



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

Assistant Priest:

Fr Damian Ryan
damianryan@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Administrator:

Kerry Van Rensburg
rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Youth Worker:

Anke Vos
ankevos@rcdow.org.uk

Address for all correspondence:
5 Park Road
Rickmansworth
WD3 1HU

Telephone: 01923 773387

 @ChessValleyRC

26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) - 1ST OCTOBER 2017

SUNDAY THOUGHT

In this Sunday's gospel, Jesus observes the responses of two types of people to the preaching of John the Baptist, picturing them as like two brothers. The Pharisees heard the invitation with interest but no commitment was forthcoming. They were like the brother in the parable who promised to work in the vineyard and then did not go. They professed piety but did not practice it. In contrast, public sinners, tax collectors and prostitutes, were like the other brother. Everything about them shrieked 'No, I won't go!' But they went and now they were seen entering the kingdom.

The fact that we are at Mass should mean we are saying 'yes' to the Father's call. We are not invited because we are good – there is no guarantee that the good will persevere in their purpose. We are not disinvited because we are bad – we all have the option of repentance. We are invited only through the generosity of one who has loved us and, becoming as we are, became humbler yet and accepted death on a cross. But if we are to welcome the coming of Christ, it will need to be with more than words. We will go to work in his vineyard, proclaiming a message that will turn the world upside down.

- Entrance Antiphon:** All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.
- 1st Reading:** Ezekiel 18:25-28
- Response to Psalm:** Remember your mercy, Lord.
- 2nd Reading:** Philippians 2:1-11
- Gospel:** Matthew 21:28-32
- Communion Antiphon:** Remember your word to your servant, O Lord, by which you have given me hope. This is my comfort when I am brought low.

Next Sunday's Readings

Isaiah 5:1-7; Philippians 4:6-9; Matthew 21:33-43 (Gospel)

LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION

Rickmansworth: Envelopes: £662.55; Loose Plate: £409.41; Standing Orders: £510.00 **Total: £1581.96**

Mill End: Envelopes: £253.10; Loose Plate: £200.85; Standing Orders: £197.00 **Total: £650.95**

Chorleywood: The Offertory collection for the month of August - **£2408.06**

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

SUN 1ST OCTOBER	9.30am	Coffee after Mass for all - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
MON 2ND OCTOBER	10.00am - 12 noon 5.30pm - 6.30pm 8.00pm	Lets Get Together and Grow - Hall CCP Signing (Secondary Transfer) - Hall Choir Practice	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist
TUE 3RD OCTOBER	5.00pm - 6.00pm	CCP Signing (Secondary Transfer) - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
WED 4TH OCTOBER			
THU 5TH OCTOBER	8.00pm	Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
FRI 6TH OCTOBER	10.00am 10.00am	Coffee after Mass for all - Hall Burial of Ashes - Malcolm Stacey RIP	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
SAT 7TH OCTOBER	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
SAT. 30TH SEPTEMBER <i>St JEROME, PRIEST & DOCTOR</i>	10.00am Martin Malone RIP	6pm (Vigil) Seamus Fagan RIP (Anniv.)	6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
SUNDAY 1ST OCTOBER <i>26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am For the People of the Parish 11am Edward Davitt RIP (Anniv.) 6pm Colin Lawrence RIP	10.30am For the People of the Parish	9am Cardinal Cormac Murphy O'Connor RIP
MONDAY 2ND OCTOBER <i>THE HOLY GUARDIAN ANGELS</i>	9.30am Saranya Joseph (Ints.)	9.30am Seamus Fagan RIP	
TUESDAY 3RD OCTOBER	9.30am Sr Margaret Devine DOJ (Ints.)		9.30am Mgr Augustine Hoey RIP
WED. 4TH OCTOBER <i>St FRANCIS OF ASSISI</i>		9.30am Margaret Nunn (Ints.)	
THURSDAY 5TH OCTOBER	9.30am Mgr Augustine Hoey RIP		
FRIDAY 6TH OCTOBER	9.30am Malcolm Stacey RIP		9.30am For the Sick & Housebound of the Parish
SATURDAY 7TH OCTOBER <i>OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY</i>	10.00am Cardinal Cormac Murphy O'Connor RIP	6pm (Vigil) Mgr Augustine Hoey RIP	6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
SUNDAY 8TH OCTOBER <i>27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am Powell Family (Ints.) 11am Dan & Ann O'Sullivan RIP 6pm For the People of the Parish	10.30am For the People of the Parish	9am Cardinal Cormac Murphy O'Connor RIP

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISHES

Our Lady Help of Christians: 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, Christina Thomas, Nalene Nixon, Pam Bell and Joan Townend.

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

St John Fisher: Nora O'Toole, Francis De Souza, Georgina Kelham, 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

CAFOD HARVEST FAST DAY

Friday 6th October 2017 is CAFOD Harvest Fast Day and we are standing with Edelmira, a farmer in El Salvador, as she works to sustain her family with good crops and harvests. With your help, CAFOD is giving her fruit trees, training, and strong seeds. Please pick up a Fast Day envelope, fast this Friday and give what you can.

RITA GARRETT RIP

It is with sadness that we announce the death of Rita Garrett this past week. Rita was a long time parishioner at St John Fisher, Chorleywood. Rita's funeral will take place at St John Fisher at **12.15pm** on **Monday 9th October**, followed by committal at Chilterns Crematorium. We commend her soul to the Lord and we offer our condolences and prayers to her husband, Alan, and to all her family at this sad and difficult time. *Please note that the parking restriction on Shire Lane (single yellow line) has been lifted for the day.*

ANNUAL MASS COUNT

On the four Sundays of October each parish is required by the Diocese to count the number of people attending Mass. The details are forwarded to the Diocese along with other parish statistics at the end of the year. So, if you see someone "clicking you in" at Mass today you will know why!

FIRE SAFETY AND AN APPEAL FOR FIRE WARDENS

Ensuring the safety of parishioners during Mass is of the highest importance. In the likely event of a fire in the church during Mass it is essential that we are able to evacuate the church swiftly but safely. Health and Safety regulations mean that we are now required to have designated fire wardens, whose responsibility it will be to ensure our churches are safely evacuated in the event of a fire. I am now appealing for parishioners who would be willing to take on this responsibility. The role would be particularly suited to Welcomers but I am making a wider appeal for help, as we need to make sure that each Mass is sufficiently covered. Training for prospective Fire Wardens is being offered at a Deanery level and will take place on **Saturday 11th November** from **9.30am** to **11.30am** at Our Lady and St Michael, Crown Rise, Garston WD25 0NE. If you would be willing to share in this important ministry in the parish then please sign on the list available in each of the parishes this weekend. There is a box where you can tick if you are able to attend the training morning.

THANK YOU

A big thank you to the ladies who organised the wonderful lunch which followed Fr Tim's Mass for the silver jubilee of his ordination to the priesthood on Tuesday and to the Social Events Committee for organising the reception which followed Fr Mark's Farewell Mass on Friday. Both occasions were wonderful and were much appreciated by Fr Tim and Fr Mark respectively and by everyone who attended.

MALCOLM STACEY RIP

The ashes of Malcolm Stacey RIP will be interred in the Garden of Rest after the 9.30am Mass on **Friday 6th October**.

NOEL JACKSON RIP

It is with sadness that we announce the death this past week of Noel Jackson, a long-standing parishioner of Our Lady's. Noel's funeral will take place at Our Lady's at 11.00am on **Monday 16th October**, followed by committal at West Herts Crematorium. We pray for Noel's wife, Roberta, and for all Noel's family at this sad and difficult time.

FAREWELL MASSES FOR FR MARK

The Farewell Masses for Fr Mark will be on **Friday 20th October at 7.30pm – St John Fisher, Chorleywood** and **Friday 27th October at 7.30pm – St John the Evangelist, Mill End**

Each Mass will be followed by a reception in the appropriate parish. If you are unable to be present for the Farewell Mass in the parish which you usually attend, then please feel free to attend whichever celebration in the other two parishes is most convenient for you. If you would like to make a contribution toward a farewell gift for Fr Mark, in thanks for his ministry in the three parishes over the past four years, there are special envelopes available in each parish. These can be placed in the offertory collection, handed to Fr Shaun or Fr Damian or posted through the Presbytery letterbox. Cheques should be made payable to your respective parish.

1ST COMMUNION 2018 – PARENTS' MEETINGS

Parents who have registered their children for the 1st Holy Communion programme, are reminded that there will be a Parents Information Meeting in October. For those who have registered at St John's, Mill End – **Sunday 15th October at 11.45am**. For those who have registered at Our Lady's – **Tuesday 17th October at 7.30pm**

CONFIRMATION 2018

We are now beginning the process of enrolment for the Confirmation programme for 2018. To be eligible the candidates must now be in Year 9 or above and must have been baptised in the Catholic Church. Those young people who wish to be confirmed, and meet these requirements, should write a letter (no emails please) to Fr Shaun setting out why they wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Please be sure to include your full name and address. There will then be a meeting for candidates and their parents in the New Year with Fr Damian and the leaders. The sessions will take place at Our Lady's Hall. The closing date by which you must have written to Fr Shaun is **Sunday 22nd October 2017**. No applications will be considered after this date.

ECUMENICAL EVENT: THIS IS MY BODY

On Wednesday 4th October at 7.15pm at St Paul's Church, Chipperfield Common, Chipperfield, there will be an ecumenical workshop at which representatives from different Christian churches will share our differing understandings of the Eucharist. Fr Shaun will be speaking about the Roman Catholic understanding of the Mass. All are very welcome to attend.

CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE – SECONDARY TRANSFER SEPTEMBER 2018 FORM SIGNING

Fr Shaun will be available for the signing of Certificates of Catholic Practice for Secondary Transfer 2018 on the following days: **Monday 2nd October** – 5.30pm to 6.30pm; **Tuesday 30th October** – 5pm to 6pm and **Monday 16th October** – 7pm to 8pm (**NOT** Tuesday 17th as previously advertised). All three sessions will be held in Our Lady's Hall, Rickmansworth. There is no need to make an individual appointment; please just turn up for the date and time that best suits you. **Please be sure to bring your Mass attendance card.** If you have been regularly attending Sunday Mass elsewhere please remember to bring the documentation outlined in the letter which accompanied your Mass attendance card.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

PLANNED GIVING REVIEW – MY PARISH COMMITMENT

'Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.' – 2 Corinthians 9:7

Over the last couple of weeks you have heard about Stewardship and Planned Giving. We have asked that all parishioners prayerfully reflect on what they contribute to our parish, having taken into consideration the needs of our parish and having reflected on the message of stewardship. This weekend we invite all parishioners to complete the form inside the 'My Parish Commitment' leaflet. These forms will remain private and confidential. When completing your form please provide your full contact details and select the method of offertory giving best suited to you. If you pay UK income tax, please sign the **Gift Aid** declaration (**in one name only**) so that the parish can claim 25p back from the government for every £1 that you donate, at no extra cost to yourself. Finally, we thank you for all that you already do for our parish. Without your continued support, this wonderful, living church would not continue to be the spiritual centre it is today. If you have any questions a member of the Parish Finance Committee will be available to answer them after Mass today.

SUNDAY BRUNCH AT OUR LADY'S

The next Sunday Brunch will take place on **Sunday 8th October** in the hall after the 11.00am Mass. We will be serving vegetable soup with a roll and bacon rolls. Tea and coffee will also be available. All proceeds will go to the Catholic Worker Farm. Please do come along and join us.

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 this Sunday.

EARLY WARNING

Quiz Night **Saturday 11th November**. Please add this date to your diary and start putting together some crafty teams. More information to follow from the Social Committee.

200 CLUB

The 200 Club begins again in October and if anyone is interested in joining (or cancelling their membership) please contact Kerry on 01923 773387 for further details. Payment is due soon for those who wish to continue their membership and pay their annual subscription (£60) by cheque.

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

BURNS NIGHT

We are looking into the possibility of having a Burns Night on **Friday 26th January 2018**. If you would be interested in helping to plan and organise this event please contact Bob Livingston on 01923 903375 or bblivingston@talktalk.net

ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

QUIZ NIGHT

There will be a St John Fisher Quiz Night on the evening of **Friday 10th November** to be held at Our Lady's hall. Please add this date to your diary.

MONEY COUNTERS

We need a few more volunteers to help count the offertory collection after Mass on a Sunday. It only takes 10-15 minutes and if we get enough volunteers then each one of us should only need to count about once a month. If anyone would be willing to join our Counters Rota or would like to find out a bit more about it, please contact Fr Shaun, Fr Damian or Carolyn Opie.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC) MINUTES

The Minutes of the PPC meeting which took place on 19th September 2017 are now available on the lobby notice board and also on the parish website. A few "hard" copies are also available for those without internet access.

ROTAS	Saturday 6.00pm Mass			Sunday 9.00am Mass			Sunday Counters	Laundry
	Welcomer	Reader	MoC	Welcomer	Reader	Communion		
30/1 Oct.	M Foggo	A Roberts	P Goble	U Lean	T D'Urso	J Hale	Ann & Marguerite	T Price
7/8 Oct.	J Ingham	E Page	M Latimer	J Hale	A Opie	AM Farnsworth	Una & Francis	J Whelan

Saints (school year 7-9)

Games, food & reflection

Very big thank you to our young people & (young) leaders for such a wonderful Saints evening! Thank you for a very warm welcome, a relaxed time of sharing, some highly impressive "Priest of the Parish" skills, and for way too many funny moments to list here! See you on **Tuesday 10 October, 6 pm—7.30 pm @ St John's Mill End** parish hall. Anyone is welcome to come along and give it a try.

B-Attitude (school year 9-13)

Put your faith into action

B-Attitude's next meeting will take place on **Monday 9 October, 6 pm—7 pm @ Our Lady's**.

Young Adult Pub Socials

15 October, 19 November and 17 December (**3rd Sunday of the month**), always at 7.15 pm in the Coach and Horses in Ricky.

Called to Serve Young People?

Want to spend one Tuesday evening a month with a lovely group of young people? Looking for a 21 year old who can do a handstand... on one hand so you can play the guitar with the other. Just kidding. We're looking for someone who **loves God and loves young people**.

If you're interested please email: ankevos@rcdow.org.uk