



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
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Assistant Priest:

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5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR B) - 3RD MAY 2015 SUNDAY THOUGHT

Those who tend vineyards regularly prune the grapevines of the suckers that drain the vines of life, yet don't produce any fruit. After the pruning, the vines look bare and lifeless. With sun, water, and the right time, however, they burst forth in new and healthy growth. Grapevines do not choose to be pruned in order to bear fruit. We, however, must make a choice to be pruned and produce fruit.

Jesus' word is the life force that prunes disciples so that they may bear fruit. His word is revelation of himself, gift of his Spirit, and expression of his relationship with his Father and his disciples. To remain in the risen Jesus is to share in the power of his risen life and to bear fruit. This is a choice we must make.

Jesus' word prunes whatever in our life hinders us from choosing to remain fruitful branches on the Vine. Jesus' word comes to us through the proclamation of Scripture, to be sure. His word also comes to us in other ways: in the loving correction offered by another, in a gentle prod to make a good choice in our life, in a cry for help from someone in need. Responding to any word from the risen Jesus nurtures our growth and life, strengthens our relationship to the Vine, and enables us to produce visible fruit in our own lives. This fruit, in turn may become Jesus' pruning word for another.

Entrance Antiphon: O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders;
in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

1st Reading: Acts 9:26-31

Response to Psalm: You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly.

2nd Reading: 1 John 3:18-24

Gospel: John 15:1-8

Communion Antiphon: I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord.
Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

Next Sunday's Readings

1st Reading: Acts 10:25-26. 34-35. 44-48; **2nd Reading:** 1 John 4:7-10; **Gospel:** John 15:9-17

LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION

Rickmansworth: Envelopes: £946.61; Loose Plate: £364.35; Standing Orders: £499.00 **Total: £1809.96**

Mill End: Envelopes: £329.22; Loose Plate: £168.22; Standing Orders: £93.75 **Total: £654.19**

Chorleywood: Recorded monthly.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

SUN 3RD MAY	8.45am - 9.30am 10.00am	First Holy Communion Class Coffee and Tea after 9.00am Mass	St John Fisher Our Lady Help of Christians
MON 4TH MAY	10.00am 8.00pm	Rosary Choir Practice	Our Lady Help of Christians
TUE 5TH MAY	5.30pm 7.30pm 7.30pm 8.00pm - 9.30pm	First Holy Communion Rehearsal Confirmation Session - Hall Faith Matters Discussion Group - Hall RCIA - Upper Room	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
WED 6TH MAY			
THU 7TH MAY	8.00pm - 9.30pm	Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
FRI 8TH MAY	10.00am	Coffee after Mass for all - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
SAT 9TH MAY	11.00am 5.30pm	<i>No Holy Hour or Confessions today at Our Lady's</i> First Holy Communion Mass 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 2 ND MAY <i>ST ATHANASIUS,</i> <i>BISHOP & DOCTOR</i>	11.00am First Holy Communion Mass	6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish	6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
SUNDAY 3 RD MAY <i>5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER</i>	8.30am For the People of the Parish 11am Bernie Waine RIP 6pm Dick Bloxham-Brown RIP	10.30am Bernard McNicholas RIP	9am Private Intention
MONDAY 4 TH MAY <i>THE ENGLISH</i> <i>MARTYRS</i>	9.30am For the Sick and House-bound of the Parish	9.30am Margaret Connor RIP	
TUESDAY 5 TH MAY	9.30am Frank Waters RIP (Anniv.)		9.30am For the Sick and House-bound of the Parish
WEDNESDAY 6 TH MAY		9.30am Ralph Kent RIP	
THURSDAY 7 TH MAY	9.30am Jordan Crowe (Ints.)		
FRIDAY 8 TH MAY	9.30am Private Intention		9.30am Norah O'Neil RIP
SATURDAY 9 TH MAY	11.00am First Holy Communion Mass	6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish	6pm (Vigil) Michael Fields RIP
SUNDAY 10 TH MAY <i>6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER</i>	8.30am For the People of the Parish 11am Mary Robinson RIP 6pm Heather Kean (Ints.)	10.30am Patrick O'Connor RIP	9am For the People of the Parish

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISHES

Our Lady Help of Christians: Maureen Digges, Elsie Alexander, Vinny Spiteri, Ruary Chisholm, Kathleen Collins, Wendy Goldsmith, Kathy Wright, John Overend, Monica Clatworthy, Peter Czarniecki, Tony Infante, Brenda Reynolds, Brian Hunt, Maureen Giles, Olive Cordery, Neville Mathews, Norah MacWilliam, Agnes Harper, Diana Price, Joan Marioni, Eileen Durkan, Ginny Goodgol, Roshini Alles, Maureen Douglas and Maria Wallis.

St John the Evangelist: Jean Mulderrig; Rita Murray; Margaret Sweeney; Clare Schofield; Joyce Baldwin, Margaret (Meg) Cunningham, Imogen Bailey and Harry Lennon.

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, Barbara Marke and Paddy Holly.

NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

REVIEW OF MASS TIMES ACROSS THE THREE PARISHES

Before Easter we conducted a review of the Mass times across the three parishes. Parishioners were invited to write to the Chairs of the three Pastoral Councils to share how they felt the new Mass schedule is working in practice. The views expressed by parishioners were subsequently discussed by the three Pastoral Councils and the three Chairs met with Bishop John Sherrington to share with him the responses received and the views expressed by the Pastoral Councils. Bishop John has now written to the three parish communities to conclude the review process. After careful reflection and consultation with the three Chairs, Fr Shaun and Fr Mark, the Bishop has decided that the Mass schedule will remain as it is. While recognising that some parishioners will be upset by this decision, Bishop John encourages us to continue to work together for the building up of the Kingdom of God in our parish communities and in wider local communities around us. Copies of Bishop John's letter are available this weekend. The full text of the letter can also be accessed on the Review of Mass Times page of the parish websites.

CAFOD NEPAL EARTHQUAKE APPEAL

CAFOD has launched a £3m emergency appeal following the earthquake in Nepal. Thousands of people in this already impoverished country have been killed and many thousands more are in urgent need of food, water, shelter and emergency supplies. 8 million people are affected. CAFOD is responding with Church partners and has deployed a team to provide specialist support. There will be a retiring collection next weekend in support of CAFOD's appeal.

REGISTRATION FOR 1ST HOLY COMMUNION 2016

In June and July Fr Shaun will be registering children wishing to make their First Communion in **2016**. To be eligible children must be in Year 3 or above by September 2015 and attend Mass regularly in one of the three parishes. The expectation is that all children preparing for Holy Communion should already know how to make the sign of the cross and know the *Our Father*, *Hail Mary* and *Glory be*. These prayers should be taught and prayed in the home regularly. Parents may bring their child for registration on the following dates:

Saturday 27th June – Our Lady's Church Hall, Rickmansworth – 2.00pm to 3.00pm

Monday 29th June – Our Lady's Church Hall, Rickmansworth – 5.00pm to 6.00pm

Wednesday 1st July – St John the Evangelist Church, Mill End - 5.30pm to 6.30pm

It is essential that you bring with you to the meeting the child wishing to be prepared for Holy Communion. If your child was baptised somewhere other than Our Lady Help of Christians Rickmansworth, St John Fisher Chorleywood or St John the Evangelist, Mill End you will need to bring with you the child's baptismal certificate.

You are welcome to bring your child to whichever of the registration times is best for you. Do not worry if the place of registration is not your usual church for Sunday Mass attendance. **First Communion preparation will continue to take place in the three parishes.**

BAPTISM PREPARATION

A reminder for couples who have already seen Fr. Mark or Fr. Shaun regarding the baptism of a child that the next baptism preparation session is on Saturday 16th May at 10.00am in Our Lady's hall.

FAITH MATTERS DISCUSSION GROUP

The Faith Matters Discussion Group is a forum to reflect, discuss and debate different aspects of our Catholic faith and life. The group meets at St John the Evangelist's parish hall, Mill End every Tuesday. This week the discussion will be on Marian Apparitions - Our Lady of Guadalupe. All are welcome.

SATURDAY MORNING MASS, HOLY HOUR AND CONFESSIONS DURING MAY

Due to 1st Holy Communion Masses and the Day of Recollection for Readers and Ministers of Communion there will be **no** 10.00am Mass, Holy Hour or Confessions on the following Saturdays of May: **Saturday 9th May, Saturday 23rd May, Saturday 30th May**. Mass, Holy Hour and Confessions will be as normal Saturday 16th May.

DAY OF RECOLLECTION FOR READERS AND MINISTERS OF COMMUNION – 23RD MAY 2015

Readers and Ministers of Communion should now have received a letter from Fr Shaun, via the rota coordinators, regarding the Day of Recollection at the Niland Centre of 23rd May 2015. Please return the reply slip as soon as possible and by 9th May 2015 at the latest. Thank you.

RICKY WEEK - SUNDAY 10TH MAY

Peter Waters (author of the histories of Our Lady's and St John's, Mill End) will be giving a conducted tour of Our Lady's at **3.00pm** (meet outside the porch or in the church once started). **No charge** but donations to Our Lady's welcome.

DIOCESAN NOTICES

FAITH MATTERS QUESTION TIME 'THE GENERAL ELECTION: WHAT'S RELIGION GOT TO DO WITH IT?'

The next Faith Matters Question Time, the panel discussion on matters of faith and life which brings together Catholics and other from different walks of life, takes place at Farm Street on Tuesday 5th May at 6.30pm, two days before the General Election. The panel will include Lord Glasman of Stoke Newington and Stamford Hill (Blue Labour) Dr Laura Keynes (journalist and author, Catholic Voices, and 'Conservative Woman' blogger) Alex Macqueen (Actor, 'The Thick of It') Revd Lucy Winkett (Rector, St James', Piccadilly). Recommended donation is £7. Booking is essential. To book: www.mountstreet.info.

PERMANENT DIACONATE

The last Come and See meeting this year for men interested in finding out more about the Permanent Diaconate is on Saturday 16th May from 10am to noon at the parish of Sacred Heart of Jesus and St Joseph in Ware SG12 7EJ. No booking needed. Wives welcome. Contacts Dcn Anthony Clark 020 8455 9822 or Dcn Adrian Cullen 01920 462140.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

GARDEN OF REST

A new fountain has been installed in the central flowerbed and the flowerbed has been replanted. This has been made possible thanks to a donation by the Montesdeoca family, in memory of Ramiro Montesdeoca, whose ashes are buried in the Garden of Rest. We are very grateful to the Montesdeoca family for their generosity. The new fountain and the new planting (which will be a blaze of colour as the spring progresses) will greatly add to the beauty and tranquillity of this peaceful and prayerful place.

MORNING PRAYER AT OUR LADY'S

Morning Prayer of the Church is celebrated at **9.10am** at Our Lady's on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. We encourage parishioners who will be attending the 9.30am Mass on those days to come along and take part. At first it can be a little confusing to find the correct pages in the breviary, but guidance is always given and the more regularly you join in the more familiar you will become with how the celebration of the Daily Office works.

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

The next meeting of the Pastoral Council will take place on **Tuesday 19th May**. If you have any thoughts or suggestions about parish life that you would like discussed please contact either Samantha Benson (Chair) at rickmansppcchair@rcdow.org.uk or Michael Curtin (Secretary) at rickmansworthppcsec@rcdow.org.uk. If you don't have access to the internet you can write to either Samantha or Michael c/o The Presbytery, 5 Park Road, Rickmansworth, WD3 1HU.

THE ROSARY AT OUR LADY'S DURING MAY

On the Mondays of May the Rosary will be prayed after the 9.30am Mass at Our Lady's, with the special intention of praying for persecuted Christians around the world. All are warmly invited.

LAY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION - the next rota will run from June 7th until October 4th inclusive. Please email us (awmdumughn@yahoo.co.uk) or phone (770826) with any unavailable dates by May 11th. Thank you.

MONEY COUNTERS NEEDED – CAN YOU HELP?

If you are able to assist, please contact Carol Bartlett on 01923 773841 or e-mail carolbart37@gmail.com. Counting takes place after the 11.00am Sunday Mass and usually takes approximately 30-45 minutes. Please do join us.

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

MESSAGE FROM FR SHAUN - RE-ORDERING OF THE CHURCH

Parishioners will remember that the Growing in Faith project chosen by Fr Peter was the re-ordering of the sanctuary with a new stone floor, ambo and altar. I am very keen to move this project forward, but feel that we need to look at the church as a whole. With the Pastoral Council and the Finance Committee I've been developing plans for improvements to the church, including new stained glass and lighting, as well as developing the original plans for the sanctuary. I would like to share these plans with you and so there will be a meeting at **4pm on Sunday 24th May** in the church. All parishioners are invited to come along and see and hear about the plans for the re-ordering of the church. This is a very exciting project which will transform the interior of the church and greatly enhance it as the centre of our worshipping life as a parish community. *Fr Shaun*

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT BEFORE THE SATURDAY VIGIL MASS

Beginning on **Saturday 9th May** there will be 25 minutes of exposition of the Blessed Sacrament before the 6.00pm Mass each week. The time of exposition will begin at 5.30pm and will conclude at 5.55pm. Prayer before Jesus, present in the Blessed Sacrament, is an important part of Catholic worship and devotion. We hope that parishioners who attend the 6.00pm Mass will avail themselves of this weekly opportunity for quiet and reflective prayer. While the Blessed Sacrament is exposed on the altar it is important that those arriving at the church for Mass try to be a silent as possible so that we can maintain an atmosphere of prayer and devotion.

FIRST COMMUNION MASSES - the 10.30am Mass on the 10th May and 17th May will be First Communion Masses.

200 CLUB DRAW - the last draw for this year's 200 club took place on Sunday and the winners were: 1st Mr Lewin £35; 2nd Roisin McAleavy £20; 3rd Joan Smith £15.

ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

KEYS AND FRONT-DOOR KEY LOCKBOX

After Sunday Mass this weekend, the code for the front-door key lockbox will be changed. If you need access to the new code and haven't already notified us, please let Alan Opie, Fr Shaun or Fr Mark know as soon as possible.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT BEFORE THE SATURDAY VIGIL MASS

Beginning on **Saturday 6th June** there will be 25 minutes of exposition of the Blessed Sacrament before the 6.00pm Mass on the first Saturday of the month. Exposition will begin at 5.30pm and conclude at 5.55pm. Prayer before Jesus present in the Blessed Sacrament is an important part of Catholic worship and devotion. We hope that parishioners who attend the 6.00pm Mass will avail themselves of this monthly opportunity for quiet and reflective prayer. While the Blessed Sacrament is exposed on the altar it is important that those arriving at the church for Mass try to be a silent as possible so that we can maintain an atmosphere of prayer and devotion.

FR PETER STEVENS

Fr Peter is rather poorly in St Anne's Care Home, Stoke Newington, but he sends us his love. Please remember him in your prayers. *Mary Latimer*

CHRISTIAN AID HOUSE-TO-HOUSE COLLECTION

Collectors' bags with envelopes etc are ready to pick up from the parish lounge. Thanks to all those who are helping this year. *Maureen Foggo*

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL AGM - will be held on **Monday 18 May at 8.00pm**. All parishioners are welcome.

CARDS - First Communion and Confirmation cards are available in the lounge.

	This Week 2 / 3 May				Next Week 9 / 10 May			
	Welcomer	Reader	Communion	Counters	Welcomer	Reader	Communion	Counters
6pm Vigil	R Ellis	T Hartney	C Johnson	Carolyn Opie	M Foggo	S Hoy	P Goble	Peter Mackie
9am Mass	D Gibney	P Byrne	AM Farnsworth	Patsy Tyden	J Hale	K Cottingham	E Price	Francis Holly
3 May Laundry: C Steet		8 May Church Cleaning: J McEwen						