



# 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](mailto:bishopsstortford@rcdow.org.uk) • Website: <http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/bishopsstortford>  
 Live streaming from St Joseph's: [www.churchservices.tv/bishopsstortford](http://www.churchservices.tv/bishopsstortford)  
 Diocese of Westminster Charity No. 233699

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2019 - 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*St Joseph and the English Martyrs:*

9am Mass - World Mission Day

11am Mass - Ray Asser RIP

12.30pm Baptism - Noah Oliver Tingey

6pm Mass - People of the Parish

**Most Holy Redeemer (Sayesbury Road, Sawbridgeworth)**

9am Mass - Marie Murphy RIP

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

11.15am Mass - Fr Paddy Murtagh RIP

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October - feria**

*St Joseph and the English Martyrs:*

9.30am Mass - Donald Paul Clark RIP

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October - St John Paul II, Pope**

*St Joseph and the English Martyrs:*

10am Requiem Mass - Jeannette Mills RIP

**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October - St John of Capistrano, Priest**

*St Joseph and the English Martyrs:*

9.30am Mass - Richard & Connie Morris Intention

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October - St Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop**

*St Joseph and the English Martyrs:*

**NO MASS**

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October - feria**

*St Joseph and the English Martyrs:*

9.30am - Benefactors of the Secular Clergy Common Fund

**Most Holy Redeemer (Sayesbury Road, Sawbridgeworth)**

12pm Funeral service - Stephanie Maria Bruton RIP

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October - St Chad and St Cedd, Bishops**

*St Joseph and the English Martyrs:*

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

6pm Mass - Robert Charles Scott RIP

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2019 - 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*St Joseph and the English Martyrs:*

9am Mass - James Strang RIP

11am Mass - Michael Hanley RIP

12.30pm Baptism - Freddie and Oliver Redding

6pm Mass - Nora's Mum RIP

**Most Holy Redeemer (Sayesbury Road, Sawbridgeworth)**

9am Mass - Catherine Foley RIP

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

11.15am Mass - People of the Parish

**WORLD MISSION DAY** is this weekend when every Catholic parish prays for the global mission of the Church and every parish contributes to the Pope's fund for world mission - known in England and Wales as **Missio**. Even the poorest community gives what it can and then each receives according to its needs. There will therefore be a second collection after Mass. Please give generously. If you collected a Gift Aid envelope last week, this can be placed in the basket. Thank you very much.

**GLOBAL HEALING** - on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> Oct, 3.30-5.00pm at Church of Sacred Heart & St Joseph, Ware, a DVD presentation and discussion on Pope Francis' call for Catholics to be more aware of how we care for Creation with the Justice and Peace Group. All welcome

**ANNUAL MASS FOR BEREAVED PARENTS** - The annual Mass for Bereaved Parents will be held on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October, 2.30pm at St Aloysius Church, Somers Town, 20 Phoenix Road, London, NW1 1TA celebrated by Bishop Paul McAleenan.

**THE MHR ANNUAL LUNCH** will be on Sunday 24 November from 1.15pm in the Sawbridgeworth Cricket Club pavilion. All are welcome. This is a great way to meet everyone in the Church in an informal setting. Please see notice at the back of MHR for more details and to sign up.

**HYMN BOOKS & BRICKS** - St Joseph's Parishioners Sophie and Mike Sullivan along with their Children emigrated to Zimbabwe in 2016 but will be coming back to the UK for a visit this month. They hope to come to Mass and catch up with everyone on **Sun 10<sup>th</sup> Nov, Sun 24<sup>th</sup> Nov, Sun 1<sup>st</sup> Dec, Sun 29<sup>th</sup> Dec**. Life in Zimbabwe is very different from that in Bishop's Stortford and there are many hardships. Mike and Sophie are trying to raise money for improvements to 'Petra School' in Bulawayo which includes the building of a changing room for the children (35,000 bricks required + labour costs) and also have a goal to provide at least 100 new Hymn books ( £12 each) for their local Catholic Church 'Christ the King'. If you would like to help to 'buy a brick' or a 'Hymn book' it would be very much appreciated. Any donations can be given into the Parish Office, Number 3 Windhill or directly to Sophie & Mike. It would be wonderful for them to be able to go back to Zimbabwe with the funds to make a real difference for something that we all take for granted. Thank you very much

**RCIA** - The next session on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2019 at 8pm in the WCC will discuss the following, The Kerygma: Creation, the Fall, and the History of Salvation

**PARISH AGM** - will be on Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm in WCC

**FREE CPR & DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING** - Thank you to everyone who has participated in our CPR and Defibrillator awareness training sessions so far. The next 2 sessions will be on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October at 9.30am ( No Mass on this day) and also 4pm in the WCC and will last approx. 1 ½ hours.. There will be 10 places available on each session. If interested please sign your name on the sheet in the Sacristy. More dates will follow..

**PENNY COLLECTION** - The winter night shelter at Holy Trinity opens its doors again on 27<sup>th</sup> November for its fifth year. It provides 12 beds for the homeless but needs to raise funds to provide more. Please help by putting your pennies and pounds in the labelled jar at the back of the Church at weekend Masses. Our total for this year currently stands at £535.30

**MHR100 CLUB** subscriptions are now due for the Nov-19 to Oct-20 year. Please see poster at back of MHR for more details. Open to all parishioners (not just MHR!) therefore please contact the Parish Office if you are not at MHR and would like to join. £12 per number per year (you can have as many numbers as you want!!) with monthly prizes of £30 and £15, and bonus prizes at Christmas & Easter.

**TALKS SERIES - How to defend your faith without raising your voice**. Most of us have been challenged at some point to speak about or defend our faith. This could have been whilst in the pub, on a chat with our friends or even with other people who go to church. At times, it can be difficult to find the correct words or courage to speak out. To help, a series of free talks take place over five Wednesdays during Advent 20-Nov to 18-Dec at 7pm at St Theresa's in Stansted. To register & Info visit: <https://www.sttheresastansted.org/events>  
**THE HOSPICE SHOP** in Bridge Street, Bishop's Stortford is hoping to recruit some more volunteers. If you have some spare time during the week or weekend and would like to see what is involved, please contact Louise Vigus or Jill Vaill the shop managers on 01279 659551 or drop in at any time and pay us a visit. You will find us very welcoming

**THANK YOU VERY MUCH** to those of you who kindly and selflessly give your time and talents each week to make a real difference in our parish and regularly contribute, from those of you who sing, play music, serve at Mass, Minister, read, clean, make tea, befriend others, visit those who are sick, arrange flowers, count money, work on committees, organise rotas, arrange events, support and teach others, run repositories, host groups, volunteer and much more! Your service is greatly appreciated and valued. Thank you.

**PEACE VIGIL HOLY CROSS at ST ANDREWS** - Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October at 4pm.

Everyone in the Parish is encouraged and welcome to attend.

*'The Rosary seems so simple and easy, but you know God chooses the small things of the world to humble the great'*

From the writings of St John Henry Newman

**ALL SAINTS and ALL SOULS Days**

Nov 1<sup>st</sup> is **ALL SAINTS DAY** and is a **Holy Day of Obligation** - Masses will be at St Joseph's at 9.30am and 7.30pm.

**ALL SOULS** is Nov 2<sup>nd</sup> and is not a Holy Day but tradition usually calls for a Mass and the Blessing of Graves.

On **ALL SOULS** there will be a Mass at St Joseph's at 10am followed by the Blessing of Graves in Bishops Stortford Cemetery. Graves in Sawbridgeworth Cemetery will be blessed that day at 1pm. Graves in the Cemetery at Much Hadham (by St Thomas, Perry Green) will be blessed after the 11.15 Sunday Mass at Holy Cross on Nov 3<sup>rd</sup>. If you wish a grave to be blessed please make sure you are at the particular Cemetery at the times noted above.

**MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS** - Envelopes are available at the back of our Churches for those relatives you wish to be added to the November List of the Dead.

**ADVANCED DIARY NOTICE** - Advent talk at St Andrew's and Holy Cross on Saturday 30 November at 12pm. The speaker will be Sister Gemma Simmonds CJ. who is director of the Religious life Institute at the Margaret Beaufort Institute of Theology in Cambridge. In addition to being a part of the University chaplaincy team she is also a well-known writer, broadcaster, Prison visitor, retreat giver and spiritual director.

**POLITE REMINDER TO WCC USERS** - Please ensure that if you have used the facilities in the WCC that they are left clean and tidy for others to enjoy. Unfortunately In the past few weeks the water boiler and projector have again been left on all night wasting energy and money, the floor has sometimes not been swept or mopped and a sink full of dirty cups has just been left. Used dirty Tea towels also need to be removed, washed and returned please. Thanks.  
**NO REFRESHMENTS** - Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October - Apologies, but due to a large private booking in the WCC from 9am - 4pm, there will be no refreshments served in the WCC next weekend

**HARMONAIRES CONCERT** - Sat 9<sup>th</sup> November 7pm United Reformed Church BS in support of the Catenian Bursary fund. Tickets £12 & £6 [www.theharmonaireschoir.com](http://www.theharmonaireschoir.com)  
 See poster in St Joseph's porch or web site for more info..



Parish Administrator: Debbie Jackson

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

Parish Centre Bookings and All Enquiries::

[bishopsstortford@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:bishopsstortford@rcdow.org.uk)

Safeguarding enquiries only:

[bishopsstortfordsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:bishopsstortfordsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)



Collections 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> Oct 2019 Loose Coin & Envelopes Sept D/D

*St Joseph and the English Martyrs:*

Collection: Loose- £ 784.20 Envelopes- £548.39 D/D £7,539.84

*Holy Cross*

Collection: Loose- £ 20.32 Envelopes-£0 D/D £900

*Most Holy Redeemer:*

Collection: Loose- £ 94.50 Envelopes-£ 21 D/D £783.33



**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

**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

To you I call; for you will surely heed me,  
O God;  
turn your ear to me; hear my words.  
Guard me as the apple of your eye;  
in the shadow of your wings protect me.

### 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,  
grant that we may always conform our will  
to yours  
and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart.  
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

Exodus 17:8-13

A reading from the book of Exodus.

The Amalekites came and attacked Israel at Rephidim. Moses said to Joshua, "Pick out men for yourself, and tomorrow morning march out to engage Amalek. I, meanwhile, will stand on the hilltop, the staff of God in my hand." Joshua did as Moses told him and marched out to engage Amalek, while Moses and Aaron and Hur went up to the top of the hill. As long as Moses kept his arms raised, Israel had the advantage; when he let his arms fall, the advantage went to Amalek. But Moses' arms grew heavy, so they took a stone and put it under him and on this he sat, Aaron and Hur supporting his arms, one on one side, one on the other; and his arms remained firm till sunset. With the edge of the sword Joshua cut down Amalek and his people.

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

### PSALM

Psalm 120

Response:

Our help is in the name of the Lord  
who made heaven and earth.

1 I lift up my eyes to the mountains:  
from where shall come my help?  
My help shall come from the Lord  
who made heaven and earth. (R.)

- 2 May he never allow you to stumble!  
Let him sleep not, your guard.  
No, he sleeps not nor slumbers,  
Israel's guard. (R.)
- 3 The Lord is your guard and your shade;  
at your right hand he stands.  
By day the sun shall not smite you  
nor the moon in the night. (R.)
- 4 The Lord will guard you from evil,  
he will guard your soul.  
The Lord will guard your going and  
coming  
both now and for ever. (R.)

### SECOND READING

2 Timothy 3:14-4:2

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy.

You must keep to what you have been taught and know to be true; remember who your teachers were, and how, ever since you were a child, you have known the holy scriptures – from these you can learn the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and can profitably be used for teaching, for refuting error, for guiding people's lives and teaching them to be holy. This is how the man who is dedicated to God becomes fully equipped and ready for any good work.

Before God and before Christ Jesus who is to be judge of the living and the dead, I put this duty to you, in the name of his Appearing and of his kingdom: proclaim the message and, welcome or unwelcome, insist on it. Refute falsehood, correct error, call to obedience – but do all with patience and with the intention of teaching.

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ  
enlighten the eyes of our mind,  
so that we can see what hope his call holds  
for us.  
Alleluia!

### GOSPEL

Luke 18:1-8

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Jesus told his disciples a parable about the need to pray continually and never lose heart. "There was a judge in a certain town" he said "who had neither fear of God nor respect for man. In the same town there was a widow who kept on coming to him and saying, 'I want justice from you against my enemy!' For a long time he refused, but at last he said to himself, 'Maybe I have neither fear of God nor respect for man, but since she keeps pestering me I must give this widow her just rights, or she will persist in coming and worry me to death.'"

And the Lord said, "You notice what the unjust judge has to say? Now will not God see justice done to his chosen who cry to him day and night even when he delays to help them? I promise you, he will see justice done to them, and done speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find any faith on earth?"

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

Grant us, Lord, we pray,  
a sincere respect for your gifts,  
that, through the purifying action of your  
grace,  
we may be cleansed by the very mysteries we  
serve.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Behold, the eyes of the Lord  
are on those who fear him,  
who hope in his merciful love,  
to rescue their souls from death,  
to keep them alive in famine.

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant, O Lord, we pray,  
that, benefiting from participation in heavenly  
things,  
we may be helped by what you give in this  
present age  
and prepared for the gifts that are eternal.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.



## THE DETERMINED WIDOW (LUKE 18:1-8)

"Justice delayed is justice denied", so the saying goes. Widows were people with whom the Hebrew scriptures were very concerned, as they represented a group which was particularly vulnerable in the society of the time: there are many texts which emphasise the care and concern which should be extended to them.

Jesus uses the figure of the widow who is so determined to secure her rights that she makes the life of the procrastinating magistrate so stressful that he ends up fearing a physical assault. Whatever his reason for failing in his duty, the woman's persistence forces him to act – eventually.

Luke has a theme about prayer running through his Gospel. He shows Jesus at prayer at significant points in his ministry, especially in Gethsemane on the eve of his passion. Today, Jesus is reassuring his disciples that God will indeed answer their prayers, even if God seems to be taking a long time to do so. The widow could have become discouraged and given up her quest: she is the example the disciples should follow. ■

## REFLECT

Every so often, we are asked to pray for vocations. In particular, the object of our prayers of petition is an increase in candidates applying to join the priesthood and the religious life of monks and nuns, and of priests, brothers and sisters in active congregations. Sometimes people attribute the falling numbers, at least in the West and northern Europe to insufficient prayer: If we just pray harder, our prayers will be answered!

In regard to the priesthood, perhaps our prayers are being answered. Maybe

the reason for the dearth of vocations is not a lack of generosity on the part of individuals who receive "the call" and selfishly refuse to answer it: could it be that the Holy Spirit is saying that the type of priesthood we have known up to now is no longer appropriate? Could it be that the present crisis in the diminishing number of the clergy is the Spirit's way of telling us that we need to find new forms of priesthood? One religious sister remarked that when she read the Vatican Council's document on the "universal call to holiness", she said that the bishops at the council had just written the death warrant

## SAY

Your will, Lord, not  
mine, be done!  
(see Luke 22:42)

## LEARN

Vulnerable groups such as widows, orphans, poor people and strangers were of particular concern to the prophets of the Hebrew scriptures.

A widow with no sons to provide for her and to protect her was in a particularly desperate situation.

The form the priesthood should take is a matter for the Church to decide: it is not something directly revealed by God.

## DO

Organise or join a group to discuss what a renewed priesthood for today would look like. What lifestyle might be appropriate for a priest in our day and age?



of religious life – at least as we have known it. The reason why our prayers do not seem to be answered is that often we think we know what the answer should be. It might be comforting to know that great numbers of young men were applying to join the seminary. It is not so agreeable to realise that perhaps the Holy Spirit is telling us that we need, as a community, to work out what sort of priest and what kind of priesthood is appropriate for our day and age. The Spirit will help us to do this – if we ask. Perhaps the best prayer we can address to the Lord is "Your will – not mine – be done." ■