



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 August 2019 - 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9am Mass - Harry Matthews RIP

11am Mass - Brigid and Matthew Carleton RIP

12.30pm Baptism - Ivy Grace Clark

James Brandon Doris

6pm Mass - The Flynn Family Intention

Most Holy Redeemer (Sayesbury Road, Sawbridgeworth)

9am Mass - David Townsend RIP

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

11.15am Mass - People of our Parish

Monday 12th August - St Jane Frances de Chantal, Religious

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9.30am Mass - Fr Peter's 25th Anniversary

Tuesday 13th August - St Pontian, Pope & Hippolytus, Priest, Martyrs

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9.30am Mass - John Treanor Special Intention

Wednesday 14th August - St Maximilian Mary Kolbe, Priest & Martyr

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9.30am Mass - Adriana Parra Paez & Paul Michael

Wedding Anniversary Special Intention

Thursday 15th August - The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9.30am Mass - David and Angela Morris Intention

7.30pm Mass - The People of the Parish

Friday 16th August - St Stephen of Hungary

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9.30am Mass - Pamela Intention

1pm Marriage - Faye Carmella Norburn & Mark John Hunt

Saturday 17th August - Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday

Most Holy Redeemer (Sayesbury Road, Sawbridgeworth)

11am Requiem Mass - David William Townsend RIP

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

5pm-5.45pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament &

Sacrament of Reconciliation

6pm Mass - Special Intention Paul & Adriana



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.



WELCOME BACK and THANK YOU to Monsignor Harry Turner, who joins us to celebrate Mass this weekend, whilst Fr Peter is on holiday.

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 and 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 for further information.

There is now a sign-up sheet in the Sacristy for those interested.

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY - Thursday 15th August is a **HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**. There will be Mass at St Joseph's at 9.30am and 7.30pm

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.

PARISH MAGAZINE:-Deadline for the next issue is SUNDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER - plenty of time for news, views and holiday stories. Kindly e-mail items for inclusion to astriddavies@hotmail.co.uk

FESTIVAL OF FLOWERS & MUSIC - ST JAMES THE GREAT, THORLEY Bank Holiday weekend Sat/ Sun & Mon 11am -5pm. Lunch & refreshments, Craft Fair and Children's activities.



ADVANCED NOTICE OF OFFICE CLOSURE -Debbie will be away from 2/9 - 13/9 inclusive and will be preparing & printing newsletters in advance. Should you have any notices that you wish to have included please do let her know by 26/8 at the latest. Thank you very much.

Fr Peter writes:



In 1914 Mgr Robert Hugh Benson died at the age of 43 and left his house and land at Hare Street, Hertfordshire, to the Archbishops of Westminster as a country retreat for their use. Fr Benson was a convert from the Church of England, (*his father was Archbishop of Canterbury*). He was a prolific writer and much in demand as a preacher.

At Hare Street he had fitted out a small outbuilding as a Chapel and he and his friends had made an altar and carved figures including one of Our Blessed Lady stamping her foot on the heresies of the Church. After his death a chapel was specially built over his grave in the orchard of the house and this altar and statue were placed in a Lady Chapel attached to it. With the current sale of the property the Cardinal has asked us to find a home for the altar and statue at St Joseph's. They have been carefully conserved and have now been placed in the bay where the statue of St Gerard Magella was. (*Being a saint special to children his statue has been moved to the Baptistry where a new shrine is to be created.*)

The Cardinal is very grateful to us for finding a home for this unique survival of Mgr Benson and his circle.

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

Application forms and sign-up sheets have been available from the Sacristy since Sunday 7th July 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 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.



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 church 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

'Happy the people the Lord has chosen as his own'



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 27/28 July 2019 Loose Coin & Envelopes /June D/ Debit

St Josephs and the English Martyrs:

Collection: Loose- £695.99 Envelopes- £489.36 D/D - £9615.67

Holy Cross

Collection: Loose- £72.66 Envelopes- £10.00 D/D £860

Most Holy Redeemer:

Collection: Loose- £32.90 Envelopes- £59.60 D/D £633.33



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 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.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Look to your covenant, O Lord,
and forget not the life of your poor ones for
ever.
Arise, O God, and defend your cause,
and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

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 ever-living God,
whom, taught by the Holy Spirit,
we dare to call our Father,
bring, we pray, to perfection in our hearts
the spirit of adoption as your sons and
daughters,
that we may merit to enter into the inheritance
which you have promised...
Amen.

FIRST READING

Wisdom 18:6-9

A reading from the book of Wisdom.
That night had been foretold to our
ancestors, so that,
once they saw what kind of oaths they had
put their trust in
they would joyfully take courage.
This was the expectation of your people,
the saving of the virtuous and the ruin of
their enemies;
for by the same act with which you took
vengeance on our foes
you made us glorious by calling us to you.
The devout children of worthy men offered
sacrifice in secret
and this divine pact they struck with one
accord:
that the saints would share the same
blessings and dangers alike;
and forthwith they had begun to chant the
hymns of the fathers.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 32

Response:

Happy are the people the Lord has chosen as
his own.

- 1 Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;
for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.
They are happy, whose God is the Lord,
the people he has chosen as his own. (R.)
- 2 The Lord looks on those who revere him,
on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine. (R.)

- 3 Our soul is waiting for the Lord.
The Lord is our help and our shield.
May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you. (R.)

SECOND READING Hebrews 11:1-28-19

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.
(shorter version)

Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we
hope for, or prove the existence of the realities
that at present remain unseen. It was for faith
that our ancestors were commended.

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call
to set out for a country that was the inheritance
given to him and his descendants, and that
he set out without knowing where he was
going. By faith he arrived, as a foreigner, in
the Promised Land, and lived there as if in a
strange country, with Isaac and Jacob, who
were heirs with him of the same promise. They
lived there in tents while he looked forward to a
city founded, designed and built by God.

It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of
being past the age, was made able to conceive,
because she believed that he who had made
the promise would be faithful to it. Because of
this, there came from one man, and one who
was already as good as dead himself, more
descendants than could be counted, as many as
the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the
seashore.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father,
Lord of heaven and earth,
for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom
to mere children. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 12:32-48

(For shorter form, read between > <)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Luke.

>Jesus said to his disciples: < "There is no need
to be afraid, little flock, for it has pleased your
Father to give you the kingdom.

"Sell your possessions and give alms.
Get yourselves purses that do not wear out,
treasure that will not fail you, in heaven where
no thief can reach it and no moth destroy it. For
where your treasure is, there will your heart be
also.

>"See that you are dressed for action and
have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for
their master to return from the wedding feast,
ready to open the door as soon as he comes
and knocks. Happy those servants whom the
master finds awake when he comes. I tell you
solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them
down at table and wait on them. It may be in
the second watch he comes, or in the third,
but happy those servants if he finds them
ready. You may be quite sure of this, that if
the householder had known at what hour the
burglar would come, he would not have let
anyone break through the wall of his house.
You too must stand ready, because the Son of
Man is coming at an hour you do not expect." <
Peter said, "Lord, do you mean this parable
for us, or for everyone?" The Lord replied,
"What sort of steward, then, is faithful and wise
enough for the master to place him over his
household to give them their allowance of food
at the proper time? Happy that servant if his
master's arrival finds him at this employment. I
tell you truly, he will place him over everything
he owns. But as for the servant who says to

himself, 'My master is taking his time coming,'
and sets about beating the menservants and
the maids, and eating and drinking and getting
drunk, his master will come on a day he does
not expect and at an hour he does not know.
The master will cut him off and send him to the
same fate as the unfaithful.

"The servant who knows what his master
wants, but has not even started to carry out
those wishes, will receive very many strokes
of the lash. The one who did not know, but
deserves to be beaten for what he has done,
will receive fewer strokes. When a man has
had a great deal given him, a great deal will
be demanded of him; when a man has had a
great deal given him on trust, even more will be
expected of 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.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Be pleased, O Lord, to accept the offerings of
your Church,
for in your mercy you have given them to be
offered
and by your power you transform them
into the mystery of our salvation.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord,
who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

May the communion in your Sacrament
that we have consumed, save us, O Lord,
and confirm us in the light of your truth.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday Message

THE WORD

WHERE IS YOUR TREASURE?

(LUKE 12:32-48)

Today's Gospel is quite detailed and contains a number of
instructions from Jesus on wealth, possessions and power.

The parable of the rich fool was last week's reflection and Jesus spoke in the
harshest of terms about people who store wealth and make it their heart's desire.
Likewise today, Jesus asks the disciples where their treasure really is. Do they
see themselves as heirs to the kingdom of God or are they only interested in the
external trappings of office? The genuine servant will always be watchful and
attentive to the master's imminent arrival and when the master arrives, he will put
on an apron and serve the servant. We as readers can see how Jesus is bringing
them into contemplation on the relationship between God and his followers.

We move then into a parable about two servants. One servant takes advantage of
his master's delay in arriving and he becomes like a dictator, ordering his fellow
servants around, bullying them perhaps. But Jesus states unequivocally that he will
be exposed when the master returns unexpectedly. What about the other servant?
Well, he is the perfect example of attentiveness and respect. He's not only faithful
to the task given to him, but he cares for the household with diligence and treats
his fellow servants well. Some scripture scholars think that although this was an
instruction or catechesis directed to the disciples, it was really meant for the leaders
of the Church. Leaders are not placed in authority to feather their own nest and act
like dictators. They must be at the service of the people of God. The final parable
offers an image of another kind of servant. This person has been given a certain
amount of authority and power but he's lazy and never actually gets around to
doing what is required of him. "From everyone who has been given much, much
will be demanded." ■

REFLECT

Fear is the most basic problem in the Bible and the disciples in many ways had
good reason to be fearful, especially of the Jewish authorities, who looked upon
their work as a threat to the order of things in society. Quite often from Jesus,
we hear "Do not be afraid" as a message of consolation to his followers and to us,
the listeners. We're as much part of these Gospel stories as the disciples are. The
Gospel opens with a phrase that is the essence of the spiritual life. "There is no need
to be afraid, little flock, for it has pleased your Father to give you the kingdom."
There are two key elements of reflection here. Firstly, God, the source of all things,
our creator, is telling us not to be afraid. There is little doubt that as the people of
God who come before the Gospel Sunday after Sunday, we carry personal fears and
anxieties within us. We may or may not express these in our conversations with
God, but the fears are there. Why is God telling us not to be afraid of these things?
Because secondly, God wants to give us life. God wants us to know that God's love
comes first and everything else flows from that. This is what the Church calls "God's
grace". We don't really have to do anything to receive this love. There is no charge
or payment or duty to be performed. The love of God is freely given. The fear we
might be feeling is placed into the hands of God and in return we receive love,
understanding and peace of mind. Jesus is persistent in his message to the disciples
on God's grace. ■

SAY

O Lord, you have given
me all that I am and all I
possess. I place them all into
your hands; help me to use
them for your greater glory.

LEARN

We have been promised a share in the
kingdom of God.

It is a treasure that nothing can destroy.

We are entrusted with earthly wealth to use
for the greater glory of God.

DO

During this week, think about how you use
the wealth and the talents God has given
you. Is God calling you to use them better?

