

## OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

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### THANK YOU

Fr Shaun and Fr Mark wish to express their sincere thanks and gratitude to everyone who played any part in making our Christmas Masses so special. Particular thanks to our organists Susana Tierney and Austin Finan and to the choir and Katy Pione and the folk group for the wonderful music at all the Masses. Thanks too to Annie Kent and her team of flower arrangers and helpers for decorating the church so beautifully, to the parishioners who helped with the children's presentation of the nativity and to our Welcomers, Sacristans, Altar Servers, Readers, and Ministers of Communion. The hard work of so many people ensured worthy, beautiful and joyful celebrations of our Saviour's birth. Fr Shaun and Fr Mark also wish to express their thanks for the many Christmas cards and gifts that they received from parishioners. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council will take place on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January. If you have a matter that you would like to be raised at this meeting do please speak to one of the Pastoral Council members: Samantha Benson (Chair), Michael Curtin (Secretary), Louise Leahy, Maud Cutting, Neil Hilary, Richard Dumughn, Sharon Blayney or Dave Pione. If none of these people are known to you please send your request to Fr Shaun.

### 1<sup>ST</sup> HOLY COMMUNION 2015

Parents of children currently preparing for 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion in the parish are reminded that the children's classes resume on **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January**. At the end of the children's session on that evening parents will be able to sign up for the 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Masses, the dates for which will be: **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May, Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May and Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May**. Each Mass will be at 11.00am. It will **not** be possible for parents to sign up for a particular date before the evening of 12<sup>th</sup> January. In addition to the three 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Masses, all the children will be invited to come to the 11.00am Mass (in their 1<sup>st</sup> Communion clothes) on the Feast of Corpus Christi, **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June** for a Thanksgiving Mass and to take part in a Corpus Christi procession. This will be followed by a picnic lunch for the 1<sup>st</sup> Communion children and their families.

### EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament this Sunday from 4.00pm to 5.00pm, this will include the anointing of the sick around 4.40pm.

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH:

Maureen Digges, Elsie Alexander, Vinny Spiteri, Ruary Chisholm, Kathleen Collins, Wendy Goldsmith, Kathy Wright, John Overend, Monica Clatworthy, Peter Czarniecki, Tony Infante, Brenda Reynolds, Brian Hunt, Maureen Giles, Olive Cordery, Neville Mathews, Norah MacWilliam, Agnes Harper, Diana Price, Joan Marioni, Eileen Durkan, Ginny Goodgol, Roshini Alles and Maureen Douglas.

### LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION

Envelopes: £598.22; Loose Plate: £410.07; Standing Orders: £499.00 **Total: £1507.29**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

**OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS, RICKMANSWORTH,  
ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, MILL END & MAPLE CROSS,  
AND ST JOHN FISHER, CHORLEYWOOD**



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## EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - 4<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2015 SUNDAY THOUGHT

Life is full of contrasts that force us to make choices. For example, we are faced with a choice between eating healthy food and eating junk food; between helping another in need and being selfish with our time; between forgiveness and holding a grudge. Searching for and encountering Christ helps us make appropriate choices in these and many other daily circumstances. The choices we make determine the kind of people we are.

As the Magi were open to being guided by the star, so must we be open to the guidance of the light of Christ, this light brings the focus we need to make choices that further the manifestation of Christ in our world.

Winston Churchill once said: "To improve is to change; to be perfect is to change often." Our encounters with Christ never leave us unchanged, but always draw us into the light so that we can see more clearly the choices we need to make in our own lives in order to come to perfection in Christ. Indeed, the choices we make determine who we are.

**Day Mass Entrance Antiphon:**  
Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Isaiah 60:1-6

**Response to Psalm:** All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6

**Gospel:** Matthew 2:1-12

**Day Mass Communion Antiphon:**  
We have seen his star in the East, and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.

## NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

### FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

SUN 4TH JAN	4.00pm - 5.00pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (with anointing of the sick around 4.40pm)	Our Lady Help of Christians
MON 5TH JAN	10.00am - 11.45am 11.00am 8.00pm	Lets Get Together and Grow - Hall Funeral - Elizabeth Leila Robinson RIP Choir Practice	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist
TUE 6TH JAN	7.30pm	Meeting of the Chairs of the Three Parish Pastoral Councils - Presbytery	Our Lady Help of Christians
WED 7TH JAN			
THU 8TH JAN	8.00pm - 9.30pm	Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
FRI 9TH JAN	10.00am	Coffee after Mass for all - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
SAT 10TH JAN			

#### WEEKEND MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

##### RICKMANSWORTH

8.30 am — Gwen Foskett RIP  
11.00 am — For the People of the Parish  
6.00 pm — Frazer Bradshaw RIP (Anniv.)

##### MILL END

6.00 pm (Vigil) — Dennis Coleman RIP (Anniv.)  
10.30 am — For the People of the Parish

##### CHORLEYWOOD

6.00 pm (Vigil) — Kenneth Messer RIP (Anniv.)  
9.00 am — For the People of the Parish

#### WEEKDAY MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

##### RICKMANSWORTH

Mon 9.30 am — Kenny D'Cruz RIP  
Tue 9.30 am — James Galvin RIP  
Thu 9.30 am — Denise Waters RIP  
Fri 9.30 am — For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish

##### MILL END

Mon 9.30 am — Paddy & Mary Carroll (Ints.)  
Wed 9.30 am — Frank & Diane O'Brien (Ints.)

##### CHORLEYWOOD

Tue 9.30 am — Jimmy Flynn RIP  
Fri 9.30 am — For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish

#### THIS WEEK'S FEAST DAYS

No feast days this week.

#### OUR FAMILY OF PARISHES

**Our Lady Help of Christians**, 5 Park Road, **Rickmansworth**, WD3 1HU  
**St John the Evangelist**, Berry Lane, **Mill End**, WD3 7HG  
**St John Fisher**, Hill Cottage, Shire Lane, **Chorleywood**, WD3 5NH

### CARDINAL'S PASTORAL LETTER AND INVITATION TO REFLECT ON THE GIFT OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE

The text of Cardinal Nichol's Pastoral Letter for the Feast of the Holy Family and the Invitation from the Bishops of England and Wales to Reflect on the Gift of Marriage and Family Life are available on the Diocesan website at <http://rcdow.org.uk/cardinal/homilies/pastoral-letter-for-the-feast-of-the-holy-family-2014/> and at <http://rcdow.org.uk/diocese/marriage-and-family-life/news/an-invitation-to-reflect-on-the-gift-of-marriage-and-family-life/> respectively.

### ECUMENICAL SERVICE FOR THE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

This year it is our turn to host the ecumenical service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity for local Christian communities in Rickmansworth and Mill End. The service will be held at **St John the Evangelist, Mill End** at 3.30pm on **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January**. It is an important opportunity for us to worship together and to pray for the unity of all Christians. We hope to see you there.

### PILGRIMAGE REUNION – SATURDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY

On the evening of **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> January** at **7.30pm** in Our Lady's Hall, there will be a reunion evening for those who went on the pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi in September. Fr Shaun will show a selection of photos from the pilgrimage. The evening is open to all parishioners and might be of special interest to anyone who has booked, or is thinking about booking, for the pilgrimage to Sicily in October 2015, as Fr Shaun will be giving a presentation (with photos) showing some of the wonderful places we hope to visit.

### ELIZABETH LEILA ROBINSON RIP

The funeral of Elizabeth Leila Robinson will take place at **11.00am** on **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January** at Our Lady Help of Christians, Rickmansworth, followed by committal at Breakspear Crematorium. We pray for the repose of Leila's soul and offer our sincere condolences to her family at this sad and difficult time for them.

### MEETING OF THE CHAIRS OF THE THREE PASTORAL COUNCILS

On **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January** Fr Shaun and Fr Mark will meet with the Chairs of the three Parish Pastoral Councils: Samantha Benson (Our Lady's, Rickmansworth), Alan Opie (St John Fisher Chorleywood) and Ewan Smith (St John the Evangelist, Mill End). This will be an opportunity to discuss matters affecting all three parish communities. It is hoped that the three Chairs will meet with the parish clergy at least twice a year.

### CARDINAL'S MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2015 at 3pm.

The Archbishop will be inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their **10<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup> (and every year over 60)** wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2015. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give Fr Shaun or Fr Mark the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).

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

After the very successful Day of Recollection for the Readers and Ministers of Communion of the three parishes last year, we are planning another one for this year. This will take place at the Niland Centre, Bushey on **Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2015**. We will be joined by Fr John Hemer, who lectures in Scripture at Allen Hall Seminary. Fr John will give us a couple of talks on some aspects of scripture. He is a very inspiring and insightful speaker, so this will be a real highlight of our day together. **Please make a note in your diary now.**