



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 10th November 2019 - 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
 St Joseph and the English Martyrs:



9am Mass - The Priests of our Diocese
 11am Mass - Those who have died in war and conflict
 6pm Mass - The People of our Parish
Most Holy Redeemer (Sayesbury Road, Sawbridgeworth)
 9am Mass - Those who have died in war and conflict

Holy Cross (at St Andrew's, Church Lane, Much Hadham):
 11.15am Mass - Those who have died in war and conflict

Monday 11th November - St Martin of Tours, Bishop
St Joseph and the English Martyrs:
 9.30am Mass - John and Mary Loftus RIP

Tuesday 12th November - St Josaphat
St Joseph and the English Martyrs
 9.30am Mass - Michael Frost RIP and the deceased relatives and friends of Doreen Frost

Wednesday 13th November - feria
St Joseph and the English Martyrs:
 9.30am Mass - Bridget Halligan Special Intention

Thursday 14th November - feria
St Joseph and the English Martyrs:
 9.30am Mass - All those remembered in our November List of the Dead

Friday 15th November - St Albert the Great, Bishop & Doctor
St Joseph and the English Martyrs:
 9.30am Mass - Jonathan Bramall RIP

Saturday 16th November - St Edmund of Abingdon, Bishop
St Joseph and the English Martyrs:
 5pm-5.45pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Sacrament of Reconciliation
 6pm Mass - David Horgan RIP

Sunday 17th November 2019 - 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
St Joseph and the English Martyrs:
 9am Mass - World Day of the Poor
 11am Mass - Those who died in the last year
 12.30pm Baptism - Aoife Juliet Doolan
 6pm Mass - Marie Grace and her brother Francis Smith RIP
Most Holy Redeemer (Sayesbury Road, Sawbridgeworth)
 9am Mass - Those who died in the last year
Holy Cross (at St Andrew's, Church Lane, Much Hadham):
 11.15am Mass - Those who died in the last year
 12.45pm - Baptism - Jack Thomas Akester

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 info.

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 10th Nov, Sun 24th Nov, Sun 1st Dec, Sun 29th 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 18th November 2019 at 8pm in the WCC will discuss, 'What is in a Church', which includes a tour.

MEMORIES OF BISHOP'S STORTFORD - Come and share your memories and experiences of our town in the Bishop's Stortford library on Thursday 14th November 10.30am-12pm. Enjoy refreshments and discover the local studies section. A Free event.
BAPTIST CHURCH 200TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT - Saturday 23rd November 7.15pm for 7.30pm. There is a buffet meal followed by JB Gill (from the band JLS, TV's 'Songs of Praise' and 'Countryfile' giving a talk about his life, career and faith. The tickets are great value at £10 an adult and £5 a Child. Contact: 01279 836 695 or tickets@stortfordbaptist.org. All are welcome.

JUSTICE & PEACE GROUP WINTER LUNCH - Friday 29th November, 12 noon - 1.30pm in the Parish Centre; soup/jacket potatoes/pudding. Donations please for Sophie & Mike Sullivan's appeal for funds for their local school and Church in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. All most welcome.

ADVENT TALKS - How to defend your faith without raising your voice. St Theresa's in Stansted will be hosting a series of free talks over five Advent Wednesdays 20-Nov to 18-Dec at 7pm. See full details on: <https://www.sttheresasstansted.org/events>



THIS SUNDAY IS REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Eight men from what was then our young and small Parish, died in WWI and their names are commemorated in an illuminated manuscript that usually hangs next to the Sacristy door at St Joseph's. It records that the beautiful wooden Choir Stalls in the Sanctuary were installed in their memory. Throughout this weekend there will be 8 silhouettes "sitting" in different locations in the Church benches, each with a plaque giving the name of the person commemorated. They will sit among us once again as they did in life. Please use this opportunity to say a prayer for their souls and also to pray deeply that the scourge of war may be taken from our world today.

PARISH AGM - will be on Sunday, 17th 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 session will be on Tuesday 12th November at 7pm in the WCC and will last approx. 1 ½ hours. There are currently only 3 places left on this session. If interested please sign your name on the sheet in the Sacristy.

PENNY COLLECTION - The winter night shelter at Holy Trinity opens its doors again on 27th 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 £593.10

PARISH MAGAZINE - Deadline for the next (Christmas) edition is Friday 29th November. Seasonal and non-seasonal items gratefully received; kindly e-mail to astriddavies@hotmail.co.uk or leave in the Parish office.

CALLING CATHOLIC TEACHERS - The Diocese of Westminster Education Service is hosting an evening on Monday 18th November 6.30pm - 8.30pm at Vaughan House, Francis Street, London SW1P 1QN to engage with Catholic teachers and Leaders currently working outside of Catholic education. This occasion is designed to provide information about how best to prepare for a role in a Catholic school and an opportunity to meet with current Catholic school leaders. Please register your intention to attend at eduemc@rcdow.org.uk

ENCOUNTER - meet next Fri 15 Nov in WCC. Fr Carlos will be leading a workshop on the theme of "Reading the Scriptures for Homily Preparation". Please bring Bibles. 10am coffee, 10.30 meeting opens; 12.30-2.00 pm shared lunch; please bring food to share. All welcome for some or all of the day. Enquiries: 01279 652060

WESTMINSTER YOUTH MINISTRY is hosting a Youth Mass on Thursday 21 November at 6:30pm, in the crypt of Westminster Cathedral.



'Jesus is the resurrection and the life' John 11:25

THE SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS' COLLECTION IS THIS WEEK

The second collection this week will be for the sick and retired priests of our Diocese. At present, 80 priests are receiving support from the fund after years of dedicated service to God and their parishioners. Most priests offer their resignation at 75, but many continue to serve in our schools, hospitals, hospices and parishes. By supporting the Sick & Retired Priests' Fund, you can help cover essential costs such as ensuring they have a suitable place to live, and regular visits from carers when they are sick. Best of all, you'll help give them peace of mind that in the event of an emergency, their needs will be met.

This is our chance to say thank you to our sick and retired priests who have given so much. You will find a donation envelope at the back of the church today. Please take one home, and bring it back with your donation. Please continue to pray for the wellbeing of all of our clergy: active, retired and ill. You can also donate online at www.rcdow.org.uk/donations. Thank you very much.

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.

TAIZE SERVICE AT HOLY CROSS - Thursday 14th November at 6pm. All are very welcome.

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.

CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE - Applicants for St Joseph's School for **RECEPTION** places in 2020/21 should collect a white 'embossed' application form for a certificate from either No 3 Windhill, the Sacristy or the Parish Office in person. Once completed it should then be posted through the letter box of No 3 Windhill marked for Fr Peter's attention **with a stamped addressed envelope please**. The Certificate will then be posted to you. The School deadline is 15/1/2020.



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 2/3 November 2019 Loose Coin & Envelopes Oct D/D
St Joseph and the English Martyrs:
 Collection: Loose - £ 800.56 Envelopes - £590.00 D/D £7,502.34
Holy Cross
 Collection: Loose - £ 65.36 Envelopes - £10 D/D £1,450.00
Most Holy Redeemer:
 Collection: Loose - £ 49.64 Envelopes - £ 41 D/D £1,141.33



Baptism: Forms and information are available from the Parish Office.
Marriage: enquiries call the Parish Office or email
RCIA: Applications closed
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.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Let my prayer come into your presence.
Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

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 and merciful God,
graciously keep from us all adversity,
so that, unhindered in mind and body alike,
we may pursue in freedom of heart
the things that are yours.
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 2 Maccabees 7:1-29-14

A reading from the second book of
Maccabees.

There were seven brothers who were
arrested with their mother. The king tried to
force them to taste pig's flesh, which the Law
forbids, by torturing them with whips and
scourges. One of them, acting as spokesman
for the others, said, "What are you trying
to find out from us? We are prepared to die
rather than break the Law of our ancestors."

With his last breath the second brother
exclaimed, "Inhuman fiend, you may
discharge us from this present life, but the
King of the world will raise us up, since it
is for his laws that we die, to live again for
ever."

After him, they amused themselves with
the third, who on being asked for his tongue
promptly thrust it out and boldly held out
his hands, with these honourable words, "It
was heaven that gave me these limbs; for
the sake of his laws I disdain them; from him
I hope to receive them again." The king and
his attendants were astounded at the young
man's courage and his utter indifference to
suffering.

When this one was dead they subjected the
fourth to the same savage torture. When he
neared his end he cried, "Ours is the better
choice, to meet death at men's hands, yet
relying on God's promise that we shall be
raised up by him; whereas for you there can
be no resurrection, no new life."

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 16

Response:

I shall be filled, when I awake,
with the sight of your glory, O Lord.

1. Lord, hear a cause that is just,
pay heed to my cry.
Turn your ear to my prayer:
no deceit is on my lips. (R.)

2. I kept my feet firmly in your paths;
there was no faltering in my steps.
I am here and I call, you will hear me,
O God.
Turn your ear to me; hear my words. (R.)

3. Guard me as the apple of your eye.
Hide me in the shadow of your wings.
As for me, in my justice I shall see your
face
and be filled, when I awake, with the sight
of your glory. (R.)

SECOND READING 2 Thessalonians 2:16-35

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

May our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and
God our Father who has given us his love
and, through his grace, such inexhaustible
comfort and such sure hope, comfort you and
strengthen you in everything good that you
do or say.

Finally, brothers, pray for us; pray that the
Lord's message may spread quickly, and be
received with honour as it was among you;
and pray that we may be preserved from the
interference of bigoted and evil people, for
faith is not given to everyone. But the Lord
is faithful, and he will give you strength and
guard you from the evil one, and we, in the
Lord, have every confidence that you are
doing and will go on doing all that we tell
you. May the Lord turn your hearts towards
the love of God and the fortitude of Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Stay awake, praying at all times
for the strength to stand with confidence
before the Son of Man.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 20:27-38

[For short form read between >and<]

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Luke.

>Some Sadducees – those who say that
there is no resurrection – approached Jesus
and they put this question to him, < "Master,
we have it from Moses in writing, that if a
man's married brother dies childless, the man
must marry the widow to raise up children
for his brother. Well, then, there were seven
brothers. The first, having married a wife,
died childless. The second and then the
third married the widow. And the same with
all seven, they died leaving no children.
Finally the woman herself died. Now, at
the resurrection, to which of them will she
be wife since she had been married to all
seven? "

>Jesus replied, "The children of this world
take wives and husbands, but those who are
judged worthy of a place in the other world
and in the resurrection from the dead do not
marry because they can no longer die, for

they are the same as the angels, and being
children of the resurrection they are sons
of God. And Moses himself implies that the
dead rise again, in the passage about the
bush where he calls the Lord the God of
Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of
Jacob. Now he is God, not of the dead, but of
the living; for to him all are in fact alive."

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

Look with favour, we pray, O Lord,
upon the sacrificial gifts offered here,
that, celebrating in mystery the Passion of
your Son,
we may honour it with loving devotion.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I
shall want.

Fresh and green are the pastures where he
gives me repose,
near restful waters he leads me.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Nourished by this sacred gift, O Lord,
we give you thanks and beseech your mercy,
that, by the pouring forth of your Spirit,
the grace of integrity may endure
in those your heavenly power has entered.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE WORD

There was no one official set of beliefs in the time of Jesus. There were certain important differences among the religious groups, for instance, the Pharisees and the Sadducees.

In today's Gospel reading, we have an example of such a teaching, namely, the resurrection of the dead. The opponents of Jesus use a belief, which they themselves do not accept, to challenge Jesus and put him on the spot. Whose wife will a woman be at the resurrection if she has been the spouse of seven brothers in turn?

If this bizarre puzzle were restricted to just two or possibly three male siblings, it would be a genuine question. In a society which had little or any idea of a meaningful existence after death, a person's survival depended on descendants carrying on their name. This was seen, not as the family surname being passed down the generations, but as the person's existence being somehow prolonged because their name was remembered by later members of their family. This was the older Jewish belief, so the Sadducees could claim that their article of faith was more traditional than the later development which the Pharisees held.

Jesus' reply includes a reference to another disputed question, that of the existence of angels. He implies that life in the resurrection is of a different order to present existence, but it is God who is the giver of both. The point about angels may well be that since they have no possibility of producing offspring, there will be no need for marriage. His opponents began by appealing to Moses, the great figure in Torah thought: Jesus answers them by quoting from the same source. His reasoning may not seem convincing to us, but according to the rules of argument of the time, it is enough to answer the Sadducees. ■

DO

Look at tombstones or the obituary column
in a newspaper. Renew your belief in the
resurrection of the dead.

**LEARN**

If a man died childless, his brother was
expected to marry his widow and raise up
children for him: this is known as "levirate
marriage".

Belief in the resurrection of the dead comes
late in the Hebrew scriptures: the Pharisees
believed in it, the Sadducees did not.

SAY

Jesus is the
resurrection and
the life
(see John 11:25)

REFLECT

A Jewish person recently
remarked that this life is all
that he has. Christians are
familiar with the idea of resurrection:
it is the core of our faith. The Easter
proclamation is "The Lord is risen!"
Baptism, the chief sacrament of
initiation, means entering into the life
of the risen Christ.

However, this belief in a future life
can undermine our appreciation of
this present one. Some people accept
intolerable living conditions, hoping
that they will be rewarded with
some blessed state in the next. They
may even be encouraged to adopt
such a fatalistic attitude by powerful
individuals who want to preserve their
own position and power.

Another unfortunate consequence of
looking to a future life beyond this
one is that we may not accept that we
have responsibilities for the state of
our world: we may become literally
otherworldly and focus on heaven
rather than on earth.

Jesus tells his opponents that all
people are in fact alive to God, the
giver of all life. We might look at the
way we live now, and try to reflect the
kind of God we claim to believe in. ■