



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 9th February – 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9am Mass – Becky Jones RIP

11am Mass – Joseph Flannery RIP

12.30pm Baptism – Mario and Gabriella Richards

6pm Mass – Aidan Alphonsus Joseph Leacy RIP

Most Holy Redeemer (Sayesbury Road, Sawbridgeworth)

9am Mass – William 'Mike' Murphy RIP

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

11.15am Mass – People of the Parish

Monday 10th February – St Scholastica, Virgin

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

NO MASS

Tuesday 11th February – Our Lady of Lourdes

St Joseph and the English Martyrs

9.30am Mass – Angela Smith RIP

Wednesday 12th February – feria

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9.30am Mass – Private Intention

11am Funeral Service Patrick Brendan 'Glen' Hackett RIP

Thursday 13th February – feria

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9.30am Mass – Louise Monaghan RIP

Friday 14th February – St Cyril, Monk and St Methodius, Bishop,

Patrons of Europe

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

NO MASS

Saturday 15th February – Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

5pm-5.45pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament &

Sacrament of Reconciliation

6pm Mass – Emer and Martin O'Toole Intention

Sunday 16th February 2020 – 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:

9am Mass – Bridie and Jim Higgins RIP

11am Mass – Bernadette Ross RIP

6pm Mass – Noel Henry Brady RIP

Most Holy Redeemer (Sayesbury Road, Sawbridgeworth)

9am Mass – Marie Keane RIP

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

11.15am Mass – People of the Parish

"Preach the Gospel, if necessary, use words"

RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY – This weekend we celebrate Racial Justice Sunday. The theme is 'You are at the heart of the Church' and celebrates the contribution of the travelling communities. It is an opportunity for all Catholics to pray for, reflect on and respond to racial justice matters within the Church and wider society proactively discussing overt and covert forms of racism experienced by fellow Catholics from the travelling communities.

The Margaret Clitherow Trust is a charity dedicated to working with Travellers run by Fr John Chadwick of Portsmouth Diocese.

www.margaretclitherow.org

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE 2020 – The next Baptism course with Fr Carlos will be Thurs 12 March 2020 at 7.30pm in the WCC.

ALL SORTS DEMENTIA GROUP – a fun and relaxed group that provides cognitive stimulation therapy, entertainment and socialisation to people with mild to moderate dementia whilst their loved ones gain much a needed break from their caring role. First session is free. We run from 10am – 12.30pm on Monday & Thursday at Sawbridgeworth Cricket Club & 10.30am-3pm Mon, Wed & Thurs at Ware Arts Centre. £30 per day which includes all activities, tea, coffee, cold drink & lunch. Tel 01279 498938 or email allsortsdg@gmail.com www.allsortsdg.co.uk for more info.

A FOUNDATION GOVERNOR is required at St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School is. This needs to be someone who does not now or in the foreseeable future have children in the school. The Full Governing Body meets 6 times per year on Mondays at 7.30pm. Please either call the school to enquire or e-mail governors@stjosephs207.herts.uk.

ALTAR SERVERS REQUIRED AT HOLY CROSS - If there are any Children who have received their First Holy Communion and are interested in training to become an Altar server please contact Suzanne Fitzgerald at Holy Cross.

ST MARY'S VACANCY – Reprographics Technician www.stmarys.net

LIFT REQUIRED TO MASS - If you live near to the Rugby Club, B/S attend Sunday 9am Mass at St Josephs & could help a Parishioner who no longer has a car, please contact the office. Thank you

CHARITY BARN DANCE - (in aid of Across) – Saturday 7th March 2020 at St Joseph's School details to follow..

CHARITY GOLF DAY-Friday 22nd May 2020 at the Manor of Groves <https://www.manorofgroves.com/golf-club> with tee times starting at 12 with dinner from 7-30pm The food is excellent so please bring partners and book babysitters! Details to follow..

CARDINAL'S MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL SATURDAY 30 MAY 2020 at 3PM

The Cardinal will be inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2020

If you are celebrating an anniversary please contact the Parish Office with the following details; husband and wife's names, wedding date, your full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email). This information will be forwarded to the Diocese for an invitation to be sent directly to you.

Replies to the Parish Office by Thursday 12th March please at the latest.

CANCELLATION OF MASSES – Unfortunately over the next few months we have had to cancel several Masses at St Joseph's which has affected some previously booked Mass intentions. We sincerely apologise for this but this is regrettably due to Fr Peter and Fr Carlos having to attend various Diocesan meetings, safeguard training and engagements outside of the parish as well as some overdue holiday entitlement. Everyone currently affected has been contacted and offered an alternative Mass date. Please be assured that your loved ones will be also remembered and prayed for at our weekend Masses. Thank you.

WORKS TO BE CARRIED OUT AT ST JOSEPH'S – An application is to be made to the Diocese to carry out works at St Joseph's to replace our current antiquated heating system. It is believed that we are the only parish in the Diocese which still runs an oil fired boiler to heat the radiators in the Church which is both costly and not as effective as it could be. If permission is granted then we would hope to start the work during the warm summer months. It would mean however that due to health and safety regulations, St Joseph's could potentially be closed for up to 6 weeks and that weekday and weekend Mass would be affected with daily Mass probably being celebrated in the Windhill Churches Centre and weekend Mass possibly in St Mary's School hall as **the entire floor of the Church would have to be dug up and replaced.** We aim to avoid the dates of booked weddings and the First Holy Communion Masses, so as not to impact on these. In order to avoid any additional disruption or disappointment, we will not currently be booking any future Baptisms or Weddings at St Joseph's only, until such time as we know the intended dates of scheduled works which will involve the coordination of several different companies all working together. Further information will follow hopefully in the coming weeks once we are in a position to update you. This will be a large scale project and your understanding, patience and prayers will be much appreciated,
RCIA – The next RCIA session will be on Monday 17th February in the WCC. The topic will be 'Who is Jesus Christ? The Impact of his Incarnation'

ALPS (Across Lourdes Pilgrims and Supporters) will be meeting for coffee after mass in the Parish Centre on the 2nd Thursday of every month so hope you might be able to join us next **Thursday, 13th February.** If you've been to Lourdes with Across, want to find out what it's like or meet people who have been do come along for coffee and a catch up. We'll be meeting **from 10am so do pop in** and find out more. If you have any queries call Alison Jones on 01279 755792.

ENCOUNTER meet next Fri.14 Feb at St Theresa's, Stansted. **A short talk about Our Lady of Guadalupe followed by a talk & discussion on "How to defend one's faith without raising one's voice",** led by Anel Zuniger-Daly. **Please bring a bible.10am coffee 10.30 meeting opens 12.30 Lunch:** please bring food to share **2pm day ends.** All welcome for all or part of the day. Enquiries: B/S 652060

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NURSERY CLASS application process for admissions for September 2020 is now open for children who will be 3 years of age between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020. From this September in addition to the standard 15 hours there will be 30 hours and extended hours provisions, subject to availability. Details can be found on the application forms obtained from the school office or the website www.stjosephs207.herts.sch.uk.

The deadline for application is 3.30pm Friday 13th March.

CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE- Applicants for St Joseph's School for **NURSERY places in 2020** should collect a white 'embossed' application form for a certificate from 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 13/3/2020. Please apply in plenty of time to allow the certificate to be processed.**

JUNIOR READING ROTA at ST JOSEPH'S – If you would like to become a Reader at 9am Mass please contact the parish office for your details to be passed on to David Wilkinson who kindly co-ordinates the rota and readings.

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

Thank you

Collections: 1st & 2nd February 2020 Loose Coin & Envelopes
St Joseph and the English Martyrs:
Collection: Loose- £664.61 Envelopes- £491.50
Holy Cross
Collection: Loose-£42.27 Envelopes-£10
Most Holy Redeemer:
Collection: Loose- £64.00 Envelopes-£15

Sacramental Preparation

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

O come, let us worship God
and bow low before the God who made us,
for he is the Lord our God.

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

Keep your family safe, O Lord, with unfailing
care,

that, relying solely on the hope of heavenly
grace,
they may be defended always by your
protection.

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 58:7-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord:

Share your bread with the hungry,
and shelter the homeless poor,
clothe the man you see to be naked
and turn not from your own kin.
Then will your light shine like the dawn
and your wound be quickly healed over.

Your integrity will go before you
and the glory of the Lord behind you.
Cry, and the Lord will answer;
call, and he will say, "I am here."

If you do away with the yoke,
the clenched fist, the wicked word,
if you give your bread to the hungry,
and relief to the oppressed,
your light will rise in the darkness,
and your shadows become like noon.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 111

Response:

The good man is a light in the darkness for
the upright.

or
Alleluia!

1 He is light in the darkness for the upright,
he is generous, merciful and just.

The good man takes pity and lends,
he conducts his affairs with honour. (R.)

2 The just man will never waver:
he will be remembered for ever.
He has no fear of evil news;
with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord. (R.)

3 With a steadfast heart he will not fear;
open-handed, he gives to the poor;
his justice stands firm for ever.
His head will be raised in glory. (R.)

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the
Corinthians.

When I came to you, brothers, it was not
with any show of oratory or philosophy, but
simply to tell you what God had guaranteed.
During my stay with you, the only knowledge
I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only
about him as the crucified Christ. Far from
relying on any power of my own, I came
among you in great "fear and trembling"
and in my speeches and sermons that I
gave, there were none of the arguments that
belong to philosophy; only a demonstration
of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so
that your faith should not depend on human
philosophy but on the power of God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord,
anyone who follows me
will have the light of life.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 5:13-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples: "You are the salt
of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless,
what can make it salty again? It is good for
nothing, and can only be thrown out to be
trampled underfoot by men.

"You are the light of the world. A city built
on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights
a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the
lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in
the house. In the same way your light must
shine in the sight of men, so that seeing your
good works, they may give the praise to your
Father in heaven."

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 our God,
who once established these created things
to sustain us in our frailty,
grant, we pray,
that they may become for us now
the Sacrament of eternal life.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Let them thank the Lord for his mercy,
his wonders for the children of men,
for he satisfies the thirsty soul,
and the hungry he fills with good things.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God, who have willed that we be partakers
in the one Bread and the one Chalice,
grant us, we pray, so to live
that, made one in Christ,
we may joyfully bear fruit
for the salvation of the world.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE WORD**A NEW
INTERPRETATION
OF THE LAW**

(MATTHEW 5:13-16)



Matthew is writing for a community of mainly Jewish Christians:
he therefore presents Jesus and his teachings clearly against the
background of their Jewish tradition.

Our Gospel reading for this Sunday comes from the section known as the Sermon on the Mount. The only mountain in Galilee worthy of the name is Tabor, and that is certainly not the precise geographical location of Jesus' preaching. The mountain which Matthew mentions is symbolic; it is meant to remind us of Mount Sinai, where Moses received the Ten Commandments from the Lord. Jesus has already told his disciples that he has come to fulfil, rather than abolish, the Law of Moses, so he is offering a new interpretation of the Torah and the values which it enshrines.

Today, Jesus focuses on the kind of person a true disciple will be and uses the examples of salt and light, which we find elsewhere in the Gospel tradition. Both have the underlying idea of service to others. Salt is used in cooking or preserving food and disappears in order to fulfil its function. Jesus also describes the disciples as light of the world, which dispels the darkness of people's lives. Hence one kind of service is hidden, unseen: the other is public and direct, at least in its effects. Both are necessary. ■

REFLECT

Jesus' comment about salt becoming tasteless may strike us as puzzling. We know that salt does not go stale. It is something essential to human health, and in the Roman world it was also valuable; people were often paid in salt. However, if salt becomes contaminated with other substances, then its power is lessened and even lost, so it has no use or value any longer. Perhaps the meaning of this warning is similar to that of the seed among the thorns which we find in other places in the parables of Jesus. We can become so caught up with our daily cares and anxieties that our awareness of Jesus and his place in our lives is diminished. Or we make compromises with our Christian values and ideals so that our moral sense becomes numb and we

find that we do not have the energy to live out our Gospel ideals in our everyday situations. But we should not push the comparison too far: salt may indeed arrive at a point where all we can usefully do is to throw it out; whereas disciples can always recover their vision and set about living more faithfully and enthusiastically their discipleship and commitment to Jesus.

The result of our service of others should be that they give praise to our Father in heaven. There should always be an element of proclaiming our faith in Jesus, not so much by what we say, but by the kind of people we are. That is what Jesus is saying by describing his disciples as salt of the earth and light of the world. He is talking about us. ■

SAY

Preach the Gospel: if
necessary, use words
(attributed to St Francis of Assisi)

LEARN

The word "salary" comes from the Latin word *sal*, which means salt.

For Matthew, a mountain is a place of revelation.

Jesus is not so much the bringer of a new Law as the teacher of a new interpretation of the Torah: the word "Torah" means Law, but rather in the sense of teaching or instruction than legal precepts.

DO

Pour a little salt into your hand. Reflect on the uses to which you put it. Imagine how you can have a similar effect on the people among whom you live and work.

