



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 Mark Walker
markwalker@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

3RD SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR A) 19TH MARCH 2017

SUNDAY THOUGHT

Stagnant water is stinky, polluted, and undrinkable. It is an ecological challenge to clean up, eliminate and prevent. The water of which Jesus speaks in this Sunday's gospel isn't stagnant but flowing. His "living water" is refreshing, ever-flowing, "welling up to eternal life." Of this water we must drink deeply.

Jesus himself is the well from which we receive "living water." When we drink of him, his "living water" becomes an undying spring within us leading us to believe in him more deeply, take up his saving mission, and worship in "Spirit and truth." Then we ourselves, his baptised followers, become a well of "living water" through whom Jesus draws all who are thirsty to himself.

We are a well of Jesus' "living water" when we, for example, slake the thirst of those parched for truth by exposing the falsehood that having more things will satisfy us; draw those seeking to encounter Jesus by the depth of our discipleship; lead others to true worship by the witness of our joy. We can be a deep well of "living water" for others only when we slake our own thirst from the well that is Jesus.

Entrance Antiphon: My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare.
Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

1st Reading: Exodus 17:3-7

Response to Psalm: O that today you would listen to his voice: 'Harden not your hearts.'

2nd Reading: Romans 5:1-2. 5-8

Gospel: John 4:5-42

Communion Antiphon: For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord, the water I shall give will become in him a spring welling up to eternal life.

Next Sunday's Readings

1 Samuel 16:1. 6-7. 10-13; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41 (Gospel)

LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION

Rickmansworth: Envelopes: £662.78; Loose Plate: £413.03; Standing Orders: £510.00 **Total: £1585.81**

Mill End: Envelopes: £283.35; Loose Plate: £203.68; Standing Orders: £197.00 **Total: £684.03**

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

SUN 19TH MARCH	8.45am 9.15am 12.30pm	First Communion Class First Communion Class SVP Community Lunch - Hall	St John Fisher St John the Evangelist St John's School
MON 20TH MARCH	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 Passion Of Christ Wrought Our Salvation By Redeeming Us</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
TUE 21ST MARCH	12.45pm 6.00pm - 7.30pm 8.00pm - 9.30pm	Funeral - Anthony Finnegan RIP Youth Group (Year 7-8) - Hall RCIA - Upper Room	Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
WED 22ND MARCH	7.45pm	Robert Barron's DVD Course <i>Conversion</i> - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
THU 23RD MARCH	6.00pm - 8.00pm 8.00pm - 9.30pm	Youth Group (Year 9-11) - Hall Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
FRI 24TH MARCH	10.00am 11.00am 7.30pm	Coffee after Mass for all - Hall Funeral Mass - Terry Messer RIP Stations of the Cross	Our Lady Help of Christians St John Fisher Our Lady Help of Christians
SAT 25TH MARCH	10.30am - 11.30am 5.30pm	Holy Hour with Benediction and Confessions Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	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
SATURDAY 18 TH MARCH	10.00am Private Intention	6pm (Vigil) Timothy Sheehan RIP (Anniv.)	6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
SUNDAY 19 TH MARCH 3 RD SUNDAY OF LENT	8.30am Bernie Waine RIP 11am Hannah Logan RIP (Anniv.) 6pm Albert Kean RIP (Anniv.)	10.30am David O'Connor RIP (Anniv.)	9am For the People of the Parish
MONDAY 20 TH MARCH <i>St JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</i>	9.30am Mr & Mrs J Reynolds RIP	9.30am Mary Hornsby RIP	
TUESDAY 21 ST MARCH	9.30am Mary McGuane RIP		9.30am Fr Jim Fanning RIP
WEDNESDAY 22 ND MARCH		9.30am Julia Sheehan RIP (Anniv.)	
THURSDAY 23 RD MARCH	9.30am Martin & Nina Burke RIP		
FRIDAY 24 TH MARCH	9.30am Mr & Mrs H Chandler RIP		9.30am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish
SATURDAY 25 TH MARCH <i>THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD</i>	10.00am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish	6pm (Vigil) Maurice O'Connor RIP (Anniv.)	6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
SUNDAY 26 TH MARCH 4 TH SUNDAY OF LENT	8.30am Mary & Evandro Girolami RIP 11am For the People of the Parish 6pm James O'Brien RIP	10.30am Bernie Loney RIP	9am 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 and Helen Forrest.

NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

ANTHONY FINNEGAN RIP

The funeral of Anthony Finnegan will take place at 12.45pm on Tuesday 21st March at Our Lady Help of Christians, followed by committal at Breakspear Crematorium. We commend him to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for his family at this sad and difficult time.

TERESA (TERRY) MESSER RIP

The funeral Mass of Terry Messer will take place at 11.00am on Friday 24th 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. Please note that the parking restriction on Shire Lane (single yellow line) has been lifted for the day.

A SAD FAREWELL

This week we bid a very sad farewell to Beryl Selley, who is moving to California to live there with one of her daughters. Beryl, together with her late husband Eric who died in January, has been at the heart of Our Lady's parish. Beryl will be much missed, not least in the 11.00am Mass choir, in which she has sung for many years. We wish Beryl great happiness in her new life and home in the USA.

HAPPY NEWS!

Pope Francis has appointed Fr John MacWilliam of the Missionaries of Africa (White Fathers) as a bishop in Algeria, to be the next leader of the diocese of Laghouat-Ghardaïa, made up largely of the Sahara desert. The appointment will be seen as recognition of the brave peace-building work he has carried out in the region, and the bridges he has built with his Muslim neighbours. Bishop-Elect John is a regular visitor to Our Lady's, Rickmansworth, as he is the brother of our parishioners, Sheila Harrington and Hilary Barnett. We pray for Bishop-Elect John, as he prepares to take up this challenging new mission.

LENT RECONCILIATION SERVICES

The Lenten Reconciliation Services across the three parishes this year will be as follows:

Monday 27th March at 7.30pm – Our Lady Help of Christians, Rickmansworth; **Tuesday 4th April at 7.30pm** – St John the Evangelist, Mill End; **Friday 7th April at 7.30pm** – St John Fisher, Chorleywood.

Visiting priests will be available to hear confessions (at Our Lady's and St. John's, Mill End) as well as the parish clergy. Fr Shaun or Fr Mark are also available each Saturday for hearing confessions between 10.30am and 11.30am during the Holy Hour at Our Lady's.

RCIA: First Scrutiny of the Elect

Following on from the Rite of Election on the first Sunday of Lent, the community celebrates the Scrutinies on the third, fourth and fifth Sundays of Lent with those who will be baptised at Easter. The word "scrutiny" refers to the self-searching of the elect. These rites are designed to heal all that is weak and sinful in the hearts of the candidates and to strengthen all that is upright and good. They include prayers of exorcism and call for deep repentance. The Scrutinies are based on the Gospels for these three Sundays, which focus on how their spirit is filled with Christ the Redeemer, who is the living water (the woman at the well), the light of the world (the man born blind) and the resurrection and the life (the raising of Lazarus). Let us pray for the elect in our parish and with them as they journey towards Easter.

BRITISH SUMMER TIME

A reminder that the clocks go forward one hour next weekend (25/26 March).

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: Rickmansworth 24th March and 14th April; Chorleywood: 31st March; Mill End 7th April.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE –MAY/JUNE 2017

There will be a pilgrimage from **Tuesday 30th May** to **Sunday 4th 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 19th 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.

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.

Thank you

Thank you to the young people & leaders who joined us for Flame! It was great to have you there. Thank you for a lovely day out!

Youth Group

Youth groups are meeting this week! Year 7-8 (Mill End, 6–7.30 pm) meet on **Tuesday 21 March**. Year 9-11 (Our Lady's, 6–8 pm) meet on **Thursday 23 March**.

Aquadrome (Year 7-13)

On Saturday 1 April, we're going to visit the Aquadrome in the afternoon to play some games (and enjoy some good weather if we're lucky). Please pick up a form from the back of the church if you would like to join us. P.S. We're going **trampolining** on 10 June!

Young Adult Pub Socials

All young adults (i.e. age 18-35ish!) are warmly invited to meet up at the Coach and Horses in Rickmansworth at 7.15 pm (after the 6 pm Mass) on **Sunday 26 March** for a drink and a chat.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

SUNDAY BRUNCH AT OUR LADY'S

Beginning on Sunday 2nd April we will be holding a Sunday Brunch in Our Lady's hall after the 11.00am Mass. We will be serving vegetable soup with a roll and bacon rolls. All proceeds will go to the Catholic Worker Farm. I am very grateful to the parishioners who have kindly agreed to organize and run the brunch. Please to come along and join us on 2nd April. *Fr Shaun*

EASTER CARDS - now available in the repository.

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

GROWING IN FAITH – PARISH PROJECT FUNDS

We have now received £1,508 as the next tranche of funding from the parish project share of the *Growing in Faith* campaign. This money will be used to offset some the costs of the new sanctuary. We are deeply grateful to all parishioners who have, and continue, to support the parish and the diocese through the *Growing in Faith* campaign.

OFFERTORY PROCESSION

We are changing the way that we organise the offertory procession at Mass. Until now those bringing up the gifts of bread and wine have done so on a rota basis. We would now like to have a less structured way of organising this and so in future the Welcomers at Mass will invite parishioners to take part in the presentation of the gifts. We are especially keen for children to become involved in this. If you, or your children, would like to bring forward the gifts of bread of bread and wine on a particular Sunday do please mention it to the Welcomers.

SUNDAY BRUNCH AT ST JOHN'S

Sunday Brunch at St John's (with bacon and sausage rolls) will take place on **Sunday 26th March** 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!

ROTAS

New rota's for the ministries of Welcome, Reader and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are available now at the back of the Church. Please take your copy.

ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

GROWING IN FAITH – PARISH PROJECT FUNDS

We have now received £1,862 as the next tranche of funding from the parish project share of the *Growing in Faith* campaign. This money will be used to offset some the costs of the re-ordering of the church. We are deeply grateful to all parishioners who have, and continue, to support the parish and the diocese through the *Growing in Faith* campaign.

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

Last week our parish embarked on a Planned Giving appeal. Over the coming weeks we want *all* parishioners to take this opportunity to *prayerfully* reflect on their financial 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. Today you will hear more about Planned Giving and Stewardship, including details on why our parish needs more financial help in order to cover our day-to-day running costs. Inside this newsletter you will find a planned giving newsletter, which we invite you to take home and read. We ask that you all prayerfully consider this Planned Giving appeal. We hope to complete our efforts next weekend. Next weekend we shall ask all parishioners to complete a promise card - this will enable our parish to plan ahead with confidence for the future. If you have any questions, there shall be volunteers 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.

RED MISSIO BOXES - please bring your boxes to church this weekend for the March collection. Thank you, *Mary*.

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		
18/19 March	GF	A Roberts	P Goble	J Hale	A Opie	AM Farnsworth	Marguerite & Patsy	J Whelan
25/26 March	A Dennis	M Fields	M Latimer	D Treanor	K Cottingham	J Hale	Kate & Francis	S Tarrant

DIOCESAN NOTICES

CARDINAL'S MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 3rd June 2017 at 3pm.

The Cardinal will be inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (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 **24th March 2017**.

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 for more information.