



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 28th July 2019 - 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9am Mass - Michael O'Connor RIP

11am Mass - Anne Dudson RIP

12.30pm Baptism - Finley James Carpenter

Jesse Charles Carpenter

6pm Mass - Charlotte Gray RIP

Most Holy Redeemer (Sayesbury Road, Sawbridgeworth)

9am Mass - Grace Allan RIP

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

11.15am Mass - People of our Parish

Monday 29th July - St Martha

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9.30am Mass - Ordination to the Diaconate Rev. Des Connors

Tuesday 30th July - St Peter Chrysologus, Bishop & Doctor

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9.30am Mass - James Supervia RIP

Wednesday 31st July - St Ignatius of Loyola, Priest

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9.30am Mass - Maureen Harrington RIP

Thursday 1st August - St Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop & Doctor

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9.30am Mass - Nora Daly RIP

Friday 2nd August - St Eusebius of Vercelli, Bishop

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9.30am Mass - Helen Fahey RIP

Saturday 3rd August - Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

1pm Marriage - Catherine Dalzell & Thomas Hutchinson

5pm-5.45pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament &

Sacrament of Reconciliation

6pm Mass - Tom Sharkey 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.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

14-21 MAY 2020

We are preparing the details for a pilgrimage to the Holy Land on the above dates. At the moment, we have received a quote in the range of £1295-£1365 which includes the following:

Round-trip flights by El Al (including taxes)

1 piece of checked in luggage up to 23 kg.

Transfers and touring by private coach in Israel.

Accommodation based on sharing a twin-bedded

room (breakfast and dinner included):

3 nights at Plaza Nazareth Hotel, Nazareth

4 nights at 7 Arches Hotel, Jerusalem.

Entrance fees appropriate to the itinerary.

Tour manager/guide while in Israel.

Arrangement of religious services.

ATOL and ABTA financial protection.

Please speak with Fr. Peter or Fr. Carlos if you are interested. If we reach a suitable number, we will go ahead and offer the opportunity to sign up for the pilgrimage.

CHANGES TO SUMMER MASS TIMES

Each year we try hard to recruit a priest to allow Fr Peter and Fr Carlos to have their summer holiday. This has become more difficult each recent year. Retired priest Mgr Turner is free to come for Sunday 11th August when Fr Peter is away. However Fr Angel has told us that he is not able to come from Spain this year, and we have not been able to get a supply from the Diocese's usual summer pool for Aug 18/25 and Sept 1 when Fr Carlos will be away. With the agreement of Bishop Paul (*who comments that this is happening this year in a number of Parishes*), we have had to make the decision that on those 3 Sundays there will be no Mass at Much Hadham or at Sawbridgeworth. That means we will be able to manage with just the one priest being here. We are sorry to have to do this but it is a sign of the times. We very much hope that parishioners at Holy Cross and Most Holy Redeemer will make an effort to offer lifts particularly to older parishioners so that they can get to Mass at St Joseph's, or Old Harlow or Puckeridge.

CATHOLIC PARISH OF BISHOP'S STORTFORD - SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2020



Application forms and sign-up sheets will be available from the Sacristy as from Sunday 7th July 2019 for Children who wish to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion and will be at least 8 years old on or before 31 August 2020

The preparation programme is only for those children who will be receiving the Sacrament of First Holy Communion within the Catholic Parish of Bishop's Stortford and not elsewhere

All forms must be signed for by the parent of each child - please do not take a form for someone else. The last day for receiving completed forms into No.3 Windhill will be **Wednesday 4th September 2019**. When you have submitted your form please send an e-mail to fhcstjosephs@gmail.com confirming your application. This is so that our Catechist is able to send you an acknowledgement email and keep you updated of any changes to the scheduled sessions. The first Parents meeting will be Tuesday 17th September 7.30pm-8.30pm in the Parish centre and the first Children's session on Saturday 21st September 10.30am - 12pm

ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL - are looking for Governors who do not have children at the school and who would be available to join committees that meet during the school day. For further information please email governors@stjosephs207.herts.sch.uk

MAJELLANS PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP (0-4 years) - New volunteers are needed to help run the group. Starting 9th September 2019 on Monday mornings only during school term time from 9.30am-11.30am. For more information contact Mary Crake 07948450612.

WESTMINSTER DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM 21st SEPTEMBER

As we prepare for the rededication of England to Our Lady as her dowry (March 2020), we have the chance to go on pilgrimage with Cardinal Vincent and other Catholics from across the diocese on Saturday 21st September. The Deanery coach will pick up at Waltham Cross (7am), Hoddesdon (7.15am), and **Bishops Stortford (7.45am)**, to get to Walsingham in good time for 12 noon Mass. After lunch we walk the Holy Mile and conclude with Benediction at the old Priory shrine.

To provisionally book a place on the coach, phone St Augustine's, Hoddesdon (01992-440986) with your details; to firmly book your place on the coach, please then send a cheque for £25 payable to 'St Augustine's Catholic Church' - or deliver cash by hand - to The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, Herts, EN11 8DS.

HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST BIKE 'N HIKE SATURDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER 2019

The annual Bike 'n Hike offers the opportunity to raise money both for Churches and for the Beds. & Herts. Historic Churches Trust. Every £1 that we raise in sponsorship, 50p is returned to us. This makes the Bike 'n Hike a very effective way to raise funds for our church. All the organizing is done for us; all we have to do is to take part! The other half of the sponsorship money goes to the Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust which is distributed, in the form of grants, to local communities struggling to raise funds for vital repairs to their church or chapel. Taking part involves being sponsored for either cycling or walking to visit other churches (you plan your own route). We also need "welcomers" between the hours of 10am and 6pm and welcomers can also be sponsored. Last year the Bike 'n Hike raised almost £100,000 for the churches and chapels of Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire. Our churches can benefit from this fund raising event if you will help.

So what are you waiting for? Enjoy a pleasant day cycling or walking to churches and chapels in our area, or welcoming our visitors, and at the same time boost our church's funds as well as those of the Trust.

You can use 'Just Giving' to help you raise sponsorship money, along with the normal sponsor form. By encouraging the use of gift aid, you can further increase the funds available to the Trust. For more information please contact **Bill O'Neill** from Holy Cross on **07577655922** Email Chondoh@aol.com

WCC WORKING PARTY 7TH SEPTEMBER 10AM-12NOON.

Now that the Centre is 10 years old we try to look after the building as much as we can and 2 years ago we spent a splendid morning with volunteers taking on a joint spring clean. So, if you enjoy the facilities offered week by week please do come along and give a hand, washing down paintwork, cleaning tables and chairs etc. Refreshments will be on offer as we work alongside our neighbours from St Michaels. All cleaning materials provided. Thank you

'On the day I called, you answered me, O Lord'



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 20/21 July 2019 Loose Coin & Envelopes /

St Josephs and the English Martyrs:

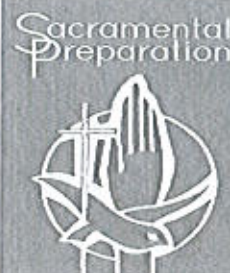
Collection: Loose- £689.80 Envelopes- £528.45

Holy Cross

Collection: Loose- £35.00 Envelopes- £10.00

Most Holy Redeemer:

Collection: Loose- £68.90 Envelopes- £44.10



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 7th July 2019

Confirmation: Applications closed

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

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Year C • Psalter Week 1

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

God is in his holy place,
God who unites those who dwell in his house;
he himself gives might and strength to his people.

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

O God, protector of those who hope in you,
without whom nothing has firm foundation,
nothing is holy,
bestow in abundance your mercy upon us
and grant that, with you as our ruler and guide,
we may use the good things that pass
in such a way as to hold fast even now
to those that ever endure...
Amen.

FIRST READING Genesis 18:20-32

A reading from the book of Genesis.

The Lord said, "How great an outcry there is against Sodom and Gomorrah! How grievous is their sin! I propose to go down and see whether or not they have done all that is alleged in the outcry against them that has come up to me. I am determined to know."

The men left there and went to Sodom while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Approaching him he said, "Are you really going to destroy the just man with the sinner? Perhaps there are fifty just men in the town. Will you really overwhelm them, will you not spare the place for the fifty just men in it? Do not think of doing such a thing: to kill the just man with the sinner, treating just and sinner alike! Do not think of it! Will the judge of the whole earth not administer justice?" The Lord replied, "If at Sodom I find fifty just men in the town, I will spare the whole place because of them."

Abraham replied, "I am bold indeed to speak like this to my Lord, I who am dust and ashes. But perhaps the fifty just men lack five: will you destroy the whole city for five?" "No," he replied, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five just men there." Again Abraham said to him, "Perhaps there will only be forty there." "I will not do it," he replied "for the sake of the forty."

Abraham said, "I trust my Lord will not be angry, but give me leave to speak: perhaps there will only be thirty there." "I will not do it," he replied "if I find thirty there." He said, "I am bold indeed to speak like this, but perhaps there will only be twenty there." "I will not destroy it," he replied "for the sake of the

twenty." He said, "I trust my Lord will not be angry if I speak once more: perhaps there will only be ten." "I will not destroy it," he replied "for the sake of the ten."

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 137

Response:

On the day I called,
you answered me, O Lord.

1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,
you have heard the words of my mouth.
Before the angels I will bless you.
I will adore before your holy temple. (R.)
2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love
which excel all we ever knew of you.
On the day I called, you answered;
you increased the strength of my soul. (R.)
3. The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly
and the haughty he knows from afar.
Though I walk in the midst of affliction
you give me life and frustrate my foes. (R.)
4. You stretch out your hand and save me,
your hand will do all things for me.
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
discard not the work of your hands. (R.)

SECOND READING Colossians 2:12-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians.

You have been buried with Christ, when you were baptised; and by baptism, too, you have been raised up with him through your belief in the power of God who raised him from the dead. You were dead, because you were sinners and had not been circumcised: he has brought you to life with him, he has forgiven us all our sins.

He has overridden the Law, and cancelled every record of the debt that we had to pay; he has done away with it by nailing it to the cross.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Word was made flesh and lived among us;

to all who did accept him
he gave power to become children of God.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 11:1-13

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Once Jesus was in a certain place praying, and when he had finished, one of his disciples said, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples." He said to them, "Say this when you pray:

'Father, may your name be held holy,
your kingdom come;
give us each day our daily bread,
and forgive us our sins,
for we ourselves forgive each one who is in debt to us.
And do not put us to the test.'

He also said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend and goes to him in the middle of the night to say, 'My friend, lend me three loaves because a friend of mine on his travels has just arrived at my house and I have nothing to offer him'; and the man answers from inside the house, 'Do not bother me. The

door is bolted now, and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up to give it to you,' I tell you, if the man does not get up and give it to him for friendship's sake, persistence will be enough to make him get up and give his friend all he wants.

"So I say to you: Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For the one who asks always receives; the one who searches always finds; the one who knocks will always have the door opened to him. What father among you would hand his son a stone when he asked for bread? Or hand him a snake instead of a fish? Or hand him a scorpion if he asked for an egg? If you then, who are evil, know how to give your children what is good, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

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.

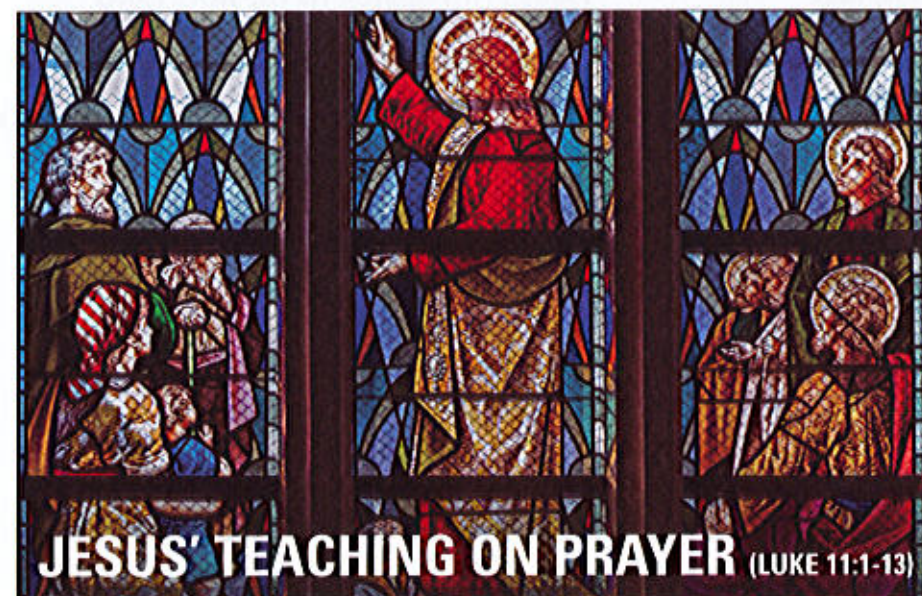
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We have consumed, O Lord, this divine Sacrament,
the perpetual memorial of the Passion of your Son;
grant, we pray, that this gift,
which he himself gave us with love beyond all telling,
may profit us for salvation.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE WORD

Depiction of Jesus teaching, in St Anthony's Church, Leuven (19th century)

Jesus is the best example of how we should pray and in today's Gospel he becomes a teacher of prayer. The disciples request his help and Jesus responds by giving them words they can use when they want to communicate with God.

You will notice that in Luke's Gospel, a much shorter form of the Our Father is used because the Church uses the version in Matthew's Gospel as it is longer. However, the differences between the two versions of the prayer are few. Jesus gives the disciples a form of prayer that acknowledges God as Father, asks that his will be done on earth as it is in heaven and concludes with the final request to deliver us from evil.

The Lord's Prayer is then followed by a parable of a man requesting bread from his neighbour. It's late at night and the family in the house are already in bed. It's clear that the man of the house isn't keen to answer the door at such a late hour. And yet the visitor to the house persists and continues to knock. His persistence eventually pays off because he receives the food, but we can imagine the already sleeping family startled and awakened by the drama at the door. The learning the disciples can take from this short parable is that asking and searching and persisting is necessary in prayer. Bang on the door until God hears you! ■

REFLECT

What is prayer and why isn't it working? Two common questions that I've been asked over the course of my ministry. I can never claim to be an expert on prayer but there are certain rules of thumb from today's Gospel that might help those of us who struggle to pray.

Prayer is at the heart of the Christian life and expresses a desire within us to communicate with God. But there is little doubt that in order to pray, we need to pray with faith. Before Jesus heals someone in the Gospels, he often asks, "Do you believe I can do this for you?"

And if the person expresses strong faith, the miracle happens or the prayer is answered. Having faith is like opening a window to God. Saying "Our Father" is a sign of our deep faith in him. We have heard the call from Jesus that we should pray like children – asking in the belief that we will receive. It seems rather simple or trivial but opening our full heart to God in prayer is the first lesson of Jesus to the disciples today.

The Lord's Prayer then moves into the importance of forgiveness in prayer. How difficult it can be to open ourselves to God when we're holding a grudge

SAY

"Whenever you stand praying, forgive if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses."
(Mark's Gospel)

DO

If you're a little out of practice in your prayer life, how about taking as little as ten minutes a day to begin a conversation with God. If you are short on words, read from today's Gospel from Luke.

LEARN

"For me, prayer is a surge of the heart; it is a simple look turned toward heaven, it is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing both trial and joy."

(St Thérèse of Lisieux)



against a family member, neighbour or work colleague. The desire may exist to communicate with God but the channel of communication is blocked due to our grievance against someone. Our prayers won't be effective until we forgive like God the Father forgives.

And finally, today's parable tells us to persist in our prayer. In some Gospel translations, the word "audacity" is used. To have the audacity/persistence to pray again, to pray more, to knock and to ask. I think this is perhaps my most common experience of prayer. ■