



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  
[ankevos@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:ankevos@rcdow.org.uk)

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

Telephone: 01923 773387

 @ChessValleyRC

## 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR A) 12<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2017

### SUNDAY THOUGHT

“Lord, it is wonderful for us to be here.” Peter exclaimed this because he saw the transfigured Jesus, the glory of God. But when Jesus was nailed to the cross, where was Peter? It certainly would have been wonderful for Peter to have been there to witness the self-giving love of the Saviour—God that is also his glory. How many times Peter could have repeated his exclamation: at the crucifixion, the resurrection, the ascension, at Pentecost, at his own martyrdom.

“Lord, it is wonderful for us to be here.” Where are they? How did they get there? Peter, James and John are on the mountaintop where they see Jesus shining in full divine glory. They got there by following Jesus’ own footsteps. But their journey does not end “here”. They must follow Jesus’ footsteps down the mountain to the daily challenges and demands of discipleship where they must also learn to exclaim, “Lord, it is wonderful for us to be here.”

“Lord, it is wonderful for *us* to be here.” Where are we? This is *the* question of Lent that we must answer on our journey of discipleship. We climb to the mountaintop of glory only from the solid plain of ordinary human living. It is “here” in our everyday decisions that salvation comes to us. It is “here” in our encounters with Jesus that we journey fully and lovingly in his footsteps. Wherever Jesus is, it is wonderful for us to be “here” – with him.

**Entrance Antiphon:** Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Genesis 12:1-4

**Response to Psalm:** May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** 2 Timothy 1:8-10

**Gospel:** Matthew 17:1-9

**Communion Antiphon:** This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

#### *Next Sunday's Readings*

Exodus 17:3-7; Romans 5:1-2, 5-8; John 4:5-42 (Gospel)

### LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION

**Rickmansworth:** Envelopes: £556.06; Loose Plate: £405.57; Standing Orders: £510.00 **Total: £1471.63**

**Mill End:** Envelopes: £1307.80; Loose Plate: £190.67; Standing Orders: £197.00 **Total: £1695.47**

**Chorleywood:** The Offertory collection for the month of February - **£1965.34**

**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 12<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>	8.45am 9.15am 12.45pm 10.00am	First Communion Class First Communion Class Baptisms Coffee and tea after Mass	St John Fisher St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians St John Fisher
<b>MON 13<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>	10.00am 1.30pm 5.30pm 7.30pm  7.30pm 8.00pm	Lets Get Together and Grow - Hall Robert Barron's DVD Course <i>Conversion</i> - Hall First Communion Class - Hall Holy Hour - Meditations for Lent from St Thomas Aquinas " <i>The Love of God Shown In The Passion Of Christ</i> " Confirmation Session - Hall Choir Practice	Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians  Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist
<b>TUE 14<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>	8.00pm - 9.30pm	RCIA - Upper Room	Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>WED 15<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>	7.30pm 7.45pm	Choir Practice Robert Barron's DVD Course <i>Conversion</i> - Hall	St John Fisher Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>THU 16<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>	8.00pm - 9.30pm	Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>FRI 17<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>	10.00am 7.30pm	Coffee after Mass for all - Hall Stations of the Cross	Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist
<b>SAT 18<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>	10.30am - 11.30am 2.00pm 5.30pm	Holy Hour with Benediction and Confessions Baptism Preparation - Hall Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist

## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

	Our Lady Help of Christians	St John the Evangelist	St John Fisher
<b>SATURDAY</b> 11 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	<b>10.00am</b> Dessree Addison RIP	<b>6pm</b> (Vigil) Rickey O'Donnell RIP	<b>6pm</b> (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
<b>SUNDAY</b> 12 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH <i>2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT</i>	<b>8.30am</b> Philomena Roche (Ints.) <b>11am</b> For the People of the Parish <b>6pm</b> For the People of the Parish	<b>10.30am</b> Patrick Conway RIP (Anniv.)	<b>9am</b> For the People of the Parish
<b>MONDAY</b> 13 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	<b>9.30am</b> For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish	<b>9.30am</b> Mary Hornsby RIP	
<b>TUESDAY</b> 14 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	<b>9.30am</b> Private Intention		<b>9.30am</b> For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 15 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH		<b>9.30am</b> Phyllis & Derek Humphries RIP (Anniv.)	
<b>THURSDAY</b> 16 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	<b>9.30am</b> Dessree Addison RIP		
<b>FRIDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b> <i>St PATRICK, BISHOP, PATRON OF IRELAND</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>SATURDAY</b> 18 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	<b>10.00am</b> Private Intention	<b>6pm</b> (Vigil) Timothy Sheehan RIP (Anniv.)	<b>6pm</b> (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
<b>SUNDAY</b> 19 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH <i>3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT</i>	<b>8.30am</b> Bernie Waine RIP <b>11am</b> Hannah Logan RIP (Anniv.) <b>6pm</b> Albert Kean RIP (Anniv.)	<b>10.30am</b> David O'Connor RIP (Anniv.)	<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, Brian Hunt, Maureen Giles, Olive Cordery, Neville Mathews, Agnes Harper, Eileen Durkan, Ginny Goodgol, Maria Wallis, Peter Ward, Heather Kean, Olive Kiener, Jeannine Simonds, John Caneparo, Henry Cutting, Noel Jackson, Christina Thomas and Nalene Nixon.

**St John the Evangelist:** Jean Mulderrig; Rita Murray; Joyce Baldwin, Imogen Bailey, Harry Lennon, Joe Donnelly, John Connor, Mary Harris 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, Aidan O'Mahony and Helen Forrest.

## NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

### TERESA (TERRY) MESSER RIP

The funeral of Terry Messer will take place at 11.00am on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March at St John Fisher, Chorleywood, followed by burial at Chorleywood Lawn Cemetery. We commend her to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for her family at this sad and difficult time.

### CAFOD – LENT FAST DAY APPEAL

Last Friday was CAFOD Lent Fast Day. There will be a retiring collection at all the Masses this weekend to support the work of CAFOD for the poorest peoples of the developing world. CAFOD envelopes are available for those who didn't get one last weekend.

### BAPTISM PREPARATION

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 on **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March** at **2.00pm** in Our Lady's hall.

### LENTEN ALMS COLLECTION

This year the Cardinal has asked that the Lenten Alms collection be directed to the Cardinal's Appeal fund. The funds raised will go to support parishes or groups in their work to further the mission of the Church: to serve the evangelisation of youth, to develop marriage and family life projects, and to provide service in society, especially to those on the margins. You can make a Lenten gift by placing your offering in the designated money box in each parish. More information and donation envelopes are available in each parish for anyone wishing to support the Cardinal's Appeal. To donate online please visit [www.rcdow.org.uk/donations](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/donations) then click on 'Cardinal's Appeal'.

### DAY PILGRIMAGE TO CANTERBURY – 24<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2017

I have arranged a day pilgrimage by coach to Canterbury for **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July**. The day will include Mass in Canterbury Cathedral, the possibility of a tour of the cathedral in the afternoon and plenty of free time to explore this historic city. The pilgrimage has been arranged for the very beginning of the school summer holidays, so I hope that families with children will be able to join us. The cost of the trip will be £12 for adults and children over 12 and £6 for children 12 or under. The cost of the tour of the cathedral (optional) will be £6 per person. Booking forms will be available shortly after Easter and places will be allocated on a "first come, first served" basis. Please make a note in your diary now! *Fr Shaun*

### 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. Please make a note in your diary of this important event.

### LENT 2017

Our Lenten programme for 2017 continues:

- Robert Barron's DVD Course *Conversion* in which he showcases six stories of conversion from the Bible. Mondays and Wednesdays of Lent. Mondays at 1.30pm at St John's, Mill End and Wednesdays at 7.45pm in Our Lady's hall.
- A Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament with reflections from the writings of St Thomas Aquinas on the Mondays of Lent at 7.30pm at Our Lady's.
- Stations of the Cross on the Fridays of Lent at 7.30pm: Mill End 17<sup>th</sup> March and 7<sup>th</sup> April; Rickmansworth 24<sup>th</sup> March and 14<sup>th</sup> April; Chorleywood: 31<sup>st</sup> March.

### PARISH PILGRIMAGE –MAY/JUNE 2017

There will be a pilgrimage from **Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May** to **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2016**. The itinerary and booking forms are available in the parishes this weekend and are also downloadable from the parish websites. *Fr Shaun*

### SVP COMMUNITY LUNCH

The next SVP Community Lunch is on **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March** at 12.30pm in St John's School Hall. Please do come along and have a meal and befriend our guests. Spread the word. There is no charge but donations are welcome.

### 6<sup>TH</sup> RICKMANSWORTH SEA SCOUT GROUP

Book sale & Quality Items will be held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March from 7 to 9pm. Any suitable items can be left at the Scout HQ behind Our Lady's Church at the usual meeting times or collection can be arranged by telephoning – 246169 / 776035. Parents and Supporters are reminded that help is needed to run these events.

### CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE – Nursery/Reception 2018 and Secondary Transfer 2018

If you are new to the parish, and have not been issued with a Mass Attendance Card, and will be seeking a Certificate of Catholic Practice for a **September 2018** reception or nursery place in a Catholic primary school or a **September 2018** place in a Catholic Secondary school, please speak to Fr Shaun or Fr Mark as soon as possible.

## Youth

Thank you for a fantastic week at youth—we enjoyed the conversations and your very creative approach to the games! Year 7-8 next meet on 21 March, and year 9-11 on 23 March. There's a few special things coming up as well :

#### Saturday Socials Year 7-13

1 April: visit Aquadrome

10 June: Trampolining

(More information will follow soon.)

#### Easter Catechesis Year 7-8

25 April | *Crafting,*

9 May | *catechesis, and*

23 May | *a game of splat.*

## Young Adult Pub Socials

Young adult pub socials (7.15 pm at the Coach and Horses) will take place on:

26 March

30 April

21 May

25 June

## OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

### CRECHE AT 11AM MASS

There is a crèche with toys and books for pre-school children (walking age upwards, as long as they're happy to be left) which runs throughout the year, usually alongside the Children's Liturgy, for the first half of the 11am Mass. This is not for school-aged children who can join the Children's Liturgy group in the small hall (during term time). We organise a rota on a two monthly basis and we are always looking for new volunteers (who will need to undergo a DBS check) so if you'd like to join us, please pop into the hall or contact Helen Nolan on [helenvnolan@ntlworld.com](mailto:helenvnolan@ntlworld.com) or 07980 600549.

### 200 CLUB (FEBRUARY)

Congratulations to Roger Harbird (£40), Martin Brady (£30), Hilary Barnett (£20) and John Reid (£10)

**EASTER CARDS** - now available in the repository.

## ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

### ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

At the Annual Parish Meeting last Sunday, I announced that I was appointing Ann Casey, Fainche McDonagh and Bob Livingston as members of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) to serve a two year term of office. I am very grateful to them for accepting my invitation. I also express my sincere thanks to Allyson O'Grady, Geraldine Page and Liz Townsend, whose term of office on the PPC now comes to an end. I am very grateful to all three of them for the massive contribution they have made to the parish through the PPC over the past two and half years. *Fr Shaun*

### 200 CLUB DRAW (FEBRUARY)

Congratulations to Robert Gibson (£50); Lynne Soames (£30) and Sean Fagan (£20).

## ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

### OUR PARISH, OUR NEEDS, OUR RESPONSIBILITY – PLANNED GIVING REVIEW

*'As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied Grace'* - 1 Peter 4:10

Our parish has a long history of being a spiritual centre in the lives of many people. Periodically reflecting on our blessings and renewing our commitment to our Catholic Faith is an important part of spiritual growth and Christian discipleship; giving thanks to God first and foremost!

This weekend we launch a Planned Giving review. Over the coming weeks we want **all** parishioners to take this opportunity to **prayerfully** reflect on their commitment to our parish. As a parish and as individuals, we have been blessed with many, varied gifts. The life of a steward calls us to share our gifts of time, talent and financial blessings with our family, our community and our world. These gifts come from God, so let us strive to return a sacrificial, not token, portion to Him. Inside this newsletter today you will find a Planned Giving review newsletter. We shall be hearing more about stewardship and the needs of our parish over the coming weeks. Please give prayerful consideration to this appeal. If you have any questions, a member of the Parish Finance Committee will be available after Mass today. Thank you.

### ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held at St John Fisher on **Tuesday 28 March at 8pm**. All parishioners are welcome to attend. The meeting will include the appointment of a new Chair and members of the Parish Pastoral Council to replace those who will stand down this year. Nominations for a Chair and new council members should be passed to Fr Shaun, Fr Mark or Alan Opie, Chair of the Pastoral Council. Parishioners can nominate themselves to be members of the Council.

### CHRISTMAS CARDS TO COLLECT FROM THE LOBBY PLEASE

Before Christmas, a number of cards were left on the small table in the lobby for various families. Many thanks to those who've now collected theirs. Cards remain for the following families - Hannan, Munn, O'Mahony, Prunty and Ward.

### RED MISSIO BOXES

Hello to all supporters! Please could you bring your boxes to church on the weekends 11/12<sup>th</sup> and 18/19<sup>th</sup>, for the March collection. Thank you, *Mary*.

### COFFEE AFTER 9AM MASS

All very welcome to stay for a cup of tea or coffee after this Sunday's Mass, 12 March.

**ST PATRICK'S DAY AND EASTER CARDS** are now available in the lounge.

ROTAS	Saturday 6.00pm Mass			Sunday 9.00am Mass			Sunday Counters	Laundry
	Welcomer	Reader	MoC	Welcomer	Reader	Communion		
11/12 March	M Foggo	S Hoy	C Johnson	M Mackie	H McGrath	L Turnbull	Carolyn & Peter	T Price
18/19 March	GF	A Roberts	P Goble	J Hale	A Opie	AM Farnsworth	Marguerite & Patsy	J Whelan

## DIOCESAN NOTICES

### FRENCH TEACHER REQUIRED

St Joan of Arc School requires a French teacher to teach KS3 and 4 with immediate effect until July 2017. If you are interested, please email the Head's PA, Mrs Cirillo: [acirillo@joa.herts.sc.uk](mailto:acirillo@joa.herts.sc.uk) for more information.

### CARDINAL'S MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

**Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2017 at 3pm.**

The Cardinal 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 2017. 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) by the **24<sup>th</sup> March 2017**.