



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 Damian Ryan  
[damianryan@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:damianryan@rcdow.org.uk)

**Parish Administrator:**  
Kerry Van Rensburg  
[rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk)

**Parish Youth Worker:**  
Anke Vos  
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 @ChessValleyRC

## 31<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) - 5<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2017

### SUNDAY THOUGHT

Who does not like honours, titles, prestige, privileges, perks? In themselves, these are neutral. Made to be ends in themselves, however, they are stumbling blocks to personal integrity, wholesome relationships, and humble service of others. No wonder Jesus castigates the scribes and Pharisees in today's gospel.

The scribes and the Pharisees loved places of honour at banquets and seats of honour in the synagogues more than they loved the "Chair of Moses" that had actually been given to them. The "chair of Moses" belonged to those deputed to teach the law of God and the ways of the covenant. These scribes and Pharisees actually abandoned the "chair of Moses" even while they clung to its power and prestige. Unlike Moses and unlike Jesus, they refused the humble servanthood to which their position called them. They refused to be true teachers of the people. They refused to be true servants of God.

Jesus himself had many titles: Christ, Messiah, Rabbi, Master, prophet. But he did not treat any of these as ends in themselves, but always as ways of leading others to the exalted life given by the Father. He, is indeed, the true Teacher and Master. When we listen to Jesus and follow him faithfully, we become like him in our humble service and our fidelity to the will of God. In this we truly reveal who Jesus is and who we are in him.

**Entrance Antiphon:** Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me!  
Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation!

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Malachi 1:14 - 2:2. 8-10

**Response to Psalm:** Keep my soul in peace before you, O Lord.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** 1 Thessalonians 2:7-9. 13

**Gospel:** Matthew 23:1-12

**Communion Antiphon:** You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord.

#### *Next Sunday's Readings*

Wisdom 6:12-16; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13 (Gospel)

### LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION

**Rickmansworth:** Envelopes: £578.52; Loose Plate: £389.20; Standing Orders: £510.00 **Total: £1477.72**

**Mill End:** Envelopes: £245.50; Loose Plate: £231.82; Standing Orders: £197.00 **Total: £674.32**

**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

<b>SUN 5<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b>	8.45am 9.15am 9.30am 12 noon	First Communion Class First Communion Class - Hall Coffee after Mass for all - Hall Sunday Brunch - Hall	St John Fisher St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>MON 6<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b>	10.00am - 12 noon 6.00pm - 7.00pm 7.30pm - 9.00pm 8.00pm	Lets Get Together and Grow - Hall B-Attitude - Upper Room 1 <sup>st</sup> Communion Parents Meeting - Hall Choir Practice	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist
<b>TUE 7<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b>	5.30pm 8.00pm - 9.30pm	First Communion Class - Hall RCIA - Upper Room	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>WED 8<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b>			
<b>THU 9<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b>	2.15pm for 2.30pm 7.45pm 8.00pm	Quiet Space SVP Meeting - Hall Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	St Peter's, Mill End St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>FRI 10<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b>	10.00am 7.00pm (7.30pm start)	Coffee after Mass for all - Hall St John Fisher Quiz Night - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>SAT 11<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b>	9.30am - 11.30am 10.30am - 11.30am 5.30pm 7.00pm (7.30pm start)	Fire Warden Training Holy Hour with Benediction and Confessions Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Our Lady's Quiz Night - Hall	Our Lady & St Michael Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians

## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

	Our Lady Help of Christians	St John the Evangelist	St John Fisher
<b>SATURDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b> <i>St CHARLES BORROMEO, BISHOP</i>	<b>10.00am</b> To pray for the work of Chess Valley SVP and in particular for the B-Attitude Group	<b>6pm</b> (Vigil) Nora Conroy RIP	<b>6pm</b> (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
<b>SUNDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b> <i>31<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	<b>8.30am</b> Michael Wyard RIP <b>11am</b> Fr Norman Brown RIP <b>6pm</b> For the People of the Parish	<b>10.30am</b> Maude Lewis RIP (Anniv.)	<b>9am</b> Gregory McEwen RIP (Anniv.)
<b>MONDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b>	<b>9.30am</b> John Rees RIP	<b>9.30am</b> Holy Souls	
<b>TUESDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b>	<b>9.30am</b> Julia Rice & Phyllis Rice RIP (Anniv.)		<b>9.30am</b> Holy Souls
<b>WEDNESDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b>		<b>9.30am</b> Holy Souls	
<b>THURS 9<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b> <i>THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA</i>	<b>9.30am</b> Alexander Buhagiar RIP (Anniv.)		
<b>FRIDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b> <i>St LEO THE GREAT, POPE &amp; DOCTOR</i>	<b>9.30am</b> Holy Souls		<b>9.30am</b> Gregory McEwen RIP
<b>SAT 11<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b> <i>St MARTIN OF TOURS, BISHOP</i>	<b>10.00am</b> Holy Souls	<b>6pm</b> (Vigil) Nora Conroy RIP	<b>6pm</b> (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
<b>SUNDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b> <i>32<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	<b>8.30am</b> Graham Williams RIP (Anniv.) <b>11am</b> For the People of the Parish <b>6pm</b> Fr Sean O'Toole RIP	<b>10.30am</b> For the People of the Parish	<b>9am</b> 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

### 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 Chorleywood Masses and the 11.00am and 6.00pm Masses at Our Lady's we will be joined by a representative from CAFOD who will share with us something about the community in Sebeya and how Connect2 works.

### SICK AND RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND OF THE DIOCESE OF WESTMINSTER

Next weekend our parish will take up a second collection to support the sick and retired priests of the Diocese of Westminster. Your generous donation helps to ensure that priests, who have followed their vocation and given their lives to the Church, are cared for and supported when they are sick and when they retire. The Sick and Retired Priests' Fund helps cover the medical, housing, convalescence, and personal needs of these priests, as well as helping them in an emergency. They have been there for us; let us be there for them. Donation envelopes are available in each parish this weekend. Please take one home, read about this important work, and bring it back next weekend with your donation. Please continue to pray for the well-being of all our clergy – active, retired and ill.

### 1<sup>ST</sup> COMMUNION PARENTS MEETING

Parents are reminded that there will be a meeting with Fr Shaun on **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November** from **7.30pm to 9pm** in Our Lady's Hall.

### NOVEMBER BLESSING OF GRAVES

During November Fr Shaun and Fr Damian will be blessing graves in the local cemeteries: Chorleywood Lawn Cemetery – Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November at 2pm and Woodcock Hill Cemetery – Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November at 2pm. 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.

### REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY - 12<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2017

The Rickmansworth Town Remembrance Sunday Service will take place on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> 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.

### CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE– NURSERY AND RECEPTION 2018

Fr Shaun will be available for the signing of Certificates of Catholic Practice for Nursery and Reception 2018 on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December – 5.30pm to 6.30pm** and **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December – 5.00pm to 6.00pm**. These sessions will be held in Our Lady's Hall, Rickmansworth. There is no need to make an individual appointment or to bring with you the child for whom you are applying for a place; 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.

### CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE – NURSERY/RECEPTION 2019

Parents with a child who will be applying for a Nursery / Reception place in a Catholic School for **September 2019** are asked to collect a letter and Mass attendance card from Fr Shaun or Fr Damian after Mass this weekend. Please read the letter carefully, as it contains **very important** information regarding what is required of you in order for us to be able to provide a Certificate of Catholic Practice for your family.

### CATHOLIC WORKER FARM - CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Our SVP group will be making up gifts for the refugee ladies currently living at The CWF and Mary House. From next weekend there will be collection boxes in the three church porches. We are asking for: jewellery, gloves and scarves (new or in good condition please). Shower gels, body butter, lotions and hand soaps. We had a very generous response in previous years and we are optimistic that it will be the same this time. Thankyou very much. SVP.

### 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.

### WEEK OF GUIDED PRAYER

As only a relatively small number of parishioners have expressed an interest in the week of guided prayer proposed for May 2018, it has been decided to postpone this event for the time being. It is hoped that this will be something we can look at again in the future.

### FIRE SAFETY AND AN APPEAL FOR FIRE WARDENS

Ensuring the safety of parishioners during Mass is of the highest importance. In the unlikely 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 **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> 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*

## GENERAL NOTICES

### SUPPORT GROUP FOR PARENTS OF ADULTS/CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

A support group is being set up for parents of adults or children with special needs and the first meeting will be at Our Lady Help of Christians, Rickmansworth in the Upper Meeting Room on **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November** from **11.30am to 1pm**. Please contact Siobhan, Family Worker at Holy Rood Church for more information, if needed, on 01923 224085 (option 6).

### SLEEPING BAG APPEAL ON BEHALF OF BARBARA JOHNSON

As the temperature, especially at night, continues to drop, we want to be able to meet the very real need for warm bedding for those who will be sleeping rough or struggling with the cold this winter. We need sleeping bags that are designed to withstand extreme temperatures (down to -10c). If anyone feels able to help please contact Anna ([07805 121379](tel:07805121379)) or Malcolm ([07926 193877](tel:07926193877)).

## OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

**READERS ROTA** - there are copies of the new rota at the back of the church.

### 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.

### SUNDAY BRUNCH AT OUR LADY'S

The next Sunday Brunch will take place on **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> 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 11<sup>th</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

### 200 CLUB - OCTOBER DRAW

Congratulations to Anne Dodson (£39); Deirdre Edwards (£29.25); Angela Steele (£19.50) and Imogen Barrett (£9.75).

## ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC)

The summary note of the Mill End PPC meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2017 is posted on the porch notice board and can also be downloaded from the parish website. A few "hard" copies are available for those without access to the internet. The next meeting takes place on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November. If any parishioners have any ideas or suggestions that they would like to be discussed please contact the Chair at [millendppcchair@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:millendppcchair@rcdow.org.uk). Alternatively, parishioners can ask a PPC member known to them to raise the matter on their behalf.

### PARISH CHRISTMAS FAIR

The Christmas Fair will take place after the 10.30am Mass on **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> 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 12<sup>th</sup> November**. If you are unable to attend the meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> November, but would be interested in helping, please email [liztownsend\\_uk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto: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 8<sup>th</sup> December. Please bring Homemade cakes on the morning of the Fair (10<sup>th</sup> December).

### 200 CLUB

Congratulations to Allyson O'Grady (£50); M Lewin (£30) and Sandra Tew (£20).

## ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

### ST JOHN FISHER QUIZ NIGHT - Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November

Will be held at Our Lady's hall (7.00pm for a 7.30pm start).

**TEAS AND COFFEES** will be served after Mass on Sunday 12 November. All are very welcome.

### 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 2<sup>nd</sup> December 10am to 12.30pm

Please keep thinking of all that you can do on, and before our Fair. Thank you, **Mary** (01923 284975)

**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		
4/ 5 Nov.	D Gibney	M Foggo	J McEwen	M Calvert	T D'Urso	J Hale	Kate & Ann	C Steet
11/ 12 Nov.	A Dennis	T Hartney	P Goble	U Lean	K Cottingham	AM Farnsworth	Una & Francis	T Price

### Saints (school year 7-9)

*Games, food & reflection*

Thank you for a lovely evening! Next one is **6 pm—7.30 pm @ Mill End** parish hall, you're very welcome to join us also if it's your first time. We're meeting on **Tuesday 14 November**. And on 28 November. And on 12 December, together with family, for our quiz without questions.

### Annual 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! If you would like to join us please let Anke know:

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

### 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** B-Attitude (school year 9-13) *Put your faith into action*

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