



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 2nd June 2019 – Seventh Sunday of Easter

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:
9am Mass – Special Intention John Kelly
11am Mass – Marie Darfi RIP
12.30pm Baptism - Mia Rose Donaldson
Lucas Dominic William Donaldson
6pm Mass – Noel Hurley RIP

Most Holy Redeemer (Sayesbury Road, Sawbridgeworth)
9am Mass – People of the Parish

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

Monday 3rd June – St Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:
9.30am Mass – Antonio Di Giovanni RIP

Tuesday 4th June – Easter feria
St Joseph and the English Martyrs:
9.30am Mass – André Kirby RIP
Most Holy Redeemer (Sayesbury Road, Sawbridgeworth)
1pm Funeral service – Margaret Anne Rose Felstead RIP

Wednesday 5th June – St Boniface, Bishop & Martyr

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:
9.30am Mass – Special Intention John Kelly

Thursday 6th June – St Norbert, Bishop
St Joseph and the English Martyrs:
9.30am Mass – Private Intention

Friday 7th June – Easter feria
St Joseph and the English Martyrs:
9.30am Mass – Molly Johnson RIP

Saturday 8th June – Easter feria
St Joseph and the English Martyrs:
5pm-5.45pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament &
Sacrament of Reconciliation
6pm Mass – Joan McNamara 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.

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 7th – 9th June 2019 in Welwyn Garden City. Call or text 0788 7296983 or 0797 3380443 or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com or visit 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. Proceeds to 'Aid to the Church in need', supporting Christians worldwide wherever they are persecuted or oppressed

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, 6th June, also at 6pm. If you are able, please join us to pray for 'Thy kingdom come'.

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, 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

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 cogovs@stjosephs207.herts.sch.uk who can arrange to call you at a convenient time and is also happy to show you around the school.

PARISH MAGAZINE – is now on sale at only 30p. Thank you to those who contributed and especially to our Editor Astrid Davies

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://www.me.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, 8th June 2019, Niland Conference Centre, Rosary Priory, 93 Elstree Road, Bushey Heath, WD23 4EE. Saturday 15th 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 or leave a voicemail 020 7931 6078. Please indicate which venue you are registering.

CARITAS VOLUNTEER FAIR – Saturday 8th 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, or call 020 7931 6077.

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

A LETTER FROM SR. ANGELA IN ZAMBIA

Good evening people of God,
I have been thinking of you. Yes, we are now in the second term. About the borehole - we were advised to wait until July and August when it will be completely dry. I hope all those who contributed towards this project will bear with me as we seem to be taking a long time. At the right time I will definitely update you and send you the pictures. Currently, the borehole we are depending on is servicing all the institutions in the parish in that there is low pressure. We hope with our own borehole the school will have enough water to cater for our day to day usage. I really thank you for the usual support. You have assisted to add beauty to the school. I personally appreciate the heart you have for our vulnerable community. Greetings to all,
Sr. Angela

Please continue to donate to our Penny Collection at St Joseph's to help the St Lawrence Community in Zambia. Thank you.

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 16th 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 as NO PARKING will be permitted behind the Church. Please also consider parking in the town centre car parks, car sharing and walking/cycling if possible.

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 silver donation envelopes are available in each Church.

Further information will follow next week as we continue to plan this special event. We still need volunteers from all three Churches please 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
Safeguarding enquiries only
bishopsstortfordsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk



Collections 25/26 May 2019 Loose Coin & Envelopes
St Josephs and the English Martyrs:
Collection: Loose- £698.08 Envelopes- £681.44 D/ Debit £6986.34
Holy Cross
Collection: Loose £21.00, Envelopes- £10.00 D/ Debit- £1210.00
Most Holy Redeemer:
Collection: Loose £66.05 Envelopes- £44.00 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

O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you;
of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face;
hide not your face from me, 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

Graciously hear our supplications, O Lord,
so that we, who believe that the Saviour of
the human race
is with you in your glory,
may experience, as he promised,
until the end of the world,
his abiding presence among us.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of
the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

FIRST READING Acts 7:55-60

A reading from the first Act of the Apostles.
Stephen, filled with the Holy Spirit, gazed
into heaven and saw the glory of God, and
Jesus standing at God's right hand. "I can
see heaven thrown open," he said, "and the
Son of Man standing at the right hand of
God." At this all the members of the council
shouted out and stopped their ears with their
hands; then they all rushed at him, sent him
out of the city and stoned him. The witnesses
put down their clothes at the feet of a young
man called Saul. As they were stoning him,
Stephen said in invocation, "Lord Jesus,
receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and
said aloud, "Lord, do not hold this sin against
them"; and with these words he fell asleep.
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 96

Response:
The Lord is king, most high above all the
earth.
or
Alleluia!

1. The Lord is king, let earth rejoice,
the many coastlands be glad.
His throne is justice and right. (R.)

2. The skies proclaim his justice;
all peoples see his glory.
All you spirits, worship him. (R.)

3. For you indeed are the Lord
most high above all the earth
exalted far above all spirits. (R.)

SECOND READING Apocalypse 22:12-14, 16-17, 20

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse.

I, John, heard a voice speaking to me:
"Very soon now, I shall be with you again,
bringing the reward to be given to every
man according to what he deserves. I am the
Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last,
the Beginning and the End. Happy are those
who will have washed their robes clean, so
that they will have the right to feed on the
tree of life and can come through the gates
into the city."

"I, Jesus, have sent my angel to make
these revelations to you for the sake of the
churches. I am of David's line, the root of
David and the bright star of the morning."

The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come." Let
everyone who listens answer, "Come." Then
let all who are thirsty come; all who want it
may have the water of life, and have it free.

The one who guarantees these revelations
repeats his promise: I shall indeed be with
you soon. Amen; come, Lord Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord;
I will come back to you, and your hearts will
be full of joy.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL John 17:20-26

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
John.

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

"Holy Father,
I pray not only for these,
but for those also
who through their words will believe in me.
May they all be one.
Father, may they be one in us,
as you are in me and I am in you,
so that the world may believe it was you
who sent me.

I have given them the glory you gave to me,
that they may be one as we are one.
With me in them and you in me,
may they be so completely one
that the world will realise that it was you
who sent me
and that I have loved them as much as you
love me.

Father,
I want those you have given me
to be with me where I am,
so that they may always see the glory
you have given me
because you loved me
before the foundation of the world.
Father, Righteous One,
the world has not known you,
but I have known you,
and these have known
that you have sent me.

I have made your name known to them
and will continue to make it known,
so that the love with which you loved me
may be in them,
and so that I may be in them."

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, the prayers of your faithful
with the sacrificial offerings,
that through these acts of devotedness
we may pass over to the glory of heaven.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Father, I pray that they may be one
as we also are one, alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Hear us, O God our Saviour,
and grant us confidence,
that through these sacred mysteries
there will be accomplished in the body of the
whole Church
what has already come to pass in Christ
her Head.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
Amen.

THE WORD

A PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

(JOHN 17: 20-26)

This chapter of John's Gospel
is often referred to as the *high
priestly prayer of Jesus*, and is
an address given by Jesus on
the night before his crucifixion.

It is clear that Jesus' concern is for his
disciples and the hardship they will
endure as a result of their preaching and
teaching. He prays for their protection and
acknowledges that even though he has
taught them and given them the word of
God, the world has hated them. We can
see a parallel in today's first reading from
Acts with the stoning of Stephen. His
unwavering faith in Jesus has got him into
trouble with the authorities but before he
dies, his eyes turn to heaven and he sees
the Son of Man standing at the right hand
of God. He prays: "Lord Jesus, receive my
Spirit." This is the commitment Jesus looks
for in his followers.

However, in the verses of John's Gospel
today, we can see a secondary concern of
Jesus that will prove to be a burning issue
of debate even in the Church of the present
day. Disunity amongst fellow Christians
was not only evident in the time of Jesus,
it continues after his death. Jesus offers a
prayer on this final night with his disciples,
that all will be perfectly one. He asks that the
love and unity expressed in the relationship
between the Father and Son, be present in
them as followers of the risen Christ. ■

**REFLECT**

Today, the Catholic Church celebrates World Communications Day, and most
of us can claim to be experts in this field with the advent of smart phones and
other devices that bring us into contact with a range of possibilities through the
internet. There are huge positives attached to being able to use the internet, not least
for people who live away from home and can keep in contact with family through
WhatsApp, Facebook and other platforms. Pope Francis himself stated back in 2014
that the internet should be "an environment rich in humanity, a network not of wires
but of people".

We not only celebrate today but we also reflect on the current state and nature
of relationships on the internet. Cardinal Paolo Ruffini, Prefect of the Dicastery
for Communication, states that social media can nourish "true, beautiful, solid
relationships but it can also fuel hatred". He goes on to state that Pope Francis
wants people to view social media not as something that traps you, but something
that frees you and that you make an instrument of freedom. On this 53rd World
Communications Day, the Church underlines the value of interaction understood as
dialogue and as an opportunity to meet with others.

Today also confirms Pope Francis' attention to the new communications environment
where he is present with his @Pontifex account on Twitter and @Franciscus account
on Instagram. ■

LEARN

"There is one body and one Spirit, just as
you were called to the one hope of your
calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one
God and Father of all, who is above all and
through all and in all." (Ephesians 4:4-6)

DO

It is often said that chapter 17 of John's
Gospel contains the seeds of Christian
spirituality. Take some time this week to
read this prayer of Jesus.

SAY

"Where there is shouting,
let us practise listening;
Where there is confusion,
let us inspire harmony;
Where there is exclusion,
let us offer solidarity;
Where there is falsehood,
let us bring truth."

(Excerpt from Pope Francis for
World Communications Day 2018)