



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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5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C) 7TH FEBRUARY 2016

MESSAGE FROM FR SHAUN - OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

On Ash Wednesday we mark the beginning of our Lenten journey by the receiving of ashes on our foreheads. Lent is a penitential season, but our Lenten penance is not about self-denial for its own sake; rather it is directed toward renewing our relationship with God and with others through works of charity, prayer and fasting. Many of us choose to “give up” something for Lent. This fasting from things we enjoy is a worthy Lenten exercise which unites us to Christ’s forty days of fasting in the desert and to his sacrifice for us upon the cross. However, our Lenten journey will be incomplete if our fasting is not accompanied by acts of charity (traditionally known as almsgiving) and through a renewed effort at prayer.

During Lent we will have parish opportunities to “give alms” by supporting the Lent CAFOD appeal and the Diocesan Lenten Alms Appeal in support of the work of Caritas Westminster. Pope Francis reminds us that our concern for others is a sign of our belonging to the one human family.

Our acts of charity and fasting lose something of their power to change our lives if they are not deeply rooted in a renewed effort at prayer. Here is where “taking something *on* for Lent” becomes as important as giving something up. I encourage all of you to find ways to deepen your prayer life this Lent. You might do this by setting aside a short time each day for personal prayer or reading of the scriptures. You might also decide to attend our Lenten programme *Seven Deadly Sins and Seven Lively Virtues* (details inside this newsletter), you might make a commitment, where possible, to attend weekday Mass during Lent or the Stations of the Cross or to spend time in the presence of Jesus during one of our parish times of exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Finally, you might take the opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) on a Saturday morning or at one of the Lenten Reconciliation services. Whatever ways you decide to keep your observance of Lent, I pray that it might be a time of special grace, renewal and blessing for each one of you. *Fr Shaun*

Entrance Antiphon: O come, let us worship God
and bow low before the God who made us,
for he is the Lord our God.

1st Reading: Isaiah 6:1-8

Response to Psalm: Before the angels I will bless you, O Lord.

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

Communion Antiphon: Let them thank the Lord for his mercy,
his wonders for the children of men,
for he satisfies the thirsty soul,
and the hungry he fills with good things.

Next Sunday’s Readings

Deuteronomy 26:4-10; Romans 10:8-13; Luke 4:1-13 (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: £593.00; Loose Plate: £373.49; Standing Orders: £510.00 **Total: £1476.49**

Mill End: Envelopes: £258.06; Loose Plate: £254.46; Standing Orders: £99.00 **Total: £611.52**

Chorleywood: The Offertory collection for the month of December amounted to **£1990.15**

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 7TH FEBRUARY	9.30am	Coffee and Tea after 8.30am Mass - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
MON 8TH FEBRUARY	10.00am - 12.00pm 6.00pm 7.00pm 7.30pm 8.00pm	Lets Get Together and Grow - Hall Reception of the body of Joan Marioni RIP Running Club - meet outside Our Lady's Confirmation Session - Hall Choir Practice	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
TUE 9TH FEBRUARY	7.30pm 11.00am 7.30pm 8.00pm - 9.30pm	Seven Deadly Sins and Seven Lively Virtues Course - Hall Funeral - Joan Marioni RIP 1 st Communion Parents' Meeting - Hall RCIA - Upper Room	St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
WED 10RD FEBRUARY			
THU 11TH FEBRUARY	7.30pm 8.00pm - 9.30pm	SVP Meeting - Hall Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
FRI 12TH FEBRUARY	10.00am	Coffee after Mass for all - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
SAT 13TH FEBRUARY	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 6TH FEBRUARY <i>St PAUL MIKI AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS</i>	10am For Missionaries	6pm (Vigil) Lenny Slevin RIP	6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
SUNDAY 7TH FEBRUARY <i>5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am Joe Grove RIP (Anniv.) 11am For the People of the Parish 6pm Valerie Foster RIP	10.30am Nora Connor RIP (Anniv.)	9am Susie Maguire RIP
MONDAY 8TH FEBRUARY	9.30am Frank Rice RIP	9.30am Barbara Flynn (Ints.)	
TUESDAY 9TH FEBRUARY	9.30am For Persecuted Christians		9.30am For the Sick and House-bound of the Parish
WEDNESDAY 10TH FEBRUARY <i>ASH WEDNESDAY</i>	9.30am For the People of the Parish 8.00pm For the People of the Parish	9.30am Freeda Lammyman RIP	8.00pm For the People of the Parish
THURSDAY 11TH FEBRUARY	9.30am For the Sick and House-bound of the Parish		
FRIDAY 12TH FEBRUARY	9.30am Mary Robinson RIP		
SATURDAY 13TH FEBRUARY	10am For Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life	6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish	6pm (Vigil) Joyce Dowling RIP (Anniv.) & Irene Foggo RIP (Anniv.)
SUNDAY 14TH FEBRUARY <i>1ST SUNDAY OF LENT</i>	8.30am Nora Malone RIP 11am For the People of the Parish 6pm Denzil D'Cruze RIP	10.30am Mavis & Raymond Billingham RIP	9am For the People 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 and Olive Kiener.

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

LENTEN ALMS

Our 2016 Lenten Alms appeal will be in support of Caritas Westminster, the official social outreach arm of the Diocese of Westminster. Lent is the perfect time for us to think of those suffering – the poor, the marginalised, the least among us – and to make a sacrifice through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. 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. For example, rough sleeping, food poverty, human trafficking, youth employability and loneliness. Inside the Newsletter this weekend is a flyer about the work of Caritas Westminster. 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 make sure that you have written your child's name on both sides of the card and 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 after Mass today.

ANNUAL MISSIONARY APPEAL – MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ST COLUMBAN – 13TH/14TH FEBRUARY

Next weekend we will welcome Fr Tom Ryan and Fr Gerry Markey from the Missionary Society of St Columban, who will be making an appeal across the three parishes on behalf of their missionary work in Asia, the Pacific and Latin America. There will be a retiring collection at each Mass.

CARITAS WESTMINSTER – VOLUNTEER DAY – SATURDAY 5TH MARCH

Caritas Westminster is organising its first Volunteer Day on Saturday 5th March. This is an opportunity for Catholics in the Diocese of Westminster to find inspiration, motivation and opportunities to volunteer in their local community. The day will include a panel of volunteers who will talk about their experiences, a workshop on the importance of social action to the Catholic faith, and stalls from community organisations from across the Diocese. The event will take place at Westminster Cathedral Hall from 10.00am to 2.00pm. Everyone is welcome to the event. Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to caristaswestminster@rcdow.org.uk by Friday 29th February, and let them know if you have any dietary requirements.

GEOFF LUFF RIP

The Funeral of Geoff Luff RIP will take place at St Mary's Church, Rickmansworth on **Monday 8th February at 11.15am**. We commend him to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for his family at this sad and difficult time.

NEXT CONFIRMATION SESSION

A reminder that there IS a meeting for the confirmation candidates this week but it is on **Monday 8th February**, as stated on the initial letter sent out to candidates. As usual, it is at 7.30pm in Our Lady's hall.

1ST COMMUNION PARENTS' MEETING WITH FR SHAUN - TUESDAY 9TH FEBRUARY

1st Communion parents are reminded that there is a meeting with Fr Shaun from 7.30pm to 9.00pm in Our Lady's Hall.

JOAN MARIONI RIP

The reception of the body of Joan Marioni RIP will take place at Our Lady Help of Christians on **Monday 8th February at 6.00pm**. Her funeral will be at **11.00am on Tuesday 9th February**. We commend her to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for her family at this sad and difficult time.

LENT PROGRAMME – SEVEN DEADLY SINS AND SEVEN LIVELY VIRTUES

As part of our Lent 2016 programme, we will be offering Bishop Robert Barron's DVD series *Seven Deadly Sins and Seven Lively Virtues*. After a general introduction to sin and virtue, Bishop Barron discusses each of the traditional seven deadly sins and sets them against their opposing virtues, e.g. anger vs forgiveness, envy vs admiration. 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, **9th February**, Bishop Barron will be considering Pride and Humility. We hope that many parishioners will take advantage of this Lenten opportunity to look in a fresh way at the nature of sin and virtue.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Masses (with the imposition of ashes) across the three parishes will be as follows: 9.30am at St John the Evangelist, Mill End; 9.30am and 8.00pm at Our Lady Help of Christians, Rickmansworth; 8.00pm at St John Fisher, Chorleywood.

THANK YOU FROM BROTHER ANTHONY ARMSTRONG

As you know by now, on January 10th I made my lifelong commitment to the Carmelites after a 20 year journey. Many of you have journeyed with me throughout that time and I want to thank you so much for your love, prayers and support over those years; I know that I would not be here without you. I ask you for your continued prayers and support as I begin this new phase of my life and I assure you of my prayers for all of you. With prayers and best wishes, *Brother Anthony Armstrong O.Carm.*

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)

Will be meeting on Thursday 11th February at 7.30pm at St John the Evangelist and Tuesday 23rd February at 10.15am at Our Lady Help of Christians. If you would like become a member of the SVP you would be most welcome to join us.

Catholic Worker Farm - we are once again appealing for donations of Long-Life milk for the CWF 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

THE CATENIAN ASSOCIATION

This Sunday at the end of each of the Masses Mr Paul Hulin will be giving a brief presentation about the Catenian Association.

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

The parish AGM will take place at 3.30pm on Sunday 21st February in the parish hall. All parishioners are warmly invited to attend. Nominations are now open for **four** places on the PPC. Parishioners may nominate either themselves or another parishioner for election to the PPC for a term of two years. If nominating another parishioner please check with them first that they are willing to stand. All nominations should be submitted in writing to Samantha Benson, the PPC Chair, at rickmansworthppcchair@rcdow.org.uk or in writing c/o the Parish Office. Those considering standing for election are encouraged to read the *Pastoral Council: Background and Basis* document and the *Terms of Reference*, both of which are available on the parish website on the Parish Pastoral Council tab.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

A summary note of the PPC Meeting on 11th January is now available on the PPC Tab on the parish website. A few hard copies are available at the back of church.

200 CLUB DRAW (JANUARY)

Congratulations to the following winners: Deirdre Barker (£58), Yvonne O'Connor (£43.50), Deirdre Edwards (£29) and Josie Westhrop (£14.50).

COFFEE AFTER 8.30AM MASS (7TH FEBRUARY)

Please join us in the hall for a catch up and make new parish friends at our coffee morning after Mass this Sunday.

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** on Sunday 28th February in the Parish Centre. All parishioners are warmly invited to attend. Nominations are now open for **three** places on the PPC. Parishioners may nominate either themselves or another parishioner for election to the PPC for a term of two years. If nominating another parishioner please check with them first that they are willing to stand. All nominations should be submitted in writing to Ewan Smith, the PPC Chair, at millendppcchair@rcdow.org.uk or in writing c/o the Parish Office. Those considering standing for election are encouraged to read the *Pastoral Council: Background and Basis* document and the *Terms of Reference*, both of which are available on the parish website on the Parish Pastoral Council tab.

200 CLUB DRAW (JANUARY)

Congratulations to the following winners: Evelyn Randall (£25); Mr McKiernan (£20) and Mrs Slater (£15).

THE RE-ORDERING OF THE CHURCH

Work on the re-ordering of the church is progressing well. In the next couple of weeks the new lighting will be completed, including the installation of the new corona. It is hoped that the new stained-glass window, the new tabernacle and the new hanging crucifix will all be installed before Easter.

Cardinal Vincent Nichols has graciously agreed to consecrate the church himself in a solemn Mass of Dedication on **Saturday 30th April at 12 noon**. This will be a wonderful moment of grace and blessing for our parish community. The date falls on a Bank Holiday Weekend, so please make a note in your diary now: we want as many parishioners as possible to share in this unique and wonderful occasion. I promise you it will be a celebration you will never forget!

Fr Shaun

ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

COFFEE AFTER MASS NEXT SUNDAY

Everyone is welcome to stay a while for coffee or tea after next Sunday's Mass.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be on **Saturday 6th February** at 5.30pm.

COUNTING THE WEEKLY OFFERING

We are a small team of eight Counters, which means that we each count once in each month. The counting takes place after the 9.00am Mass and usually takes about half an hour. If we were able to increase our number, even by just a few, it would help spread the load so if any Parishioner feels that they would like to offer their services please contact Don Williamson on don.williamson@btinternet.com or telephone 01923 286790.

	This week 6 / 7 February				Next week 13 / 14 February			
	Welcomer	Reader	Communion	Counters	Welcomer	Reader	Communion	Counters
6pm Vigil	M Foggo	M Foggo	C Johnson	Marguerite Watkins	A Dennis	J Stratton	P Goble	Una Lean
9am Mass	U Lean	P Byrne	J Hale	Don Williamson	A Opie	K Cottingham	AM Farnsworth	Carolyn Opie
7 February Laundry: I Schwartz 12 February Church Cleaning: M Calvert								