



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: bishopstortford@rcdow.org.uk • Website: <http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/bishopstortford>
 Live streaming from St Joseph's: www.churchservices.tv/bishopstortford
 Diocese of Westminster Charity No. 233699

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

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9am Mass - Bridie Lynch RIP

11am Mass - Thomas O' Neill RIP

12.30pm Baptism - Dylan, Harvey & Imogen Rees

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

Monday 2nd September - feria

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

NO MASS

Tuesday 3rd September - St Gregory the Great, Pope & Doctor

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9.30am Mass - Patricia Butterly RIP

Wednesday 4th September - St Cuthbert, Bishop

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

NO MASS

Thursday 5th September - feria

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9.30am Mass - Thanksgiving - Doreen Frost

Friday 6th September - feria

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9.30am Mass - Hugh Collins RIP

Saturday 7th September - Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

5pm-5.45pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament &

Sacrament of Reconciliation

6pm Mass - The Collins Family Intention

Sunday 8th September 2019 - 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9am Mass - Special intention - Georgina

11am Mass - Leo Brady RIP

6pm Mass - Marjorie Jessop 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

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

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.

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

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE - The next course with Fr Carlos will be on Thursday 19 September at 7.30pm in the WCC

CONFIRMATION MEETING REMINDER - The Confirmation course for the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2020 will now begin with a first meeting for Candidates, with their parents, on **Sunday 8th September in the Parish Centre after the 6pm Mass.** Meetings for the Candidates alone will then begin on the **first Sunday of Advent, December 1st in the Parish Centre at 4.30pm followed by the 6pm Mass**

LAY CHAPLAIN VACANCY - at St Elizabeth's. Closing Date: 18th Sept 2019. See www.stelizabeths.org.uk or 01279 844524 for more info.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED - Grove Cottage are looking for someone to help with DIY, gardening and general maintenance jobs. If you have 3-4 hours a month to spare Please contact Monica Baker volunteer@mencapgrovecottage.org or call 01279 656085. All volunteer placements are subject to satisfactory references and a DBS check

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 how to use it along with CPR should the situation ever arise. In the meantime please take some time to look at the video and lifesaving info on our web site

REFRESHMENTS AFTER MASS - will start back in the WCC next 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 & on the parish website. 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 The next **Encounter** meeting is Fri 20th Sept in the WCC. 'Pope Francis; A man of his word' A DVD (90 mins) directed by Wim Wenders; followed by group discussion. 10am coffee; 10.20 am meeting opens; 12.30pm shared lunch (please bring lunch to share); 2pm meeting ends. Enquiries: 01279 652060

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 for urgent matters by Fr Peter.

BISHOP'S STORTFORD ACROSS PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2019 - LAST PLACES AVAILABLE!

Fr Carlos and I are very much looking forward to our parish pilgrimage to Lourdes with Across at the end of September (26 Sept-5 Oct), though we do still have a couple of places available for both VIPs and helpers.

If you are aware of anyone in the parish who is sick, disabled, in care or terminally ill and would like the opportunity to travel with us as a parish, please contact me directly on 07739 789169 or johncharles.wright70@gmail.com

Prayers for our trip, helpers and VIPs would be much appreciated!
 Many thanks, John Wright

BIDDING PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEKEND

Heavenly Father, your Son Jesus told us to welcome others into our lives and to care for them without searching for a reward. The important people in our lives are really those whom society overlooks as it focuses instead on a meaningless celebrity culture. We bring before you the "little ones", asking you to bless those who are most in need of your love.

Let us pray for Pope Francis and all religious leaders, that they might inspire generosity and compassion for those who are most in need of understanding and support.

Let us pray that all peoples might cherish and protect the fragile beauty of our beautiful and sometimes broken world. May there be an end to the corporate greed which so often threatens our vital natural resources.

Let us pray for everybody involved in the Brexit process, that the decisions which are made will bring about the greatest good for the greatest number of people.

Let us pray for parents, students and teachers who are looking towards the start of the new academic year, that the months ahead will be a time of joyful discovery and cooperation for all.

Heavenly Father, watch over, protect and bless all of us who make our prayers to you through Jesus your Son and your Holy Spirit, who live and reign with you for ever in your kingdom of love. Amen



Parish Administrator - Debbie Jackson

Parish Office: 01279 654063 (9am-3pm Mon - Fri)

Parish Centre Bookings and All Enquiries:

bishopstortford@rcdow.org.uk

Safeguarding enquiries only

bishopstortfordsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk



Collections 24/25 Aug 2019 Loose Coin & Envelopes / July D/ Debit

St Josephs and the English Martyrs:

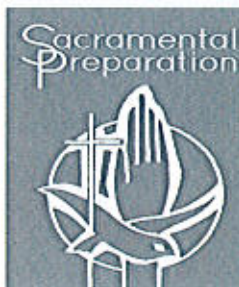
Collection: Loose- £551.00 Envelopes- £453.40D/D - £7,534.84

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- 4th September

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

1 SEPTEMBER 2019

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Year C • Psalter Week 2

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.
O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to 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

God of might, giver of every good gift,
put into our hearts the love of your name,
so that, by deepening our sense of reverence,
you may nurture in us what is good
and, by your watchful care,
keep safe what you have nurtured.
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 Ecclesiasticus 3:17-20, 28-29

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus.
My son, be gentle in carrying out your business,
and you will be better loved than a lavish giver.
The greater you are, the more you should behave humbly,
and then you will find favour with the Lord;
for great though the power of the Lord is,
he accepts the homage of the humble.
There is no cure for the proud man's malady,
since an evil growth has taken root in him.
The heart of a sensible man will reflect on parables,
an attentive ear is the sage's dream.
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 67

Response:
In your goodness, O God,
you prepared a home for the poor.

- 1 The just shall rejoice at the presence of God,
they shall exult and dance for joy.
O sing to the Lord, make music to his name;
rejoice in the Lord, exult at his presence.
(R.)

- 2 Father of the orphan, defender of the widow,
such is God in his holy place.
God gives the lonely a home to live in;
he leads the prisoners forth into freedom.
(R.)

- 3 You poured down, O God, a generous rain:
when your people were starved you gave them new life.
It was there that your people found a home,
prepared in your goodness, O God, for the poor. (R.)

SECOND READING Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.
What you have come to is nothing known to the senses: not a blazing fire, or a gloom turning to total darkness, or a storm; or trumpeting thunder or the great voice speaking which made everyone that heard it beg that no more should be said to them. But what you have come to is Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem where the millions of angels have gathered for the festival, with the whole Church in which everyone is a "first-born son" and a citizen of heaven. You have come to God himself, the supreme Judge, and been placed with the spirits of the saints who have been made perfect; and to Jesus, the mediator who brings a new covenant.

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 14:1, 7-14

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.
On a Sabbath day Jesus had gone for a meal to the house of one of the leading Pharisees; and they watched him closely. He then told the guests a parable, because he had noticed how they picked the places of honour. He said this, "When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take your seat in the place of honour. A more distinguished person than you may have been invited, and the person who invited you both may come and say, 'Give up your place to this man.' And then, to your embarrassment, you would have to go and take the lower place. No; when you are a guest, make your way to the lowest place and sit there, so that, when your host comes, he may say, 'My friend, move up higher.' In that way, everyone with you at the table will see you honoured. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted." Then he said to his host, "When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, brothers, relations or rich neighbours, for fear they repay your courtesy by inviting you in return. No; when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; that they cannot pay you back means that

you are fortunate, because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again."
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.

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PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May this sacred offering, O Lord,
confer on us always the blessing of salvation,
that what it celebrates in mystery
it may accomplish in power.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

How great is the goodness, Lord,
that you keep for those who fear you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Renewed by this bread from the heavenly table,
we beseech you, Lord,
that, being the food of charity,
it may confirm our hearts
and stir us to serve you in our neighbour.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE WORD

**YOU'RE IN
THE WRONG
SEAT!**
(LUKE 14:1. 7-14)

In the opening line of our Gospel reading today, there are three warnings that the atmosphere of the occasion is hostile: first, it takes place on a sabbath day; second, Jesus has gone for a meal to the house of one of the leading Pharisees; third, the people there were watching him closely.

However, there must have been an attitude of mutual respect between Jesus and his Pharisee host, since, according to the understanding of table-fellowship, that is, sharing a meal, a person could not eat with someone with whom they had a quarrel. Jesus, though, is just as eagle-eyed as the others, and uses their behaviour to present his teaching.

Throughout Luke's Gospel, there is a radical theme that God's kingdom involves the normal order of human values and judgements being turned on their head. The truly important people in God's eyes are those who are left out of the feast, those who are pushed to the margins of civic and religious society. The first lesson Jesus gives is that God will humble those who think themselves better than others, and that God will give those who are excluded a place of honour.

Jesus also challenges his hearers to move out of their comfort-zone. The practice of his day was to invite people to dinner and then they were expected to repay your hospitality with a similar invitation. Giving without looking for anything in return should be the mark of the person who is putting the true teaching of the Law (and so of the Gospel) into practice. ■

REFLECT

In Luke's Gospel, there is a sense that Jesus does not care much for the distinctions we human beings tend to make among ourselves. Titles and order of precedence are of little interest to him. While a person's function within the community may seem to be apparently more important, and certainly more obviously prominent, that does not put the individual above anyone else. People used to talk about those of a higher social

class as their betters. Maybe we do not speak like that any more, but the idea that people should know their place, whether in civic society or in the Church, has not disappeared. A sense of being entitled to a place of honour can be a great temptation. To move out of our comfort zone is always a challenge; but that is what Jesus is inviting us to do. He tells his host, the Pharisee, that he would do much better by caring for the people whom society pushes out of sight. People

SAY

The Lord hears the cry of the poor (Psalm 34)

LEARN

The sabbath is usually the setting for a hostile confrontation between Jesus and the religious authorities, represented by the scribes and Pharisees.

The expression "will be humbled" means "God will humble".

"Watched him closely" suggests that the persons concerned are ill-disposed towards Jesus.

DO

What is your parish doing to help those in need in your local area? What can you do to help?

today who are the equivalent of the poor, the crippled, the blind, the lame are the likes of those suffering from addiction, runaway teenagers, single mothers driven to use foodbanks: they are the poor today of whom the Bible speaks, and they are the focus of God's special care, simply because they are in need. If there is a reward, perhaps it should be in the feeling that we are doing the right thing. ■