally and those who will come later.

The peace which Jesus mentions is his peace, not peace in the normal sense of the word. Persecution from outside and divisions within the community were a feature of the community from which the Fourth Gospel emerged. This peace comes from Jesus' union with the Father and is connected with the gift of the Paraclete, or Spirit, who will continue Jesus' presence among the disciples. Jesus' leaving and the coming of the Spirit signal the beginning of a new era, and this should be a cause of joy, not sadness for the disciples. The return of Jesus to the Father will enable the coming of the Spirit to the disciples, and it is in this peace that the community will continue Jesus' work of revealing the Father, despite opposition like that which Jesus experienced. ■

**REFLECT**

In the Bible, the Spirit of the Lord is often, if not usually, associated with *power*. The Spirit is bestowed on a particular person so that they can carry out their commission from the Lord. However, the purpose of the Spirit, or Paraclete, as presented in our Gospel reading today, is more that of helping the disciples to understand more fully the teachings of Jesus.

In the Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation issued by the Second Vatican Council, the Holy Spirit is mentioned most frequently in chapter II on "Handing on Divine Revelation". The Holy Spirit is the active agent in the transmitting of the faith from one generation to another. Tradition is presented as something unfolding, developing: it is not the static repetition of what has been said before in the manner and language in which it was previously taught. Nothing new is added, but our appreciation of its meaning develops and must be expressed in ways which contemporary people can understand. The meaning of words changes over time and if we have to explain that a word we are using signifies something different from that which the other person would naturally assume, then we are literally speaking another language and failing to communicate. Perhaps we need to believe more firmly that the Spirit is guiding the expressing of what we as a Church believe and not to be afraid of new ways of formulating our faith in language which makes sense to ourselves and our contemporaries. The truth is sacred: no one system of explaining the faith is absolutely the last word. ■

**SAY**

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.

**LEARN**

The teaching of the Church on divine revelation is presented in the document of Vatican II entitled *Dei Verbum*.

The word "Paraclete" refers to the Holy Spirit as Jesus' personal presence in the disciples while Jesus is with the Father.

In the Fourth Gospel, the verb "to be troubled" occurs in the context of death.

Our understanding of the word of God in the scriptures develops: this is the function of the tradition of the Church.

**DO**

Switch on the light. Think about how important electricity is to the running of your home. Reflect that this is how important the Holy Spirit is to the life of the Church.

