



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:

Mrs Kerry Van Rensburg
rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk

Address for all correspondence:
5 Park Road
Rickmansworth
WD3 1HU
Telephone: 01923 773387

3RD SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR C) 28TH FEBRUARY 2016

SUNDAY THOUGHT

We all have a “bottom line.” For instance, employers can raise production quotas to the point where employees strike. “Bottom line” is the limit of what is acceptable for us. Since our God is a God of life, there is no “bottom line” that exhausts God’s patience. There is always time for our repentance and choosing new life.

As long as there is life, there is potential to bear fruit. This Sunday’s gospel contrasts the reality of sin and the alienation it brings with the utter patience of God who always calls us to new life. With God we always have another chance. This “another chance” is what we call repentance – choosing new life and bearing good fruit.

Lent is the Church’s gift to us – an opportunity to reflect deeply on how we live and relate. During Lent we discern how we have wasted away from opportunities for new life. During Lent we discern for what we need to repent. During Lent we make a conscious choice for new life. During Lent we renew our commitment to bear fruit. During Lent we raise our “bottom line” behaviour from unfruitful self-absorption to bearing the good fruit of faithful discipleship.

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 3:1-8. 13-15

Response to Psalm: The Lord is compassion and love.

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-6. 10-12

Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

Communion Antiphon: The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow
a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord
of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed
are they who dwell in your house, for ever
singing your praise.

Next Sunday’s Readings

Joshua 5:9-12; 2 Cor. 5:17-21; Luke 15:1-3. 11-32 (Gospel)

SALVE REGINA (HAIL, HOLY QUEEN)

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy!

Hail, our life, our sweetness, and our hope!

To thee do we cry, poor banished
children of Eve, to thee do we send
up our sighs, mourning and weeping
in this valley of tears.

Turn, then, most gracious Advocate,
thine eyes of mercy toward us; and
after this our exile show unto us the
blessed fruit of thy womb Jesus;

O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

LAST SUNDAY’S COLLECTION

Rickmansworth: Envelopes: £519.77; Loose Plate: £471.63; Standing Orders: £510.00 **Total: £1501.40**

Mill End: Envelopes: £229.90; Loose Plate: £249.98; Standing Orders: £99.00 **Total: £578.88**

Chorleywood: The Offertory collection for the month of January amounted to **£2434.01**

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. It’s Easy! Thank You!

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

SUN 28TH FEBRUARY	8.45am 9.15am 11.30am 11.45am	First Communion Class First Communion Class - Hall Sunday Brunch St John the Evangelist Parish Pastoral Council AGM - Hall	St John Fisher St John the Evangelist St John the Evangelist St John the Evangelist
MON 29TH FEBRUARY	10.00am - 12.00pm 5.30pm 7.00pm 8.00pm	Lets Get Together and Grow - Hall First Communion Class - Hall Running Club - meet outside Our Lady's Choir Practice	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist
TUE 1ST MARCH	7.30pm 7.30pm 8.00pm - 9.30pm	Seven Deadly Sins and Seven Lively Virtues Course - Hall Confirmation Session - Hall RCIA - Upper Room	St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
WED 2ND MARCH			
THU 3RD MARCH	11.00am 8.00pm - 9.30pm	Funeral - Patrick Rooney RIP Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
FRI 4TH MARCH	10.00am 2.00pm 7.30pm	Coffee after Mass for all - Hall Women's World Day of Prayer Service Stations of the Cross	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
SAT 5TH MARCH	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
SATURDAY 27 TH FEBRUARY	10am For the Sick and House-bound of the Parish	6pm (Vigil) Paddy Sheridan RIP	6pm (Vigil) For the Sick and House-bound of the Parish
SUNDAY 28 TH FEBRUARY <i>3RD SUNDAY OF LENT</i>	8.30am Richard Leslie Brown RIP (Anniv.) 11am Merwyn Mascarenhas RIP 6pm Anna Khurwal RIP (Anniv.)	10.30am For the People of the Parish	9am For the People of the Parish
MONDAY 29 TH FEBRUARY	9.30am Henry Borkowski RIP	9.30am Phyllis & Derek Humphries RIP (Anniv.)	
TUESDAY 1ST MARCH <i>ST DAVID, BISHOP, PATRON OF WALES</i>	9.30am Enid Covington RIP		
WEDNESDAY 2 ND MARCH		9.30am Anni Kate McManamon RIP	
THURSDAY 3 RD MARCH	9.30am Private Intention		
FRIDAY 4 TH MARCH	9.30am For Genie from her friends		
SATURDAY 5 TH MARCH	10am Stanislaus Stephen RIP	6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish	6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
SUNDAY 6 TH MARCH <i>4RD SUNDAY OF LENT</i>	8.30am Joan Marioni RIP 11am Ramiro Montesdeoca RIP 6pm For the People of the Parish	10.30am Mary Viner RIP (Anniv.)	9am For the Sick and House-bound of the Parish

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISHES

Our Lady Help of Christians: Elsie Alexander, Vinny Spiteri, Ruary Chisholm, Kathleen Collins, Wendy Goldsmith, Kathy Wright, John Overend, Monica Clatworthy, Brenda Reynolds, Brian Hunt, Maureen Giles, Olive Cordery, Neville Mathews, Norah MacWilliam, Agnes Harper, Diana Price, Eileen Durkan, Ginny Goodgol, Roshini Alles, Maria Wallis, Peter Ward, Heather Kean, Olive Kiener and Margaret Taylor.

St John the Evangelist: Jean Mulderrig; Rita Murray; Clare Schofield; Joyce Baldwin, Imogen Bailey, Harry Lennon, Seamus Fagan, Betty Page and Joe Donnelly.

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, Tony and Pat Finucane, Colin Dowling, Margaret Lamb, Jacob Stern, Thomas Gillies, Kitty Finucane and Susan Maynard.

NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Will take place on the Fridays of Lent at 7.30pm, as follows: **St John the Evangelist, Mill End: 11th March; St John Fisher, Chorleywood: 18th March; Our Lady Help of Christians, Rickmansworth: 4th and 25th March**

PILGRIMAGE TO PADUA, VENICE, VERONA AND LAKE GARDA - 22nd to 28th MAY 2016

There are still a few places left on the pilgrimage to Padua, Venice, Verona and Lake Garda in May. Full details are available on the parish website.

PATRICK ROONEY RIP

The funeral of Patrick Rooney will take place at Our Lady Help of Christians on **Thursday 3rd March at 11.00am** followed by burial at Woodcock Hill Cemetery. We commend him to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for her family at this sad and difficult time.

YOUNG ADULTS PUB SOCIAL

All young adults (i.e. age 18-35ish!) are warmly invited to join Fr Mark at the Coach and Horses in Rickmansworth at 7.15pm (after the 6pm Mass) on Sunday 13th March for a drink and a chat.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - 4 MARCH 2016 AT 2.00PM

Our Lady Help of Christians is hosting this annual interdenominational service this year, prepared by the Christian women of Cuba, with the theme 'Receive children. Receive me'. It would be wonderful to have our parishes well represented - both men and women are most welcome. Contact Cristina MacGillivray 01923 774840.

RCIA: FIRST SCRUTINY OF THE ELECT (3RD SUNDAY OF LENT)

This Sunday, and for the next two Sundays, we will celebrate the Scrutinies with our elect - Lily Lewin and Natalie Edwards. According to the Church's Rites, "the scrutinies are meant to uncover, then heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of the elect; to bring out, then strengthen all that is upright, strong, and good." Please keep all the Elect and candidates in your prayers as they make their final journey to the Easter Sacraments.

A MESSAGE FROM MARK AND JANET KIRWAN, REGARDING OUR DAUGHTER IN LAW, CAROLINE KIRWAN.

David Kirwan attended St. Joan of Arc School from 1979 to 1986. He went to Southampton University in 1986, where he met Caroline. David and Caroline married Loughton Essex 1996 and both settled happily in that place, David worked in London and Caroline teaching at a local Catholic School. In 2003 Caroline contracted Cancer which unfortunately spread to her spine and then a brain tumour was diagnosed by 2014. She retired from teaching 2014, but totally lost her eyesight in October 2015. She finally lost her battle against her cancer when she passed away peacefully 17 February 2016. She was a much loved member of our family, and will be missed by us all. Her funeral will take place Wednesday 9 March at The Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Epping. RIP

GIFT AID

Thank you to everyone who has Gift-Aided their offering. Gift Aid adds 25p to the value of every £1 given, at no extra cost to you. If you are a UK tax payer and would like to Gift Aid your offering please speak to Fr Shaun, Fr Mark or Kerry. We will then be able to provide you with a Gift Aid form and, if necessary, planned giving envelopes, if you are not already using them. It is also possible to set up a standing order, if you prefer. Please let us know if your tax circumstances have changed (2015/16 tax year) so that we do not ask for a tax refund if you haven't paid the associated tax. We also need to know if you have changed your address since you signed your Gift Aid declaration.

LENT PROGRAMME – SEVEN DEADLY SINS AND SEVEN LIVELY VIRTUES

As part of our Lent 2016 programme, we are offering Bishop Robert Barron's DVD series *Seven Deadly Sins and Seven Lively Virtues*. Bishop Barron discusses each of the traditional seven deadly sins and sets them against their opposing virtues. The programme will be held on Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm as part of the Faith Matters Discussion Group at St John's Parish Centre, Mill End. This Tuesday, **1st March**, Bishop Barron will be considering Sloth and Zeal.

LENTEN ALMS

Our 2016 Lenten Alms appeal is in support of Caritas Westminster, the official social outreach arm of the Diocese of Westminster. Caritas Westminster works across our Diocese, throughout London and Hertfordshire enabling and co-ordinating parish communities to find practical solutions that address a variety of local social needs. One of the money boxes in each of three parishes has been set aside for *Lenten Alms*, and any money placed there during Lent will be sent to Caritas Westminster. Alternatively you may wish to make a direct donation online at www.rcdow.org.uk/donation

MASS ATTENDANCE CARDS

Parents who will be applying for **September 2017** Nursery, Reception or Secondary places for their children at Catholic Schools are reminded that the Mass Attendance Card system is now in operation. Please collect your sticker from the priest as you leave Mass today. Parents to whom the above applies, and who haven't yet collected a letter about the Certificate of Catholic Practice and a Mass Attendance Card, should see Fr Shaun or Fr Mark today.

CARDINAL'S MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 14th May 2016 at 3pm.

The Archbishop 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 2016. 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 **7th March 2016**.

SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL (SVP)

We are once again appealing for donations of Long-Life milk and toilet rolls for the Catholic Worker Farm who provide accommodation for refugees at the farm and at Mary House. Collection boxes are in the Church porches. Thank you.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

PARISH AGM

At the Parish AGM last Sunday, Paul Forrest, Adrian Ramsden, Angela Steele and Christina Calderato were elected to the Parish Pastoral Council for a period of two years. We offer them our congratulations and thank them for taking on this role. Fr Shaun's Report to the AGM is now available for viewing on the parish website on the AGM tab and on the noticeboard.

MONEY MATTERS

Copies of the Summary of the 2015 Parish Annual Financial Return are available at the back of the church.

UPDATING SAFEGUARDING CLEARANCES

Westminster Diocese safeguarding policy is that clearances more than 3 Years old must be updated with a new clearance. Starting next week we will be placing names in the bulletin of those parish volunteers whose clearances need to be updated starting with the oldest. We will then repeat this process in future weeks until all are up to date. Safeguarding re-clearance packs, including instructions and forms, will be left in the rear of the church. Dave & Alison

FAMILY BINGO EVENING - SATURDAY 12TH MARCH - 6.30PM

Please come and enjoy a family bingo evening with your fellow parishioners to raise funds for the Catholic Children's Society. Tickets include pizza and a bingo book each. Ice cream and bar available on the night. £7.50 per adult, £5 per child. Extra bingo books £2 each. Tickets on sale after mass or contact Adrian on 07503 898689.

EASTER CARDS - on sale in the repository.

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT / THE BIG FAIRTRADE BREAKFAST

Fairtrade Fortnight runs from 29th February to 13th March and this year's theme is the Big Fairtrade Breakfast. As Martin Luther King famously said, 'before you finish eating breakfast in the morning, you've depended on more than half the world'. The people who grow the food we take for granted can't always feed their own families. After the 8.30am Mass next Sunday there will be the usual first Sunday of the month tea and coffee, but with an additional Fairtrade focus. Why not join us?

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

AGM AND ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS OF THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC) - 28TH FEBRUARY

The parish AGM will take place at **11.45am** this Sunday 28th February in the Parish Centre. All parishioners are warmly invited to attend. So far, we have received three nominations for the Parish Pastoral Council: Natalie Zammit, Siobhan Corcoran and Linda Yates.

THE NEW STAINED GLASS WINDOW – OUR THANKSGIVING WINDOW

This weekend we are displaying an artist's impression of our new stained glass window. The window will contain 92 individual panes of coloured glass and we hope that parishioners will sponsor them in thanksgiving for loved ones, living or departed. The panes range from £15 to £55. If we are able to sponsor every pane we would raise between £3,185 and £3,981 (depending on Gift Aid). The total cost of the window (including the new window frames which will contain and support it) will be £31,000. If parishioners wish to give a larger donation than the minimum donation, this would be very welcome.

On the weekends of 5th/6th March and 12th/13th March parishioners will have the opportunity to choose the pane that they would like to sponsor. We would be grateful for payment at the time please, ideally by cheque made payable to *St John the Evangelist, Mill End*. We will not be able to hold a particular pane for you without payment at that time.

Please take a moment this weekend to have a look at the drawing of the new window (*the design is also on the parish website on the Stained Glass Window Appeal campaign tab*), and perhaps start to think about which size of pane you would like to sponsor. Members of the Pastoral Council and Finance Committee will be on hand to answer any questions you might have.

ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

THE REFURBISHMENT OF THE FLAT AND RE-ORDERING THE CHAPEL

While the works are on-going there will be no Tuesday or Friday morning Masses. We will have access to the church for Saturday and Sunday Masses throughout Lent and for Easter services from Holy Thursday to Easter Sunday. During this period, there will be access for the choir to practice and to host some Lenten Stations of the Cross. Work on the chapel begins immediately after Easter so there will be no weekend or weekday Masses for six to eight weeks. During this time, parishioners are encouraged to attend Mass at Our Lady's, St John the Evangelist or one of the other local churches. We will coordinate travel to our sister parishes for parishioners with no access to a car. A list is on the noticeboard to try and pair up those who require help with travel with drivers who are willing to take passengers to a specific Mass.

We wish to rent the flat to tenants who are sympathetic to the requirements of the parish. Please encourage any suitable prospective tenants to contact Fr Shaun or Alan Opie. We would also welcome any additional support that Parishioners may be able to contribute towards the cost of additional items that are not included in the *Growing in Faith* project.

This is a very exciting time for our parish. The works will cause some disruption in the short term but, once completed, we can look forward to a very bright future.

COFFEE AND TEA THIS SATURDAY - all are welcome to stay for a cup of coffee or tea after Mass this Saturday.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - will be on **Saturday 5th March** at 5.30pm.

NEXT LADIES' MEETING - Monday 7th March, 10am, at Edith Moid's home, No.2 Grenville Court. All are very welcome.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

2.00pm on Friday 4th March 2016 at the Free Church, Hillside Road, Chorleywood

As well as the service in Ricky, hosted by Our Lady's, there will, as usual, also be an ecumenical service in Chorleywood for Women's World Day of Prayer. It will last about an hour. Everyone is most welcome to attend and to stay for refreshments afterwards. Please take a leaflet from the lobby. *Maureen Foggo*

	This week 27 / 28 February				Next week 5 / 6 March			
	Welcomer	Reader	Communion	Counters	Welcomer	Reader	Communion	Counters
6pm Vigil	E O'Sullivan	E Page	M Latimer	Peter Mackie	M Fields	M Foggo	E O'Sullivan	Marguerite Watkins
9am Mass	D Treanor	T D'Urso	F Holly	Patsy Tyden	M Calvert	M Williamson	J McEwen	Don Williamson
28 February	Laundry: S Treanor			5 March Church Cleaning: Volunteer				