

Parish Message for the 29th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Dear Parishioners,

Because my mother had to go to work, I spent my summer holidays at babysitter's house. She was an elderly, Puerto Rican who had three grown children. I can attest that she was a very stern yet loving babysitter.

I mention stern because she also looked after a child who was five years younger. He had a bit of a temper, but I believe it was also because he had certain learning difficulties (it was not so obvious then). Whenever he would have a tantrum, my babysitter would calm him down with a phrase: *Hágase tu voluntad*. (Let your will be done). You wouldn't believe it, but it did calm him down.

It would seem that my babysitter was patronising him, but perhaps she knew that she had let the child be. God does the same with us when it comes to one's will. He is such a gentleman that he allows us to do our will; but perhaps it is necessary for us to contemplate what God really wants from us. St. Augustine reminds us that we have the freedom to do whatever we want; but true freedom would then mean that we would seek to what is good and perfect in our lives.

Obviously, no human being can say that they have lived to this maxim. But perhaps God says to us, 'Let your will be done,' in order for us to realise that we should be doing his will, not ours.

Let us look to Christ who lived in total obedience to the Father because he realised that his obedience is a fruit the love he has with his Father – a love we are able to share today.

As in this Sunday's collect says:

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

Fr. Carlos

Fw: Parish Note Friday 16th October 2020 and the Sunday Message from Fr Carlos on the 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Bishop's Stortford - St Joseph & The English Martyr <bishopsstortford@rcdow.org.uk>

Fri 10/16/2020 5:39 PM

To: Bishop's Stortford - St Joseph & The English Martyr <bishopsstortford@rcdow.org.uk>

 2 attachments (147 KB)

Parish Message for the 29th Sunday of Ordinary Time - Fr Carlos.docx; Safe Spaces Briefing Paper - Final - 29.09.20.pdf;

Good afternoon everyone

Please find attached the Sunday Message from Fr Carlos this week where he uses the wonderful phrase 'Hágase tu voluntad'. The Message can also be found on the 'News' section of our website.

The only exciting news in my household this week is that we have a new doorbell! We haven't actually fitted it yet and it will probably stay safely in its box for a while, if the truth be known, but it is waiting, patiently.. It was a very kind gift sent to us from my dear Mother who thought it would be useful, as it is one of those new gadgets which had been advertised connecting to your mobile telephone so that you can speak with visitors, should they decide to call at your front door, not that we are inundated with any visitors at the current time which is probably why it was on sale!!(Gone also it seems are the days of hiding behind the settee pretending that you are not in with this device!) In order to use the new doorbell however, I now need to eventually invest in a new mobile telephone, as you have to install an app which connects to both the internet and the doorbell and with my phone being a semi brick does not have enough storage!

I remember fondly as a young Child, probably around the age of 7- or 8-years visiting Woolworths nearly every Saturday. I always used to make a bee line to the back of the shop on the righthand side where they had a doorbell display. It was the place in the store where you would meet other Children also having 'escaped' from their parents, with their fingers poised ready and standing on their tip toes to reach, press and poke the assortment of different buttons on show and taking great delight at the variety of sounds emitted as a result. It must have been extremely annoying for any of the staff in the store having a continual stream of excitable children pressing buzzers in a mischievous 'static' game of ' Knock down Ginger'. I was surprised to discover that this naughty activity, something which I would never admit to ever having played, dates back to the 19th century and is known in different parts of the world by many names including ' Knick knack, Nicky Nicky Nine doors, Chicky Melly and Knock and Run'.

I have always quite fancied having a door adorned with an interesting knocker and there are quite a few around. The history of door knockers began in ancient Greece and was then taken on by the Romans and with the influence of the Renaissance, some became very fancy indeed. Dating from the 11th century, the knocker at Durham Cathedral holds a special significance under English common law.

As far back as 740, Cynewulf, the Anglo-Saxon Bishop of Lindisfarne, offered sanctuary to any criminal who could reach the White Church at Durham—later replaced by Durham Cathedral—and strike the knocker. Housed, fed, and kept safe from capture for 37 days, the suspected criminal was either pardoned or taken to a place of refuge far from the scene of the crime. The Cathedral entrance has now been modified, but it originally had two small chambers above the doorway with windows where monks would be seated keeping a watch out for sanctuary seekers, to let them in promptly, at any time of the day or night. When somebody did seek sanctuary in the Cathedral, the Galilee bell would be rung to announce it. The sanctuary seeker would be given a black robe to wear, with St Cuthbert's Cross sewn on the left shoulder to distinguish them as one who had been granted sanctuary by God and his saint.

The person offered sanctuary was kept in an enclosure separated from the rest of the Church, and was provided food, drink, bedding and other necessities at the Abbey's expense, until the person's safe departure from the diocese could be arranged. The name of the fugitive would then be recorded in the Durham Cathedral sanctuary book. Between 1464 and 1525, 331 criminals claimed Durham Cathedral sanctuary, including 283 murderers. Durham Cathedral Sanctuary was a rule by which everyone abided. This practice was lawful for hundreds of years until it was overturned by parliament in 1623...

FR CARLOS - As we are sadly unable to give Fr Carlos a proper 'Farewell party' due to the current restrictions, Fr Carlos will be making himself available to say a socially distanced 'Cheerio' to Parishioners who may wish to individually drop by to speak with him at the following times and dates:

Saturday 17th October - Between 11am- 12pm - Most Holy Redeemer Church Car Park, Sawbridgeworth

Sunday 18th October - Between 3-4pm Holy Cross Church Yard, Much Hadham

Monday 19th October - Between 3pm-5pm at 3 Windhill, Bishop's Stortford

Thursday 22nd October - Between 3.30pm - 5.30pm at 3 Windhill, Bishop's Stortford

Fr Carlos leaves us on Sunday 25th October. We hope that we will be able to invite Father back for a 'proper' farewell next year, all being well.

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS 2021-22 - If your child was born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017, you can apply for a Primary School place to start in September 2021. The application process opens **2nd November 2020** and closes on the **15th January 2021**. The school will be hosting an Open Day for parents applying for a Reception 2021 school place on Friday 23rd October, as well as remote meetings for prospective parents. To register for the Open Day or remote meeting, please see the school website or copy this link into your browser- <https://tinyurl.com/y6ybwgv7>

CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE- Applicants for St Joseph's School for RECEPTION places in 2021/22 should download an application for a Certificate of Catholic Practice which can be found on our Parish website. 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. No personal collection of the certificate is permitted. The School deadline is 15/1/2021

QR CODE - We now have a 'QR code' displayed at St Joseph's and Holy Cross for when you arrive at Mass, so that you can scan in using the NHS COVID-19 app on your mobile telephone. This is to help trace and stop the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19). We will still have a paper copy of everyone who attends Mass which is securely kept for 21 days and then destroyed, as not everyone has a mobile telephone. It also helps us to easily allocate pews. Places at Mass will still have to be booked please by either the 'Events' page on the Parish web site or by calling the Parish Office.

ZOOM - Our 9am Sunday Zoom session continues this week . Thank you to everyone who so generously gives their time and talents to make this happen each week.

Topic: Family Mass via Zoom during lock-down (music starting at 8:45am

Time: October 18 2020 08:30 AM London

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89508074176>

Meeting ID: 895 0807 4176

Link to Calendar invite is parishioners want to add it to their diary.

One tap mobile:

+442030512874,,89508074176# United Kingdom

Dial-in by phone:

0203 051 2874

The numbers are standard rate numbers (not free unless you have inclusive minutes), but they are not premium numbers.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY - This Sunday is World Mission Sunday and is a moment of grace to express solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Christ who are living in situations of poverty, violence and oppression. Please see the Holy Father's message <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2020/10/WMS2020-PopesMessage.pdf>

There is also a Children's Activity sheet <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2020/10/WMS2020-Childrens-Activity-Sheet-18-October.pdf>

NOVEMBER LIST - This year, for the month of Holy Souls in November, we will still intend to have the November book at St Joseph's, however this year we will scan all of the pages and upload to our web site for view. If you would like the names of your deceased relatives added, please email your list of names to bishopsstortford@rcdow.org.uk or alternatively drop a note containing the names of your loved ones through the door of 3, Windhill please.

HOLY CROSS - As per the recent email, this Sunday 18th October 2020 at 5pm Mass will be celebrated at Holy Cross. There are only 32 single seats (16 pews holding 2 persons socially distanced) available and booking is therefore required. This can be done either by calling the Parish Office (Mon- Fri 9am -3pm) or visiting the ' Events' page on our web site where you can book up to 2 seats. For Families of more than 2 persons, please call the Office and you will be allocated a whole pew for your family where possible.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AT HOLY CROSS - Please keep in your thoughts and prayers one young man who will be receiving his First Holy Communion this weekend at Holy Cross. We hope that you will have a very special day.

THANK YOU - to our fabulous team of Catechists and Fr Carlos who kindly gave their time to celebrate 4 First Holy Communion Masses last weekend with our Children and thoroughly cleaned the Church afterwards ready for the 6pm Mass. We hope that you all had a wonderful time.

RCIA CANDIDATES - Please keep in your thoughts and prayers our 5 RCIA candidates who on Thursday will be received and confirmed into the Church.

PROPERTY AVAILABLE - A 3 Bedroom detached caretaker's house, fully refurbished over the summer, is available now on the St Ignatius School Site in Enfield to let to a keyworker with a DBS. Located on Turkey Street, EN1 4NP for £1600 pcm with car parking space available. For further information, contact Jackie O'Brien at 01992 717835

SCHOOL ESTATE OFFICER VACANCY AT ST MARY'S - Hay Scale M2 POINT 37 – 40 (£40,876 - £43,857) Full-time. We seek applications from those of the Catholic faith, all faiths and of no faith but who are supportive of our Christian values and ethos. The Governors of St Mary's Catholic School are looking for a highly skilled person to take the lead on all site matters. The successful candidate will line-manage the premises team and report to the Deputy Headteacher, Headteacher and Governors. This is an important role which includes responsibility for all premises, health and safety and site compliance and management. Closing date: Monday 9th November 2020 at 10 am. Interviews: Week Beginning 16th November 2020
Visit www.stmarys.net for more information

JOURNEYING WITH THE BIBLE - Now online, Fr Javier Ruiz-Ortiz PhD and Sr Monica Cardona PhD are running a series of talks for the Year of the Word on the Bible. The next date and topic is Poetry & Wisdom in the Bible on 10th November from 7pm to 8.30pm. Please register at catadmin@rcdow.org.uk

THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSE NEWSPAPER - are offering a 1 yearly digital subscription for £20. Visit their website for more information

<https://thecatholicuniverse.com/>

MARRIED SINGLES LIFESTYLE –The Married Singles Lifestyle describes couples that may have lost a sense of closeness they once had as marriage partners and are living more like roommates. 'Retrouvaille' teaches couples how to survive times like these in their marriages. This programme has helped thousands of couples experiencing difficulty at all levels of marital distress from disillusionment to deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work

For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register the next programme commencing with a Virtual weekend on 12th -15th Nov 2020, Call or text 0788 7296983 or 0797 3380443 or Email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

SAFE SPACES -As you may be aware, Victim Support (VS) has been awarded the contract to manage the new flagship project: Safe Spaces, a joint Anglican and Catholic Church project to provide a vital support service for survivors of church-related abuse. Although the churches have funded the service, it is run independently by the charity Victim Support, who are one of the leading charities providing specialist support to survivors of abuse in England and Wales. We work towards a world where people affected by crime or traumatic events get the support they need and respect they deserve. Please see the information sheet attached to this email which has contact details.

COMMUNITY MONEY ADVICE CONNECT - Worried about money and debts? Free, friendly and confidential help from trained money mentors for people living in the Bishop's Stortford area. Phone or email for an appointment or more information. Tel: 01279 652523 bsmoneyadvice@ntlworld.com or visit www.bs-money-advice-service.org.uk

CITIZENS ADVICE EAST HERTS -Whether it's advice on employment rights, benefit entitlements, money worries, housing concerns, relationship challenges, access to local support etc - we're here for you. Whilst our office are closed you can contact us for free and confidential advice in a number of ways. Call Message line anytime on 01920 459944 and one of our Advisors will call you back, or call our Herts Advice line(10am -4pm) Mon-Fri on 03444 111444. www.citizensadviceeastherts.org.uk/webadvice or via Facebook Messenger at www.facebook.com/EastHertsCitizensAdvice

TIDY UP STORTFORD 'TUBS' - We are a group of volunteers who want to make Bishop's Stortford a tidier place. We provide volunteers with pickers, gloves and high vis jackets. Our next meeting is Saturday 7th November 2020 at the Meads and Sworders Field.

Further info available from Ian Hudson on 07817 778870 <http://tubs.yolasite.com/>

SUNDAY WALKS - Bishop's Stortford and District Footpath Association - Departing at 10am 4/5/6 miles on 18th October 2020 from Thremhall Park, Start Hill BS CM27 7WE www.walksaroundstortford.org.uk

PARISHIONERS OF THE WEEK - This week the award has to go to our fantastic RCIA Catechists, Dom, Gillian, Jonathan, Kate, Marie and Mary led by Fr Carlos, who have been supporting our RCIA candidates since last year in the journey of their faith. Thank you very much for kindly sharing your time, friendship and faith - You're FAB!

It would be wrong not to end on a 'Knock knock' joke(even if really terrible) it seems this week...

Knock, knock.
Who's there?
Interrupting cow.
Interrupting c-
Mooooo!

I hope that you all have a very happy and healthy week

Best wishes

Debbie

Parish Administrator

(Mon- Fri 9am - 3pm)

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*

3 Windhill, Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire, CM23 2ND
Telephone: 01279 654063

email: bishopsstortford@rcdow.org.uk

<http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/bishopsstortford/>

Follow our Live streaming on www.churchservices.tv/bishopsstortford

THIS EMAIL AND ANY ATTACHED FILES ARE CONFIDENTIAL AND MAY BE LEGALLY PRIVILEGED. If you are not the addressee, any disclosure, reproduction, copying, distribution or other dissemination or use of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this transmission in error, please notify the sender immediately and then delete this email. Email transmission, including any attachments, cannot be guaranteed to be secure or error free, as information could be intercepted, corrupted, lost, destroyed, arrive late or incomplete, or contain viruses. The recipient must check emails, including attachment, for viruses and the Diocese cannot accept responsibility if the recipient fails to do so. The sender, therefore, does not accept liability for any errors or omissions in the contents of this message which arise as a result of email transmission. If verification is required please request a hard copy version.

Please consider the environment. Do you really need to print this email?