

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

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PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC)

A summary of the meeting of the PPC of Our Lady Help of Christians, held on 12th January 2015, is now available on the porch notice board, together with the **PPC Terms of Reference** which have now been agreed by the members. There is also a '**background and basis**' document which explains the nature and purpose of a Parish Pastoral Council. All of these documents are now published on the Pastoral Council page of the parish website. A few 'hard' copies are available at the back of the church for parishioners who do not have access to the internet.

MESSAGE FROM FR SHAUN - YOUTH WORKER PROJECT

As you know, our parish project for *Growing in Faith* is to provide funds to employ a Youth Worker in the parish. I have also agreed with the Pastoral Council and Finance Committee of St John's, Mill End that they will share the resource and the costs of the Youth Worker. Now that the fundraising part of the *Growing in Faith* campaign has been completed, it is time to develop our vision of the role of the Youth Worker in the two parishes. There will be a meeting at 7.30pm on **Monday 23rd March** in Our Lady's Hall for anyone interested in helping us to develop the vision and work through the practicalities of employing a Youth Worker in the two parishes. Phil Ross, the Diocesan Director of Youth Ministry will be attending the meeting to help us discern how we would like to see the role of the Youth Worker develop. This will be a key moment in developing youth ministry in our parish and I hope that a good number of interested parishioners will attend the meeting and become involved in carrying this project forward. *Fr Shaun*

READER'S ROTA

There are copies of the rota at the back of the church for those who did not receive the email copy or for those who would like a hard copy. Dee Barker 01923 710112.

RICKY WEEK BOUTIQUE FAIR MAY 15TH

If you are interested in being part of the organising committee this year or can offer help in any way please contact Angela O'Donovan 07971587848. No experience needed – just a smile and some of your time! First meeting planned early March. Come along for the fun of it!

PARISH SAFEGUARDING

I'm pleased to announce that Alison Foster is joining Dave Pione as part of our parish safeguarding team. Dave has asked Alison to help conduct an internal audit over the next few weeks involving all parish groups serving young people or vulnerable adults. Could I ask the cooperation of all group leaders in contacting Alison (afoster@vyners.hillingdon.sch.uk or 07870594966) to arrange a meeting within the next two weeks? Alison will want to obtain a list of all parish volunteers involved in such activities as crèche, home communion visits, children's liturgy, altar servers, youth groups, etc. Thanks for your cooperation. *Fr Shaun*

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: £892.64; Loose Plate: £353.78; Standing Orders: £499.00 **Total: £1745.42**

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

Telephone: 01923 773387

Email: rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk

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

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

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

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B) - 15TH FEBRUARY 2015 SUNDAY THOUGHT

Gestures speak volumes. Backhanding someone across the face says something very different from caressing the cheek. Slapping someone on the back in congratulations is different from punching a person in anger. A hand extended in friendship is the opposite of a hand withheld out of hostility. In all these cases, relationships are affected one way or another.

The leper's gesture of kneeling at the feet of Jesus expressed courage and need, as well as a sense of unworthiness. Jesus' gestures expressed compassion, power and reverence for the dignity of the leper. Any encounter with Jesus leaves us changed, exalted and whole. Such encounters fashion a new relationship with him, ourselves, and with others.

We cannot contain the Good News of the changed relationship that comes from encounter with and being touched by Jesus. Like the leper, can we do anything less than "publicize the whole matter" as widely as possible? At the end of today's Gospel it is impossible for Jesus to enter any town openly. When we publicize the Good News of what Jesus has done to us and for us, it becomes unnecessary for him to enter our town. He's already there, in us.

Entrance Antiphon: Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

1st Reading: Leviticus 13:1-2. 44-46

Response to Psalm: You are my refuge, O Lord; you fill me with the joy of salvation.

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:31 - 11:1

Gospel: Mark 1:40-45

Communion Antiphon: They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.

NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

SUN 15TH FEB			
MON 16TH FEB	10.00am 8.00pm	St John Fisher Ladies' Meeting Choir Practice	Mary Latimer's home St John the Evangelist
TUE 17TH FEB	7.30pm 8.00pm - 9.30pm	Faith Matters Discussion Group - Hall RCIA - Upper Room	St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
WED 18TH FEB			
THU 19TH FEB	8.00pm - 9.30pm	Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
FRI 20TH FEB	10.00am	Coffee after Mass for all - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
SAT 21ST FEB	10.30am - 11.30am 2.00pm	Holy Hour and Confessions Baptism Preparation - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians

WEEKEND MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

RICKMANSWORTH

8.30 am — For the People of the Parish
11.00 am — William Symmons (Ints.)
6.00 pm — Kathleen Matthews RIP

MILL END

6.00 pm (Vigil) — For the People of the Parish
10.30 am — Reg Viner RIP

CHORLEYWOOD

6.00 pm (Vigil) — Joyce Dowling RIP (Anniv.)
and Irene Foggo RIP (Anniv.)
9.00 am — For the People of the Parish

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

RICKMANSWORTH

Mon 9.30 am — Danny Kenney RIP
Tue 9.30 am — Joss and Stephen Dowds RIP
Wed 9.30am — For the People of the Parish
Wed 8.00pm — Private Intention
Thu 9.30 am — For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish
Fri 9.30 am — Mary Robinson RIP
Sat 10.00 am — Norah O'Neil (Ints.)

MILL END

Mon 9.30 am — Michael McGuire (Ints.)
Wed 9.30 am — For the People of the Parish

CHORLEYWOOD

Tue 9.30 am — Stephen Birch (Ints.)
Wed 8.00pm — For the People of the Parish
Fri 9.30 am — For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish

THIS WEEK'S FEAST DAYS

Wednesday 18th February - ASH WEDNESDAY

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

ASH WEDNESDAY

This coming Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the solemn season of Lent. Masses (with the imposition of ashes) across the three parishes will be as follows:
9.30am and 8.00pm – Our Lady Help of Christians, Rickmansworth
9.30am – St John the Evangelist, Mill End
8.00pm – St John Fisher, Chorleywood

A NEW FORMAT FOR THE NEWSLETTER

The Pastoral Councils of the three parishes have agreed to a new format for the Newsletter. In future there will be one newsletter for all three parishes, which will be printed on A3 paper (folded into A4). This larger version of the Newsletter will make it easier to include more information (and in a larger font) about what's going on in all three parishes and around the Diocese. We are hoping to launch the new format next weekend!

OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

Full details of all the Lenten activities taking place across the three parishes are available on the three parish websites on the **Lent 2015** page.

RCIA – THE RITE OF SIGNING AND PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES AND THE RITE OF ELECTION

This Sunday, at the 10.30am Mass at Mill End and the 11.00am Mass in Rickmansworth we celebrate the Rites of Signing and Presentation of Candidates with those members of our community preparing for reception into full communion with the Catholic Church. Next Saturday afternoon, our catechumen and eight candidates will go to Westminster Cathedral with Fr Shaun, their sponsors and catechists for the Rite of Election with Cardinal Vincent Nichols. We hold Colin Dodson, Annabel Lewak-Steed, Raymond Widdowson, Robert Songhurst, Serena Williams, Stephanie Goodchild, Sharon Petrie, Gemma Driscoll and Jim Elsdon in our prayers as they take these next important steps on their journey into full communion with the Catholic Church.

AN INVITATION FROM THE BISHOPS OF ENGLAND AND WALES TO REFLECT ON THE GIFT OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE

The Bishops of England and Wales have re-issued, in a more accessible format, their invitation to reflect on the gift of marriage and family life in preparation for the Synod of Bishops which will take place in Rome in October 2015, and copies are available this weekend. During the Easter season we are planning a series of meetings at which parishioners can reflect together on the six questions that have been posed by the Bishops.

WALK WITH ME BOOKLETS

The Lenten *Walk with Me* Booklets are now available in all three parishes. The theme this year is *The Joy of Living the Beatitudes*. For each day of Lent there is a scripture verse, a brief meditation and a prayer. The booklets are £1 each.

LENTEN ALMS – CARITAS WESTMINSTER

“A way has to be found to enable everyone to benefit from the fruits of the earth, and not simply to close the gap between the affluent and those who must be satisfied with the crumbs from the table, but above all to satisfy the demands of justice and respect for every human being.” Pope Francis

Cardinal Vincent Nichols has asked parishioners in every parish to consider giving Lenten Alms to *Caritas Westminster*, which gives practical support to the homeless, the hungry, the poor and lonely and the vulnerable in our Diocese – often in partnership with local parishes. During Lent, one of the metal money boxes in each parish will be set aside for **Lenten Alms (Caritas Westminster)**.

BAPTISM PREPARATION - SATURDAY 21ST FEBRUARY AT 2.00PM

A reminder for couples who have already seen Fr. Mark or Fr. Shaun regarding the baptism of a child that the next baptism preparation session is next Saturday in Our Lady's hall.

FAITH MATTERS DISCUSSION GROUP - TUESDAY 17TH FEBRUARY AT 7.30PM

Will be meeting this Tuesday in the parish hall at St John's, Mill End. This week we will focus on the Examen. Everyone is warmly invited to come along.