



St. John The Evangelist,  
Berry Lane, Rickmansworth, WD3 7HG  
<http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/millend>



Our Lady Help of Christians  
5 Park Road, Rickmansworth, WD3 1HU  
<http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/rickmansworth>



St John Fisher  
Hill Cottage, Shire Lane, Chorleywood, WD3 5NH  
<http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/chorleywood>

## PARISH TEAM

**Parish Priest:**  
Fr Shaun Church  
[shaunchurch@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:shaunchurch@rcdow.org.uk)

**Assistant Priest:**  
Fr Mark Walker  
[markwalker@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:markwalker@rcdow.org.uk)

**Parish Administrator:**  
Kerry Van Rensburg  
[rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk)

**Parish Youth Worker:**  
Anke Vos  
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## 17<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) - 30<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2017

### SUNDAY THOUGHT

Our chances of finding buried treasure are pretty slim. The majority of us could sell all we have and still not be able to buy the Hope Pearl (or the Hope Diamond either, for that matter!) Most of us have probably never used a net to catch fish and yet we still readily identify with Jesus' metaphors. They are his concrete way of talking about the "kingdom of heaven" as the greatest treasure possible – God's very life!

Both the buried treasure and the valuable pearl are "old" – the treasure has a past history; the pearl has been long in the making. The net full of fish is "new" – today's catch; it needs sorting. The "kingdom of heaven" includes both "old" and "new". In all three metaphors about the kingdom, finding and making the "kingdom of heaven" one's own takes work and commitment: searching, sacrificing, sorting. This work and commitment leads to gaining the greatest Treasure possible – God's very life!

We search for the "kingdom of heaven" by seeking more for our lives than what human gratification gives. We sacrifice for the "kingdom of heaven" by emptying ourselves for the good of others. We sort for the "kingdom of heaven" when we take time at the end of the day to examine our consciences for the good and not so good we've done that day. While we know that our efforts are not perfect, we are also confident that God unceasingly seeks and finds us and gives us the Treasure we seek – God's very life.

**Entrance Antiphon:** God is in his holy place, God who unites those who dwell in his house; he himself gives might and strength to his people.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** 1 Kings 3:5. 7-12

**Response to Psalm:** Lord how I love your law!

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Romans 8:28-30

**Gospel:** Matthew 13:44-52

**Communion Antiphon:** Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all his benefits.

#### *Next Sunday's Readings*

Daniel 7:9-10. 13-14; 2 Peter 1:16-19; Matthew 17:1-9 (Gospel)

### LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION

**Rickmansworth:** Envelopes: £400.08; Loose Plate: £251.25; Standing Orders: £510.00 **Total: £1161.33**

**Mill End:** Envelopes: £283.50; Loose Plate: £228.71; Standing Orders: £197.00 **Total: £709.21**

**Chorleywood:** The Offertory collection for the month of June - **£2501.73**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY**

### TEXT GIVING THROUGH YOUR MOBILE PHONE

Special Gift? Top-Up Offering? For Rickmansworth text: **Parish RICKM** to 70800; For Chorleywood text **Parish CHORL** to 70800; for Mill End text **Parish MILLE** to 70800. It's easy! To make a £5 Donation. Thank You!

## FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

<b>SUN 30<sup>TH</sup> JULY</b>	7.15pm	Young Adults Pub Social	Coach & Horses
<b>MON 31<sup>ST</sup> JULY</b>	10.00am - 12 noon	Lets Get Together and Grow - Hall <b>NO CHOIR PRACTICE UNTIL 4<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER</b>	Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist
<b>TUE 1<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST</b>			
<b>WED 2<sup>ND</sup> AUGUST</b>			
<b>THU 3<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST</b>	8.00pm - 9.30pm	Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>FRI 4<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST</b>	10.00am	Coffee after Mass for all - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>SAT 5<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST</b>	10.30am - 11.30am 5.30pm 5.30pm	Holy Hour with Benediction and Confessions Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist St John Fisher

## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

	Our Lady Help of Christians	St John the Evangelist	St John Fisher
<b>SATURDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> JULY</b> <i>St MARTHA</i>	<b>10.00am</b> Fr Peter Gilbert RIP	<b>6pm</b> (Vigil) For the People of the Parish	<b>6pm</b> (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
<b>SUNDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> JULY</b> <i>17<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	<b>8.30am</b> Powell Family (Ints.) <b>11am</b> John Finnegan RIP (Anniv.) <b>6pm</b> For the People of the Parish	<b>10.30am</b> Fr Peter Gilbert RIP	<b>9am</b> For the People of the Parish
<b>MONDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> JULY</b> <i>St IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA, PRIEST</i>	<b>9.30am</b> For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish	<b>9.30am</b> For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish	
<b>TUESDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST</b> <i>St ALPHONSUS LIGUORI, BISHOP &amp; DOCTOR</i>	<b>9.30am</b> Fr Peter Gilbert RIP		<b>9.30am</b> For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish
<b>WEDNESDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> AUGUST</b>		<b>9.30am</b> For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish	
<b>THURSDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST</b>	<b>9.30am</b> For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish		
<b>FRIDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST</b> <i>St JOHN VIANNEY, PRIEST</i>	<b>9.30am</b> Malcolm Stacey RIP (Anniv.)		<b>9.30am</b> For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish
<b>SATURDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST</b>	<b>10.00am</b> For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish	<b>6pm</b> (Vigil) Fr Peter Gilbert RIP	<b>6pm</b> (Vigil) Peter Westoby RIP
<b>SUNDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST</b> <i>THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD</i>	<b>8.30am</b> Anne Stark RIP <b>11am</b> Elizabeth Sargent RIP (Anniv.) <b>6pm</b> Frances Mitchell RIP	<b>10.30am</b> For the People of the Parish	<b>9am</b> For the People of the Parish

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISHES

**Our Lady Help of Christians:** Elsie Alexander, Ruary Chisholm, Kathleen Collins, Wendy Goldsmith, Kathy Wright, John Overend, Monica Clatworthy, Brenda Reynolds, Maureen Giles, Olive Cordery, Neville Mathews, Agnes Harper, Eileen Durkan, Ginny Goodgol, Maria Wallis, Peter Ward, Heather Kean, Olive Kiener, John Caneparo, Henry Cutting, Noel Jackson, Christina Thomas, Nalene Nixon, Pam Bell and Joan Townend.

**St John the Evangelist:** Jean Mulderrig; Rita Murray; Joyce Baldwin, Imogen Bailey, Harry Lennon, Joe Donnelly, John Connor and Michael Dixon.

**St John Fisher:** Nora O'Toole, Francis De Souza, Georgina Kelham, Rita Garrett, Pete Murray, Steve Kibbey, Matthew Leone, Jean-Pierre Roche, Fr Peter Stevens, Angela Hoy, Pat Finucane, Colin Dowling, Margaret Lamb, Kitty Finucane, Don Williamson and Helen Forrest.

## NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

### THREE CHOIRS MUSIC AFTERNOON

I express my thanks to Katy Pione and Patricia O'Sullivan for organising and running last Saturday's music afternoon for the choirs and instrumentalists of the three parishes. It was really great to see our singers and instrumentalists coming together in this way, and the music they produced together was absolutely excellent. I very much hope that there may be similar events in the future. *Fr Shaun*

### THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who came along and took part in the Music afternoon last Saturday. It was wonderful to hear all of our Choirs and instrumentalists sing and play together. Special thanks to Patricia O'Sullivan and Joanne Rodrigues for their help on the day as well as thanks to Celia for the lovely refreshments (and Della for lending a hand with the tea and coffee). *Katy Pione*

### DEACON JONNY WHITBY-SMITH

I previously announced that in the autumn Deacon Jonny would be joining us for weekend placement. However, I have now been informed that Jonny's bishop (the Bishop of Nottingham) has requested that he would like Jonny to go back to the Diocese for his weekend placement. This is to help Jonny integrate more with the Diocese of Nottingham. We wish Deacon Jonny every blessing as he continues to prepare for his priestly ordination. *Fr Shaun*

### THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY - HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

On Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> August the Church celebrates the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Being one of the major feasts in the Church's year, this day is therefore a holy day of obligation, meaning that Catholics should attend Mass that day. Masses will be as follows:

9.30am - St John Fisher, Chorleywood

9.30am and 8.00pm - Our Lady Help of Christians, Rickmansworth

8.00pm - St John the Evangelist, Mill End

### ROSHINI ALLES RIP

The ashes of Roshini Alles RIP will be interred in the Garden of Rest after the 9.30am Mass on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> August.

### REGISTRATION FOR 1<sup>ST</sup> HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2017/18

Registration for the 2017/2018 1<sup>st</sup> Communion programme has now formally closed. If you have a child in Year 3 or above wishing to make their 1<sup>st</sup> Communion in 2018 and you have missed the registration period you should make an appointment to meet with Fr Shaun as soon as possible.

### ASSISTANT PRIEST TO THE THREE PARISHES

As you know, Fr Mark Walker has been appointed as the Diocesan Youth Chaplain and will be leaving the parishes on 21<sup>st</sup> August 2017 for some holiday before taking up his new appointment at the beginning of September. I am now able to let you know that Fr Mark will be replaced as Assistant Priest to the three parishes by Fr Damian Ryan, who is currently the Assistant Priest at St John Vianney, West Green. Fr Damian will take up his appointment here on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September. Please pray for both Fr Mark and Fr Damian as they prepare for this new stage in their priestly ministry.

*Fr Shaun*

### RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (RCIA)

In September we will be beginning the RCIA process for those adults who are considering becoming Roman Catholics and for those adult Catholics who, for one reason or another, never received the sacrament of Confirmation and now wish to complete their Christian initiation. Leaflets with information about the RCIA process are available at the back of the church. If you are interested in being a part of the RCIA process please complete the "About You" section on the leaflet and return it to Fr Shaun as soon as possible.

**PARISH NEWSLETTER** - there will be no newsletter during the month of August.

### DAY OF RECOLLECTION FOR READERS, MINISTERS OF COMMUNION AND WELCOMERS

The annual Day of Recollection, to which Welcomers are now invited, in addition to Readers and Ministers of Communion, will take place at the Niland Centre, Bushey on **Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2017**. Once again we will be joined by Fr John Hemer from Allen hall Seminary, who will share with us some of his extensive knowledge and insights into an aspect of scripture. A letter from Fr Shaun about this is being emailed to you by your respectable rota organisers.

### SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL (SVP)

Are appealing for donations of long-life milk, toilet rolls and cleaning detergents for the Catholic Worker Farm who provide accommodation for refugees at the farm and at Mary House. Collection boxes in the church porches. *Could we politely ask that nothing else be left in the porch other than the requested items.* Thank you.

### MONDAY TODDLER GROUP 10AM-12 NOON IN OUR LADY'S CHURCH HALL

Come and join our friendly group! Plenty of toys for the children and cake and chat for the mums! If you have any questions, please contact Charlotte Gomes on [charlotte.gomes@compconsult.co.uk](mailto:charlotte.gomes@compconsult.co.uk) or 07834 987686.

### CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE – IMPORTANT REMINDER TO PARENTS

Parents currently collecting Mass attendance stickers for primary or secondary places in catholic schools are reminded to 1.) Put cello-tape over each row once it is completed, so that stickers will not peel off over time and 2.) Take regular photographs of the Mass attendance card (making sure the child's name is visible). This will ensure that you have evidence of Sunday Mass attendance should your card become lost. Please take great care of your Mass attendance card – remember that this is the evidence on which Certificates of Catholic Practice are issued.

## GENERAL NOTICES

### SUPPORT GROUP

We are hoping to start a support group for parents of children and adults with learning difficulties within Watford Deanery. If you are interested in finding out more details, please contact the Family Worker at Holy Rood Church, Siobhan on [siobhangaribaldi@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:siobhangaribaldi@rcdow.org.uk) or 01923 224085 (option 6).

## OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

### MEMORIAL STONES FOR THE GARDEN OF REST

The Parish Pastoral Council has been considering how we might better commemorate all those whose ashes lie in our Garden of Rest and it has been decided to commission two "boulder-like" stones, each of which will have a flat stone plate affixed to the front of it, to be inscribed with the names of those whose ashes are interred in the Garden of Rest. We are now trying to contact the next of kin to ask two things: firstly, whether they would like the name of their departed loved one(s) added to the stone and, if so, how you would wish the name to be commemorated on the plaque. There will only be room for a first name and a surname. Secondly, the two stones and the inscribed plaques will cost in the region of £3,500 and so we would like to invite those with a loved one buried in the garden to consider making a donation toward this. We are not suggesting any particular amount but would simply ask families to consider what they feel might be possible and appropriate. Unfortunately we do not have all of the details for all of the next of kin in the parish records. If you are in contact with someone who has moved away from the parish or who doesn't attend Mass here and whom you know has a loved one interred in our Garden of Rest, we would be most grateful if you could ask them to contact Kerry in the Parish Office. In the coming few weeks we will be writing directly to the next of kin for whom we have addresses. We hope that the memorial stones, with the inscribed names, will be installed later this year. *Fr Shaun*

### COFFEE AFTER 8.30AM MASS

Please join us in the hall for a catch up and make new parish friends at our coffee morning after Mass next Sunday.

### CHURCH CLEANERS NEEDED

We need a few new people to join our dedicated team of church cleaners. If you would be willing to help please speak to Fr Shaun, Fr Mark or contact the Church Cleaning rota co-ordinator, Rowan Mangion at [gourmetrowan@gmail.com](mailto:gourmetrowan@gmail.com).

## ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

### SUNDAY BRUNCH

Please note there will be no brunch at St John's this Sunday (30<sup>th</sup> July).

### WEEKDAY MASSES DURING AUGUST

There will be no Masses on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> August and Monday 28<sup>th</sup> August.

## ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

### PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

Siobhan Hoy, who has served on the Parish Finance Committee for a number of years, has decided to step down at this time due to pressure of other commitments. On behalf of the parish and myself, I express sincere thanks to Siobhan for her many years of diligent service on the Finance Committee. The parish has benefitted greatly from Siobhan's professionalism and expertise. I have now appointed Kate Cottingham to fill the vacant space on the Finance Committee and I am very grateful to Kate for agreeing to take on this important role. *Fr Shaun*

### NO COFFEE AFTER MASS ON SATURDAY 29 JULY

### NEW ROTAS FOR WELCOMERS, READERS AND MINISTERS OF COMMUNION

These will be available for collection from the weekend of 12/13 August.

### WEEKDAY MASSES DURING AUGUST

There will be no Masses on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> August, Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> August, Friday 25<sup>th</sup> August and Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> August.

### CHILDREN'S LITURGY AT ST JOHN FISHER

The Parish Pastoral Council has been discussing ways to increase the participation of children at Sunday Mass. As a result of those discussions we would like to create a Children's Liturgy at the Sunday 9.00am Mass, whereby the children would have their own Liturgy of the Word (in the lounge) before re-joining the rest of the congregation at the Offertory. In order to facilitate this we will need a group of adult volunteers who would be willing to become Children's Liturgy catechists and share in this important ministry on a rota basis. Volunteers would need to have a parish DBS clearance, if they do not already have one. We would organise some training for the new catechists and draw on the experience of the very successful Children's Liturgies at our sister parishes. We hope to launch this new initiative in the autumn. If you would be interested in becoming a Children's Liturgy catechist please speak to Fr Shaun or Fr Mark.

ROTAS	Saturday 6.00pm Mass			Sunday 9.00am Mass			Sunday Counters	Laundry
	Welcomer	Reader	MoC	Welcomer	Reader	Communion		
29/30 July	GF	A Penn	M Latimer	A Opie	C Holly	F Holly	Carolyn & Peter	J Whelan
5/6 Aug.	A Dennis	M Foggo	J McEwen	M Mackie	K Cottingham	L Turnbull	Peter & Kate	S Tarrant
12/13 Aug.	M Fields	T Hartney	M Latimer	J Hale	J Donohoe	J Hale	Patsy & Una	S Treanor
19/20 Aug.	J Ingham	M Fields	P Goble	D Treanor	J Hale	AM Farnsworth	Kate & Ann	V Terrill

### Young Adults Pub Social

All young adults (i.e. age 18-35ish) are warmly invited to meet up at the Coach and Horses in Rickmansworth at 7.15pm (after the 6pm Mass) **this Sunday 30 July** for a drink and a chat.

There won't be a pub social in August; the next one will be towards the end of September.

### Youth

Youth groups will start meeting again in September, exact dates will be announced in the newsletter and on the parish website.

Our B-Attitude group will start meeting again on Monday the 11<sup>th</sup> of September.