



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 25th August 2019 - 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9am Mass - Becky Jones RIP

11am Mass - Margaret Sharkey RIP

12.30pm Baptism - Robert Anthony Carruth

6pm Mass - Eileen Eoh RIP

Most Holy Redeemer (Sayesbury Road, Sawbridgeworth)
 NO MASS

Holy Cross (at St Andrew's, Church Lane, Much Hadham):
 NO MASS

Monday 26th August - Blessed Dominic of the Mother of God,
 Priest

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9.30am Mass - Josie Ibbottson RIP

Tuesday 27th August - St Monica

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9.30am Mass - Anne O'Neill RIP

Wednesday 28th August - St Augustine, Bishop & Doctor
 St Joseph and the English Martyrs:
 NO MASS

Thursday 29th August - The Passion of St John the Baptist
 St Joseph and the English Martyrs:
 NO MASS

Friday 30th August - St Margaret Clitherow, Anne Line &
 Margaret Ward, Martyrs
 St Joseph and the English Martyrs:
 NO MASS

Saturday 31st August - St Aidan, Bishop & the Saints of
 Lindisfarne

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

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

6pm Mass - Puz Morris RIP

Sunday 1st September 2019 - 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9am Mass - Bridie Lynch RIP

12.30pm Baptism - Dylan, Harvey & Imogen Rees

11am Mass - Thomas O'Neill RIP

6pm Mass - In gratitude & loving memory of
 Nicholas & Elizabeth May Hubber RIP

Most Holy Redeemer (Sayesbury Road, Sawbridgeworth)
 NO MASS

Holy Cross (at St Andrew's, Church Lane, Much Hadham):
 NO MASS

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 of £1,333 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 for further information.

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

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

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



ADVANCED NOTICE OF OFFICE CLOSURE - Debbie will be away from 2/9 - 13/9 inclusive and will deal with all enquiries immediately upon her return. The answerphone will be checked daily by Fr Peter

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 number with any donation. Thank you very much.

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.

DEFIBRILLATOR UPDATE - Thank you VERY much indeed to everyone who kindly contributed towards the cost of the defibrillator. We now have our cabinet installed complete with the required electrics and are awaiting delivery of the defibrillator itself from the British Heart foundation. We will be supplied with a training device and DVD and hope to run regular sessions in the WCC and train as many people as possible in CPR & how to use it should the situation ever arise. In the meantime please see the info on our web site. REFRESHMENTS AFTER MASS - will start back in the WCC on Sunday 8th September 2019. Thank you to our wonderful team of volunteers who generously organise the rota, buy supplies, make tea, clear up and kindly give their time and friendship to others in our parish.

ENCOUNTER- New programme of meetings for Sept 2019 - May 2020 is now available at the back of church. All welcome either to attend on a regular basis or to drop in to one or two meetings. For more information on the programme or enquiries contact: 01279 652060

YOUNG SEEKERS MEETINGS-The Vocations Promotion Team has begun a new group called Young Seekers. Led by Fr Mike Maguire, the Assistant Vocations Promoter, this group aims to attract men in their late teens and early twenties to meet regularly and share their hopes and maybe their uncertainties about the call of the Lord. The next meeting is on Thursday 26th September from 6.45pm - 8.30pm. The topic for the evening is 'Formation for priesthood and the expectations offered in the new Ratio Fundamentalis'. Each session to end with night prayer, followed by a pub visit. For details, contact Fr Mike Maguire at vocations@rcdow.org.uk

BIDDING PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEKEND

Jesus comes among us, inviting us to enter into an ever deeper relationship. Aware of our inadequacies, we rely on God our loving Father to help us in all our striving:

- We pray for Pope Francis and all the leaders of our Church: that they will continue to effectively communicate the values of the kingdom to the diverse peoples of the world.

- We pray for all Christians striving to put their love into action: that by helping those in need, our service will help to build God's kingdom.

- We pray for our country as our politicians negotiate Brexit: that they are continually aware of the needs of the most vulnerable in society and work for the good of all.

- We pray for ourselves as we strive to enter the kingdom through the narrow door: that we will be encouraged by the knowledge that we are loved beyond measure and be open to God's grace working in us.

Let us pray for all the faithful departed; that they may rest in peace and rise in glory. We remember more recently Hugh Collins, Patricia Butterly Charlotte Gray, Sylwester Aleksandrowicz, Maura Newman & David Townsend

and those whose anniversaries occur at about this time including Margaret Sharkey, Eileen Eoh, Josie Ibbottson, Leonard Courtney, Brigid Corby, Barbara Gaughan, Leslie Morris & Marion Leith

Let us pray for all those in our parish who are currently sick or in hospital, for our housebound, elderly and frail and for those who care for them

Loving Father, we ask you to hear our prayers and grant them through the Holy Spirit in the name of Jesus your Son. Amen



Lord, thank you for the unique gifts of every child as they prepare for a new school year. Fill each student with fresh enthusiasm and a heart that is excited to learn and grow. Bless their teachers with wisdom and understanding. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen



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

Thank you

Collections 17/18 Aug 2019 Loose Coin & Envelopes /July D/ Debit

St Josephs and the English Martyrs:

Collection: Loose- £580.12 Envelopes- £617.50 D/D - £7,534.84

Holy Cross

NO COLLECTION D/D £1,210.00

Most Holy Redeemer:

NO COLLECTION D/D £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 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

THE WORD

Year C • Psalter Week 1

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me;
save the servant who trusts in you, my God.
Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all
the day long.

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, who cause the minds of the faithful
to unite in a single purpose,
grant your people to love what you command
and to desire what you promise,
that, amid the uncertainties of this world,
our hearts may be fixed on that place
where true gladness is found.
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 Isaiah 66:18-21

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The Lord says this: I am coming to gather the
nations of every language. They shall come to
witness my glory. I will give them a sign and
send some of their survivors to the nations:
to Tarshish, Put, Lud, Moshech, Rosh, Tubal,
and Javan, to the distant islands that have
never heard of me or seen my glory. They
will proclaim my glory to the nations. As an
offering to the Lord they will bring all your
brothers, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on
mules, on dromedaries, from all the nations
to my holy mountain in Jerusalem, says the
Lord, like Israelites bringing oblations in clean
vessels to the Temple of the Lord. And of
some of them I will make priests and Levites,
says the Lord.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 116

Response:

Go out to the whole world;
proclaim the Good News.
or
Alleluia!

1 O praise the Lord, all you nations,
acclaim him all you peoples! (R.)

2 Strong is his love for us;
he is faithful for ever. (R.)

SECOND READING Hebrews 12:5-11-13

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Have you forgotten that encouraging text in
which you are addressed as sons? My son,
when the Lord corrects you, do not treat it
lightly; but do not get discouraged when he
reprimands you. For the Lord trains the ones
that he loves and he punishes all those that
he acknowledges as his sons. Suffering is
part of your training; God is treating you as
his sons. Has there ever been any son whose
father did not train him? Of course, any
punishment is most painful at the time, and
far from pleasant; but later, in those on whom
it has been used, it bears fruit in peace and
goodness. So hold up your limp arms and
steady your trembling knees and smooth out
the path you tread; then the injured limb will
not be wrenched, it will grow strong again.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

GOSPEL Luke 13:22-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Luke.

Through towns and villages Jesus went
teaching, making his way to Jerusalem.
Someone said to him, "Sir, will there be only
a few saved?" He said to them, "Try your
best to enter by the narrow door, because, I
tell you, many will try to enter and will not
succeed.

"Once the master of the house has got up
and locked the door, you may find yourself
knocking on the door, saying, 'Lord, open to
us' but he will answer, 'I do not know where
you come from.' Then you will find yourself
saying, 'We once ate and drank in your
company; you taught in our streets' but he
will reply, 'I do not know where you come
from. Away from me, all you wicked men!'

"Then there will be weeping and grinding
of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac
and Jacob and all the prophets in the
kingdom of God, and yourselves turned
outside. And men from east and west, from
north and south, will come to take their
places at the feast in the kingdom of God.

"Yes, there are those now last who will be
first, and those now first who will be last."

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

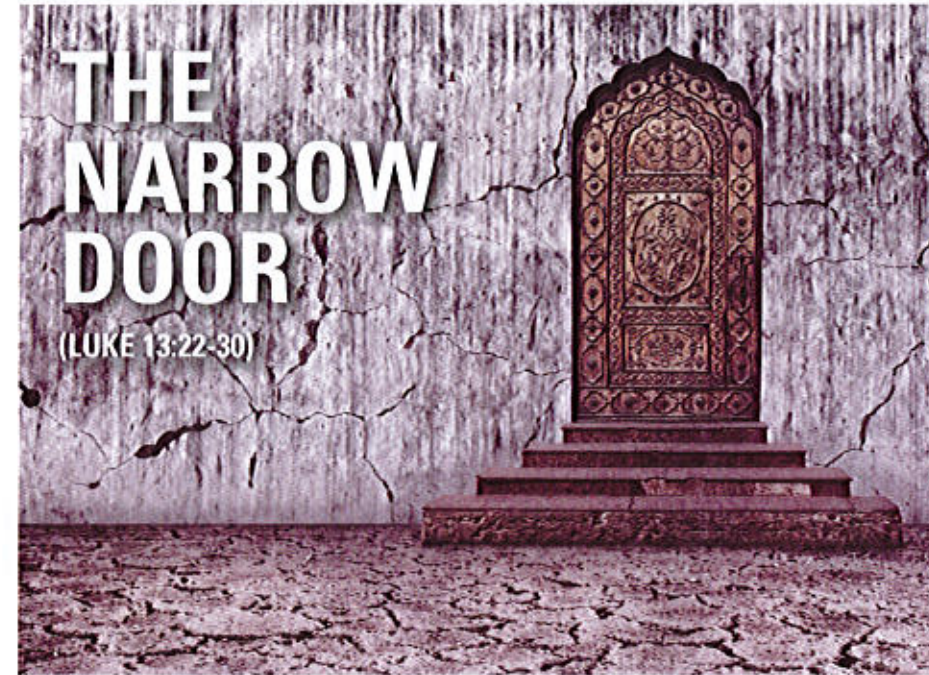
O Lord, who gained for yourself a people by
adoption
through the one sacrifice offered once for all,
bestow graciously on us, we pray,
the gifts of unity and peace in your Church.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The earth is replete with the fruits of your
work, O Lord;
you bring forth bread from the earth
and wine to cheer the heart.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Complete within us, O Lord, we pray,
the healing work of your mercy
and graciously perfect and sustain us,
so that in all things we may please you.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.



From a cultural point of view, this was one of the burning questions
of Jesus' time: "Will only a few be saved?" The Jews debated it quite
often, and on a dusty road to Jerusalem, Jesus is asked the question by
a member of the public.

As is usual with Jesus, he doesn't answer the question directly and instead uses this
image of the narrow door. Some will try to enter heaven using the door and they will
succeed and others will fail and be left standing outside. Another image is given of a man
in a house who gets up at night to lock his door. Despite the pleading from the people
outside the house, he does not let them in. They will continue to bang on the door and
plead with him saying, "We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our
streets", but the owner will reply, "I don't know where you come from."

So the people will be left standing outside the door while the feast at the heavenly table
takes place. They will see all of the Jewish ancestors, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and all
the prophets, dining in the kingdom of God. Then, to further rub salt into their wounds, the
door will be opened even wider and foreigners from the four corners of the world will be
allowed in, whilst all this time, they will be left waiting outside.

At this point of the Gospel, the initial question is finally being addressed: "Will only a few
be saved?" The answer, of course, is that the feast is open to everyone but those who
think they are entitled to be there may find no place for them. ■

SAY

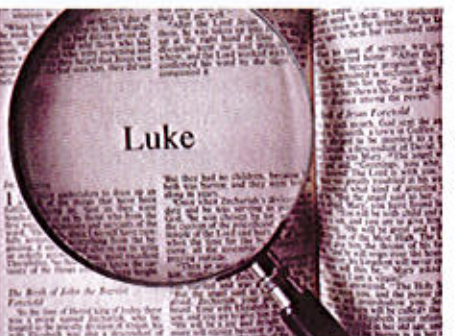
Lord, thank you for the
unique gifts of every
child as they prepare for
a new school year. Fill
each student with fresh
enthusiasm and a heart
that is excited to learn
and grow. Bless their
teachers with wisdom and
understanding. We ask this
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

LEARN

"It is not that we keep his commandments
first and then he loves but that he loves and
then we keep his commandments. This is
grace revealed to the humble and hidden
from the crowd." (St Augustine)

DO

Take a moment to read today's Gospel
alongside the first reading from Isaiah. The
call to be part of God's holy people includes
everyone. Reflect and pray about this theme
throughout the week ahead.



REFLECT

There are times that the daily
sermons of Pope Francis pass us
by. But one of the tasks that I would
encourage people to undertake is to
actively research his short homilies from
his chapel in the Vatican residence at the
Domus Sanctae Marthae. On 7 November
2017, Pope Francis reflected on salvation
and had this to say:

"If the gratuitousness of God's invitation
isn't understood, nothing is understood.
God's initiative is always free. But what
must you pay to go to this banquet? The
entry ticket is to be sick, to be poor, to be
a sinner. These things allow you to enter,
this is the entry ticket: to be needy in both
body and soul. It's for those in need of
care, healing, in need of love."

In reflecting on this short sermon, we
can perhaps come to an appreciation of
what is happening at the end of Luke's
Gospel today. They gather from the four
corners of the world to enter the heavenly
banquet and they are greeted with love
and care. The door to heaven is indeed
narrow but God's initiative to invite and to
love is always free. ■