



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:

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Assistant Priest:

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 @ChessValleyRC

30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) - 29TH OCTOBER 2017

SUNDAY THOUGHT

Some tests are routine and we take for granted. For example, emergency broadcast tests, fire drills, eye exams. Other tests cause us stress and anxiety. For example, a driving test or an important examination. Jesus had no anxiety about the test the Pharisees put to him. Neither did he take it for granted.

The Pharisees test Jesus with a seemingly superfluous question. Superfluous, because every observant Jew would already know the answer. These experts in the law and the prophets could not quarrel with Jesus' answer. But they did, over and over, quarrel with how Jesus put his answer into practice in his own life. Jesus' way of living the double law of love put them to the test. And they failed.

If Jesus were to test us by asking, "What is the greatest commandment?" Our verbal answer might pass with flowing colours. But would the way we live pass his test?

- Entrance Antiphon:** Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.
- 1st Reading:** Exodus 22:20-26
- Response to Psalm:** I love you, Lord my strength.
- 2nd Reading:** 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10
- Gospel:** Matthew 22:34-40
- Communion Antiphon:** We will ring out our joy at your saving help and exult in the name of our God.

Next Sunday's Readings

Malachi 1:14 - 2:2. 8-10; 1 Thessalonians 2:7-9. 13; Matthew 23:1-12 (Gospel)

LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION

Rickmansworth: Envelopes: £451.80; Loose Plate: £350.35; Standing Orders: £510.00 **Total: £1342.15**

Mill End: Envelopes: £288.00; Loose Plate: £239.07; Standing Orders: £197.00 **Total: £724.07**

Chorleywood: The Offertory collection for the month of September - **£2533.81**

CAFOD Harvest Fast Day: Rickmansworth £561.87; Mill End £299.92; Chorleywood £282.06

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 29TH OCTOBER	8.45am 9.15am 11.30am	First Communion Class First Communion Class - Hall Sunday Brunch - Hall	St John Fisher St John the Evangelist St John the Evangelist
MON 30TH OCTOBER	10.00am - 12 noon 8.00pm	Lets Get Together and Grow - Hall Choir Practice	Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist
TUE 31ST OCTOBER	5.30pm 6.00pm - 7.30pm 8.00pm - 9.30pm	First Communion Class - Hall Saints - Hall RCIA - Upper Room	Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
WED 1ST NOVEMBER	12 noon	Funeral Mass - Catherine Ruth RIP	Our Lady Help of Christians
THU 2ND NOVEMBER	8.00pm	Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
FRI 3RD NOVEMBER	10.00am	Coffee after Mass for all - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
SAT 4TH NOVEMBER	10.30am - 11.30am 2.00pm 2.30pm 5.30pm	Holy Hour with Benediction and Confessions Blessing of Graves - Garden of Rest Blessing of Graves Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians Chorleywood Old Cemetery St John Fisher St John the Evangelist

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

	Our Lady Help of Christians	St John the Evangelist	St John Fisher
SATURDAY 28TH OCTOBER <i>SS SIMON & JUDE, APOSTLES</i>	10.00am Fr John Elliott RIP	6pm (Vigil) Sheila Birmingham RIP	6pm (Vigil) Fr Norman Brown RIP
SUNDAY 29TH OCTOBER <i>30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am Elizabeth Mary Kendrick RIP (Anniv.) 11am Peter Mann RIP 6pm Ann Breen RIP (Anniv.)	10.30am Frazer Bradshaw RIP	9am For the People of the Parish
MONDAY 30TH OCTOBER	9.30am Fr Norman Porter Brown RIP	9.30am Tom & Cath Hughes RIP	
TUESDAY 31ST OCTOBER	9.30am For the Sick & Housebound of the Parish		9.30am For the Sick & Housebound of the Parish
WED 1ST NOVEMBER <i>ALL SAINTS</i>	9.30am Holy Souls 8.00pm Holy Souls	9.30am Holy Souls	8.00pm Holy Souls
THURS 2ND NOVEMBER <i>ALL SOUL'S DAY</i>	9.30am Holy Souls	7.30pm Holy Souls	9.30am Holy Souls
FRIDAY 3RD NOVEMBER	9.30am Holy Souls		9.30am Holy Souls
SATURDAY 4TH NOVEMBER <i>St CHARLES BORROMEO, BISHOP</i>	10.00am To pray for the work of Chess Valley SVP and in particular for the B'Attitude Group	6pm (Vigil) Nora Conroy RIP	6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
SUNDAY 5TH NOVEMBER <i>31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am Michael Wyard RIP 11am Fr Norman Brown RIP 6pm For the People of the Parish	10.30am Maude Lewis RIP (Anniv.)	9am Gregory McEwen RIP (Anniv.)

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, Joan Townend and Mike Townend.

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

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

50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE ABORTION ACT

Friday 27 October marked the 50th anniversary of the passing of the Abortion Act in 1967. A statement marking this occasion been issued jointly by the Bishops' Conferences of England and Wales, and of Scotland. Copies are available in each parish this weekend.

CAFOD – CONNECT2 PROJECT – SEBEYA, ETHIOPIA

At the joint meeting of the three pastoral councils in July this year, we agreed that the three parishes together would seek to form a connection with a community in the developing world through CAFOD's Connect2 scheme. Together we decided that we would like to connect to the community in Sebeya, in the north of Ethiopia, where drought threatens hundreds of families who rely on farming for survival. This weekend at the Mill End 6.00pm Mass we will be joined by Keith Routledge and at the 8.30am and 10.30am Masses at Our Lady's we will be joined by Tony Gilbert. Keith and Tony work for CAFOD and will share with us something about the community in Sebeya and how we can form this connection with them. Representatives from CAFOD will speak at the other Masses on the weekend of 4th/5th November.

SOLEMINITY OF ALL SAINTS – HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Wednesday 1st November is the Solemnity of All Saints and is a Holy Day of Obligation, one of the few days outside of a Sunday when Catholics are obliged to attend Mass. The Masses across the three parishes on this day will be as follows:

St John's, Mill End – 9.30am; Our Lady's, Rickmansworth – 9.30am and 8pm; St John Fisher, Chorleywood – 8pm

NOVEMBER – MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

November is a month when we traditionally pray for the repose of the faithful departed. Remembering in a special way our departed family members and friends. At the back of the church there are some sheets on which you can write the names of departed loved ones and friends. These can then be placed inside one of the brown envelopes provided (with any offering you wish to make) and then be placed in the "Holy Souls" box at the back of the church. During the month of November each weekday Mass will be offered for the Holy Souls and your intentions will be placed in a special box in front of the altar as a focus for our prayer for the faithful departed.

COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED (ALL SOULS' DAY)

Thursday 2nd November is All Soul's day. Masses across the three parishes will be as follows:

Our Lady's Rickmansworth – 9.30am; St John Fisher, Chorleywood – 9.30am; St John's, Mill End – 7.30pm

CATHERINE RUTH RIP

The funeral of Catherine Ruth will take place at Our Lady Help of Christians at 12 noon on Wednesday 1st November, followed by committal at Woodcock Hill Cemetery. We commend her to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for her family at this sad and difficult time.

NOVEMBER BLESSING OF GRAVES

During November Fr Shaun and Fr Damian will be blessing graves in the local cemeteries:

Our Lady's Garden of Rest – Saturday 4th November at 2.00pm; Chorleywood Old Cemetery – Saturday 4th November at 2.30pm; Chorleywood Lawn Cemetery – Saturday 18th November at 2.00pm and Woodcock Hill Cemetery – Saturday 25th November at 2.00pm.

We had hoped that the new memorial stones for the Garden of Rest might have been ready for blessing at this time. However, due to it taking longer than anticipated to contact as many of the next of kin as possible, it is now unlikely that the memorial stones will be ready to be laid until early 2018.

CHESS VALLEY SVP MASS - SATURDAY 4TH NOVEMBER

The 10am Mass, Adoration (from 10.30am) and Benediction (11.25am) on Saturday at Our Lady's will be offered for the work of Chess Valley SVP and in particular for the B'Attitude Group. Parishioners are warmly invited to come along for all or any part of the morning.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY - 12TH NOVEMBER 2017

The Rickmansworth Town Remembrance Sunday Service will take place on Sunday 12th November at 2.30pm at St Mary's Church, Rickmansworth. It will be preceded by the Remembrance Sunday Parade. The Parade will muster at Our Lady's at 1.45pm and moves off at 2.00pm. The Remembrance Service at St Mary's begins at 2.30pm. Our uniformed groups will be attending. We hope that many parishioners will come and share in this important act of remembrance.

SVP CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH

Do you know anyone who is on their own this Christmas? The SVP are hosting a Christmas Day Lunch at St John's RC Primary School. Doors open at 11.30am and a traditional Christmas dinner will be served at 1pm. The suggested donation is £5 and it will be a day of festive fun and laughter. To find out more information, or to book your place, please ring Geraldine or Emily Page on 01923 776100. We can offer lifts within Rickmansworth and the surrounding areas.

A WEEK OF GUIDED PRAYER – 12th to 19th MAY 2018 (not 19th to 26th May as previously advertised)

We are looking into the possibility of running a Week of Guided Prayer for the three parishes in the lead-up to Pentecost 2018. The week would begin and end with a service, but from Monday to Friday retreatants would commit to praying individually for 30 minutes each day and to meeting for half an hour each day with a Prayer Companion to be guided in the prayer experience. Such an event obviously requires a considerable amount of preparation and organisation. Therefore, we would like to know:

1. If any parishioners would be interested in taking part in the Week of Guided Prayer as a participant.
2. Whether any parishioners would be prepared to commit to being Prayer Companions (some training would be given)
3. As this will be a lay-led event - whether any parishioners (a group of four or five at least would be needed) would be willing to plan, organise and run this event. All the resources necessary for running the event can be provided by an organisation which assists parishes who wish to run a Week of Guided Prayer.

If you are interested in participating in the week guided prayer or being a Prayer Companion and/or being part of a small team that would plan, organise and run this event, then please sign up, in the respective columns, on the clipboard sheet in each parish.

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 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 **Sat. 11th November from 9.30-11.30am** 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. *Fr Shaun*

REMEMBER, REMEMBER, THE THIRD OF NOVEMBER!

6th Rickmansworth Sea Scouts present **BONFIRE NIGHT SPECTACULAR – FIREWORKS & BONFIRE** – on Friday 3rd November at 7.00pm in the Grounds behind Our Lady's Church. Admission £4.00 single or £15.00 per family.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

PLANNED GIVING REVIEW – THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who took part in our recent 'Planned Giving' review. On a table in the porch there are addressed envelopes for all parishioners who signed a promise leaflet. Please collect your letter when you leave Mass today. If you missed signing a promise card, and would like a box of donation envelopes, or to donate to the parish by standing order (bankers order) or wish to Gift Aid, please complete a promise card, which are available at the back of the church today. Once again, thank you for all that you do. Please keep our parish in your prayers.

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 next Sunday.

SUNDAY BRUNCH AT OUR LADY'S

The next Sunday Brunch will take place on **Sunday 5th November** 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.

PARISH QUIZ NIGHT on Saturday 11th November (7.00pm for 7.30pm start)

A light hearted evening of baffling questions complemented by the finest fish and chips available in the Rickmansworth area. Marathon rounds, jokers and much more. Tickets £10 each, available after Masses from this weekend or contact Adrian on 07503 898689. Please bring your friends!

ADVENT FAIR - Sunday 3rd December 9am - 1pm

Please start searching your cupboards for donations of bottles and unwanted gifts for the tombola and any star raffle prizes! Boxes will be available in the porch for next weekend. Please can all cake bakers pop a note in the diary to remember to bake something delicious to be dropped off on the morning of the fair. Help us spread the word by inviting your friends and family. All proceeds HPCC group 183 to take disabled children on holiday. Contact Angela, Caroline or Laura with any questions or if you are available to help.

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

SUNDAY BRUNCH AT ST JOHN'S

Sunday Brunch at St John's (with bacon and sausage rolls) will take place on **Sunday 29th October** after 10.30am Mass. All proceeds raised will go to Aid to the Church in Need. We hope that you will come and join us!

PARISH CHRISTMAS FAIR

The Christmas Fair will take place after the 10.30am Mass on **Sunday 10th December**. If you are interested in helping with the fair, setting up, running a stall, clearing away or simply have something to donate please meet Liz Townsend and Natalie Zammit in the church hall (over coffee!) after the 10.30am Mass on **Sunday 12th November**. If you are unable to attend the meeting on 12th November, but would be interested in helping, please email liztownsend_uk@yahoo.co.uk

CHRISTMAS FAIR DONATIONS

We are asking for Donations of Bottles, Sweets, Chocolates and Homemade cakes to support the fair. Please bring in Bottles, Sweets and Chocolates for the Tombola's; all donations can be left at the back of the porch between now and the 8th December. Please bring Homemade cakes on the morning of the Fair (10th December).

ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

ST JOHN FISHER QUIZ NIGHT - Friday 10th November

Please add this date to your diary. The quiz night will be held at Our Lady's hall.

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.

ST JOHN FISHER CHARITY CHRISTMAS FAIR - Saturday 2nd December 10am to 12.30pm

Please let Mary know if you have any interesting and innovative ideas for organisation or variety of stalls. All ideas welcomed. Also please volunteer (or respond happily if approached!!) to do any of the many necessary jobs. Please start to search the corners of your cupboards for unwanted gifts and bottles and even items which would be suitable for our Silent Auction and possibly plant up some Christmas bulbs. MOST IMPORTANTLY please pray for the success of our Fair, where every penny raised is given away to the Needy people our World. Thank you. *Mary*

CHRISTMAS 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		
28/29 Oct.	E O'Sullivan	GF	C Johnson	D Treanor	M Calvert	L Turnbull	Peter & Patsy	V Terill
4/ 5 Nov.	D Gibney	M Foggo	J McEwen	M Calvert	T D'Urso	J Hale	Kate & Ann	C Steet

Saints (school year 7-9)

Games, food & reflection

6 pm—7.30 pm @ Mill End parish hall. We're meeting this **Tuesday 31 October**. Obviously that's the eve of **All Saints!** Celebrating Christ's victory over death! I dare you to come dressed up like a saint. Mother Teresa, anyone? St Joan of Arc? Our Lady? St Maximilian Kolbe? I know someone will be dressed up as Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati!

Annual Diocesan Youth Mass

Friday 8 December

St Aloysius church, Euston
For young people, their families and for young adults.

Mass starts at 7 pm. After Mass there is a social in the hall. In other words: free food!

Young Adult Pub Socials

From 7.15 pm to 9 pm at the Coach and Horses in Ricky on **19 November, 17 December and 21 January** for young adults age 18 to 35ish.

B-Attitude (school year 9-13)

Put your faith into action

B-Attitude meet on **Monday 6 November @ Our Lady's** parish hall (it's in the upper room, up the staircase) **from 6 pm to 7 pm.**