

*St Joseph & English Martyrs Catholic Church  
Bishop's Stortford*

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*Parish Liturgy Audit Report 2008*

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**Sunday 9am**

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*(This document can also be downloaded from the parish website: [www.catholicstortford.org](http://www.catholicstortford.org))*

## SECTION A Tell us something about yourself

### 1. Which of the following best sums you up?

- |  |            |
|--|------------|
| 1. I am here for Mass <b>every</b> Sunday (except when away on business or holidays) | <b>86%</b> |
| 2. I am here for Mass <b>most</b> Sundays  | <b>12%</b> |
| 3. I come <b>occasionally</b> (less than 10 times a year)                            | <b>2%</b>  |
| 4. This is a <b>special visit</b> (e.g. visiting relatives or friends)               | <b>0%</b>  |
| 5. Other.....  | <b>0%</b>  |

### 2. If you are a regular worshipper, how long have you been worshipping here? (please circle)

Less than a year	1-5 years	5-10 years	More than 10 years
<b>10%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>38%</b>

### 3. Do you regularly worship at another parish? Yes 2% No 98%

### 4. Which of these age groups do you fit into?

0-12 years	13-20years	21-40years	41-60years	60+ years
<b>14%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>19%</b>

### 5. Are you Female ? 68% Male ? 32%

### 6. Are you Married ? 76% Single ? 24%

### 7. Do you live in Bishop's Stortford ? 93% Stansted ? 2% Sawbridgeworth ? 0% The Hadhams? 0% Other? 5%

### 8. Do you have a special ministry in the Liturgy? Yes 21% No 79%

If 'Yes', please specify

Reader	<b>7%</b>	Eucharistic Minister	<b>12%</b>
Altar server	<b>3%</b>	Choir	<b>3%</b>

## SECTION B

### Before Mass starts

1. How welcome do you feel when you arrive? (1 is best, 5 is worst)

1 Very	2	3	4	5 Little
23%	27%	30%	12%	3%

2. How helpful to preparing yourself before Mass, do you find the 'atmosphere' in church?

1 Very	2	3	4	5 Little
12%	18%	40%	25%	5%

## SECTION C

### The Environment

	Yes	No
Are you comfortable in the church?	95%	5%
Are you warm enough in the church?	78%	22%
Is the church clean and in good decorative order?	97%	3%
Are you satisfied with the lighting?	97%	3%
Are you satisfied with the level and quality of sound?	57%	43%
If applicable, do you find the loop system helpful?	5%	2%

## Comments for Sections B & C: Before Mass starts and The Environment

<b>Sunday 9am</b>											
	0-12 M	0-12 F	13-20 M	13-20 F	21-40 M	21-40 F	41-60 M	41-60 F	60+ M	60+ F	Total
Altar is chilly		1									1
Cold		1									1
Children noisy				1						4	5
Adults noisy										1	1
Noisy										2	2
Mics don't always work					1						1
Mic training									1	3	4
Head mic distorts the singing						1					1
Can't always hear well						1					1
PA in dire state, high background noise, please help!						1					1
Poor Sound system							3	2		1	6
Reader training										3	3
Lots of talking & little peace and quiet						1		2			3
Remind Presence of God, Introduce idea of quiet preparation to meet & greet God						1		1	1		3
Cobwebs, Cracks, Church looks uncared for							1	1		1	3
More flowers							1				1
More light on altar							1				1
Paint church							1				1
PIR / time switches in Lady Chapel							1				1
Welcomers								4		2	6
AYWL made a difference								1			1
Still need to make parents feel welcome									1		1
Parents need to be made aware that children need to behave appropriately/help,guide parents									1	2	3
Children off Side altars										1	1

## SECTION D

## Music

	Yes	No	Sometimes
<b>1.Does the chosen music fit the seasonal theme?</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>0 %</b>	<b>22 %</b>
<b>2.Is the chosen music appropriate for the different parts of the mass?</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>14%</b>
<b>3.Does the music reflect the diversity of the members of the congregation?</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>24%</b>
<b>4. Does the music help your worship?</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>14%</b>
<b>5. Does the music leader help or encourage you to participate?</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>22%</b>
<b>6. Has any of the music been unfamiliar to you?</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>52%</b>
<b>7. Would you welcome a practice session before or after mass for unfamiliar items?</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>19%</b>
<b>8. Comments: See Appendix D</b>			

## Appendix D: Comments about the music

Sunday 9 am	0 - 12 M	0-12 F	13-20 M	13-20 F	21-40 M	21-40 F	41-60 M	41-60 F	60+ M	60+ F	TOTAL
Excellent job								3			3
Leader well esteemed, fantastic						1					1
Younger people want hymns sung by them in school								1		1	2
Want more traditional hymns & music								1			1
More Christmas Carols		2									2
Use more familiar hymns at Christmas							1	1			2
Music before Mass starts, "songs of praise"		2					1				3
Want a choir		1				1					2
Like children's choir					1		1				2
Like new hymns					2						2
Better musical direction/leadership					1	1	2	1			5
Sound system poor								1			1
Music poor										1	1
Music good										1	1
Repertoire needs building up										2	2
Leader too loud/overpowering										1	1
Poor use of microphone										1	1
Musicians should face altar										1	1
Under impression that Canon Eddie chooses music										1	1

# SECTION E

## Leaflets, hymn books, etc

	Very useful	useful	Not useful	Don't know
<b>1. How useful do you find The Sunday Plus Mass Leaflet?</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>7%</b>
<b>2. How useful do you find the other printed resources to use and follow?</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>3%</b>

	Yes	No
<b>3. Is the print large enough for you to read?</b>	<b>96%</b>	<b>4%</b>

**4. Any other comments or suggestions about the hymn book, mass leaflet or other items provided to enable you to participate in the Mass?**

Comments	0-12 M	0-12 F	13-20 M	13-20 F	21-40 M	21-40 F	41-60 M	41-60 F	60+ M	60+ F	Total
We should use recyclable paper (coloured paper not recyclable -we should be an example)								1			1
Not enough sheets								1			1
Need Mass Books						1		1			2
Need to have ALL music available for congregation		1					1				2
Like children's leaflets						1					1

# SECTION F

# Silence

	Yes	No								
<b>1. Are you aware of the times of silence at different parts of the Mass?</b>	<b>81%</b>	<b>16%</b>								
<b>2. Are these silent times sufficient to be of value to you? (long or often enough)</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>24%</b>								
<b>3. Do you have any other comments or suggestions about times of silence during the different parts of the Mass? (e.g. Readings, Intercessions, Prayers, After Communion etc.</b>										
Comments	0-12 M	0-12 F	13-20 M	13-20 F	21-40 M	21-40 F	41-60 M	41-60 F	60+ M	60+ F
Longer silences		1								
Pause between readings									1	1
Parents to control children/teach appropriate behaviour, noisy side altars, stop running up & down side aisles					2	3		4		1
Noisy children							1	3		2
Noisy toys						1				
Shouldn't expect silence at children's mass					1				1	
9am noisy so don't notice silences						1				
Priest should announce expected behaviour at times of silence, e.g after communion & other times						1	1	3		1

## SECTION G

## Homily, Readings, Prayers

	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Usually</u>	<u>Sometimes</u>	<u>Not really</u>
<b>1. Do you find the sermon/homily clear &amp; understandable?</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>9%</b>
<b>2. Do you find the sermon/homily challenging or thought provoking?</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>9%</b>
<b>3. Any other comments about the sermon/homily</b>	<i>See Appendix G</i>			
<b>4. Are the Readings delivered in a meaningful way?</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>4%</b>
	<u>Clear</u>	<u>Reasonably clear</u>	<u>Difficult to hear</u>	
<b>5. Generally how audible are the Readings?</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>29%</b>	
<b>6. Any other comments about the delivery of the Readings?</b>	<i>See Appendix G</i>			
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Sometimes</u>	
<b>7. Do the Homily &amp; Intercessions help to connect the Mass to your daily life?</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>32%</b>	
<b>8. Any other comments about the Liturgy of the Word?</b>	<i>See Appendix G</i>			

## Appendix G: Comments on Homily, Readings, Prayers

Comments	0 - 12 M	0-12 F	13-20 M	13-20 F	21-40 M	21-40 F	41-60 M	41-60 F	60 + M	60+ F	TOTAL
HOMILY CLEAR											
Excellent							1	3			4
Good										1	1
Children's involvement good					2	2		2		1	7
HOMILY CHALLENGING											
be more up-to-date theologically - too many old ideas										1	1
too often a childish explanation of the Gospel							1			1	2
love children's homily		2				2					4
sometimes goes on for too long		1						1			2
READINGS DELIVERY											
some Readers need more training						2	3	1	1	3	10
More different readers						1					1
READINGS AUDIBLE											
need to make better use of microphone	2			2	1	3	3	3	2	4	20
encourage recruitment of younger readers					1						1
Sound system poor								1		3	4
Children noisy								1		2	3
Confusion about prayer to Our Lady							1				1

## SECTION H

## Ministries

<b>To what extent do the following ministries enhance your experience of the Mass?</b>				
	Positive	Indifferent	Negative	Nil response
<b>ALTAR SERVERS</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>9 %</b>	<b>0 %</b>
<b>READERS</b>	<b>68 %</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>10 %</b>	<b>0 %</b>
<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS</b>	<b>74 %</b>	<b>19 %</b>	<b>5 %</b>	<b>2 %</b>
<b>PRIEST</b>	<b>92 %</b>	<b>4 %</b>	<b>2 %</b>	<b>2 %</b>
<b>MUSICIANS</b>	<b>87 %</b>	<b>4 %</b>	<b>4 %</b>	<b>4 %</b>

# SECTION I

## As the Mass concludes...

**1. Does your experience of the Mass make you feel part of the Congregation?** (please circle)

Yes	No
96%	2%

**2. Do you find the announcements at the end of Mass**

Very helpful	Somewhat helpful	Not really helpful
49%	47%	4 %

**in making you aware of the faith life and pastoral activity of St. Joseph's as a Community?**

**3. Do you feel encouraged to participate in the ongoing work of the Church?**

Yes	No
72%	23 %

**Comments:**

	0-12 M	0-12 F	13-20 M	13-20 F	21-40 M	21-40 F	41-60 M	41-60 F	60+ M	60+ F
Refreshment after Mass						1				
Notices at back of church needed										1
Need list of what needed										1
Sound system poor							1			

## SECTION J      What *I* think, what *I* can do....etc

	0-12 M	0-12 F	13-20 M	13-20 F	21-40 M	21-40 F	41-60 M	41-60 F	60+ M	60+ F	Total
<b><u>Things I Like</u></b>											
Communion	1										1
Lay participation	0	1				1			1	2	5
Everything		1						2			3
Children's Masses				2	1	4					7
Welcome/Friendly/Familiar feeling				1	2		1	1			5
Music/Singing				1	1	1		2			5
Readings				1							1
Vibrant, Inspiring					1		1				2
Well Presented, Dignity					1				1		2
Mass Sheets					1						1
Alternates between Child/Adult					1						1
Sign of Peace								1			1
Canon Eddie								1		3	4
<b><u>Things I would like to see done differently</u></b>											
More comfortable seating	1										1
Encourage reverence, silence before Mass									1		1
Shorter Homily		1									1
Shorter Mass for children										1	1
Copy of homily available for reading in week		1									1
Children's Liturgy Alternate weeks				1						1	2
Adult 9am Mass										1	1
Stop Noisy Alcoves					1						1
Less Noise from Children								3			3
Better PA system					1		1	1			3
More Musical Direction, Improve Music					1					1	2
Children's Clubs during Mass					1						1
Tea after Mass					1						1
Different people do Offertory						1					1
All children go up as sign of bringing themselves to God						1					1

(Continued)	0-12 M	0-12 F	13-20 M	13-20 F	21-40 M	21-40 F	41-60 M	41-60 F	60+ M	60+ F	Total
<b><u>Things I would like to see done differently</u></b>											
Children involved								1			1
Welcomers							1			2	3
Promote other liturgies/devotions							1				1
Help, Guidance for Parents							1				1
Print names of sick/deceased								1			1
More Latin other masses								1		1	2
Nothing					1			3			4
<b><u>Things I could get involved in</u></b>											
Reading	1	1			1	2	1	1			7
Eucharistic Minister	1										1
Music/Singing		1		2		3					6
Kid's Competitions				1							1
Everything					1						1
Management					1						1
Children's liturgy					1						1
Welcomers						1		1		2	4
Not sure how or what								1	1	1	3