

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

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PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council will take place on Monday 12th 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.

PEACE SUNDAY

Next Sunday, 18th January, is Peace Sunday and we pray in particular for the work of Pax Christi in sharing a vision of a world where people can live in peace, without fear of violence in all its forms. Pax Christi envelopes are available at the back of the church for anyone who wishes to support their work. These can be placed in the collection baskets this weekend or next.

1ST HOLY COMMUNION 2015

Parents of children currently preparing for 1st Holy Communion in the parish are reminded that the children's classes resume on **Monday 12th January**. At the end of the children's session on that evening parents will be able to sign up for the 1st Communion Masses, the dates for which will be: **Saturday 2nd May, Saturday 9th May and Saturday 30th 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 12th January. In addition to the three 1st Communion Masses, all the children will be invited to come to the 11.00am Mass (in their 1st Communion clothes) on the Feast of Corpus Christi, **Sunday 7th June** for a Thanksgiving Mass and to take part in a Corpus Christi procession. This will be followed by a picnic lunch for the 1st Communion children and their families.

LET'S GET TOGETHER AND GROW GROUP

Do you have young babies / children and would like to meet up with other mums who are parishioners at any of our three parishes for general support, sharing and chat? Why not join our small, friendly group which meets on a Monday morning from around 10 to 11.30/45 in the church hall at Our Lady's. We have plenty of toys for the babies and toddlers to play with and there is always tea, coffee and cake for the parents! We restart on Monday 12th January are usually there every Monday in term time (barring unforeseen circumstances). For more information, please contact Helen Nolan (01923 499523 / 07980 600549 or helenvnolan@ntlworld.com).

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH:

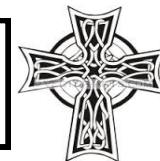
Maureen Digges, Elsie Alexander, Vinny Spiteri, Ruary Chisholm, Kathleen Collins, Wendy Goldsmith, Kathy Wright, John Overend, Monica Clatworthy, Peter Czarniecki, Tony Infante, Brenda Reynolds, Brian Hunt, Maureen Giles, Olive Cordery, Neville Mathews, Norah MacWilliam, Agnes Harper, Diana Price, Joan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

LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION

Envelopes: £613.36; Loose Plate: £420.74; Standing Orders: £499.00 **Total: £1533.10**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

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



Parish Priest: Fr Shaun Church Assistant Priest: Fr Mark Walker
Parish Administrator: Mrs Kerry Van Rensburg
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www.stjohnfisherchorleywood.org.uk

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD - 11TH JANUARY 2015 SUNDAY THOUGHT

Learning a new skill takes a long time. The aging of a fine wine takes a long time. Getting to know another person well as a beloved and trusted friend takes a long time. Taking ownership of and being faithful to our baptismal identity as God's beloved takes a lifetime.

Christian baptism transforms our very identity: we become God's beloved in whom God is well pleased. While God freely gives us this identity through the Holy Spirit, we must accept it and make it our own. This takes a lifetime of faithful living.

Every choice we make on our Christian journey either deepens our identity as God's beloved or weakens it. We either respond to a person in need, or walk away. We either take time for daily prayer, or neglect conversation time with God. We either strive to grow in understanding our faith, or remain content with inadequate formation. Who we are is God's beloved, that is, the Body of Christ. Our baptismal call is to become every day more fully who we are. Growing in our identity is our most important lifelong task.

Entrance Antiphon: After the Lord was baptized, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

1st Reading: Isaiah 55:1-11

Response to Psalm: With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

2nd Reading: John 5:1-9

Gospel: Mark 1:7-11

Communion Antiphon: Behold the One of whom John said; I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.

NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

SUN 11TH JAN	8.45am - 9.30am 9.15am - 10.15am 12.30pm	First Holy Communion Class First Holy Communion Class - Hall Baptisms	St John Fisher St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
MON 12TH JAN	10.00am 10.00am - 11.45am 5.30pm 7.30pm 8.00pm	St John Fisher Ladies Meeting Lets Get Together and Grow - Hall First Holy Communion Class - Hall Our Lady's Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Choir Practice	Val Terrill's house Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist
TUE 13TH JAN	7.30pm 7.30pm 8.00pm - 9.30pm	Faith Matters Discussion Group - Hall First Communion Catechists Meeting - Presbytery RCIA - Upper Room	St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
WED 14TH JAN			
THU 15TH JAN	8.00pm - 9.30pm	Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
FRI 16TH JAN	10.00am	Coffee after Mass for all - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
SAT 17TH JAN	7.30pm	Pilgrimage Reunion - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians

WEEKEND MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

RICKMANSWORTH

8.30 am — Carroll Family (Ints.)
11.00 am — Michael Jubber RIP (Anniv.)
6.00 pm — For the People of the Parish

MILL END

6.00 pm (Vigil) — For the People of the Parish
10.30 am — Jack McHugh RIP

CHORLEYWOOD

6.00 pm (Vigil) — For World Peace
9.00 am — For the People of the Parish

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

RICKMANSWORTH

Mon 9.30 am — Jonathan Pione RIP
Tue 9.30 am — Steven Birch (Ints.)
Thu 9.30 am — For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish
Fri 9.30 am — Michael James Denning RIP

MILL END

Mon 9.30 am — Billy & Maureen O'Connor (Ints.)
Wed 9.30 am — Breege Joyce (Ints.)

CHORLEYWOOD

Tue 9.30 am — Private Intention
Fri 9.30 am — For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish

THIS WEEK'S FEAST DAYS

Saturday 17th January - St Anthony, Abbot.

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

FAITH MATTERS DISCUSSION GROUP

Our Faith Matters Discussion Group commences its new season this Tuesday (13th January) at 7.30pm in the parish hall at St John's, Mill End. Between now and the beginning of Lent, the discussion group will focus on different aspects of prayer, beginning on Tuesday with the Our Father and the Hail Mary. Everyone is warmly invited to come along. This is a great opportunity to share experiences of faith and prayer with parishioners from across the three parishes.

PROCLAIM '15: NEW NATIONAL INITIATIVE IN 2015

'Proclaim '15: Building Missionary Parishes' is the name of a new national Bishop's Conference initiative being launched in 2015 to support the development of parish evangelisation. There will be a series of meetings across the Diocese and parish priests have been asked to invite parishioners engaged in Evangelisation to meet with the Bishop and Agency for Evangelisation to introduce to them the Parish Materials. The nearest venues for our parishes are:

Monday 26th January 7.30pm – 9.00pm St Alban & St Stephen, 14-16 Beaconsfield Rd, St Albans, AL1 3RB

Tuesday 3rd February 7.30pm – 9.00pm Vaughan House, 46 Francis Street, Westminster, SW1P 1QN

This meeting may be of particular interest to RCIA catechists, Catechists, Welcomers, Children's Liturgy leaders, Parish Pastoral Council members or others engaged in or interested in evangelisation. If you would like to attend one of these meetings please register my emailing livingfaith@rcdow.org.uk or by calling or leaving a message on **020 7931 6078**. When registering please provide **your name, parish name** and your **phone number** or **email address**. Once you have registered please let Fr Shaun know so that he can make a note of all those attending from the three parishes.

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 18th 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 17TH JANUARY

On the evening of **Saturday 17th 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.

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

The Archbishop will be inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their **10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (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 23rd 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.**