



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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Assistant Priest:

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Parish Administrator:

Kerry Van Rensburg
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@ChessValleyRC

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD 8TH JANUARY 2017

SUNDAY THOUGHT

Every year, sometimes every week, new “rising stars” appear on the horizon of the sports world, the entertainment stage, the political arena. We expect great things out of these stars, and when our expectations are not met we might ask ourselves, what were we looking for? And we begin to look elsewhere. But where is *that* elsewhere?

Not finding what they expected in Jerusalem, the wise men changed what they were looking for and where they were seeking it. The wise men were looking for Jesus in Jerusalem, but he was in Bethlehem. They were looking for a Jewish king, but they found the Messiah-King for all peoples at all times.

Expectations shape our vision and our journey through life. But we must always be ready for God to break in and shatter the limits of our expectations and lead us in a new direction. Then we might find “the new-born king” among the poor, the homeless, those suffering persecution and injustice. Then we might find him in the truth of what our children might say to us, in the simplest daily activity done out of humility and love, in listening to someone else’s ideas and dreams. When we allow God to expand the vision of our expectations, we find much more. We find “the new-born king” ever born anew in our hearts, the true rising star whose light will never fade.

- Entrance Antiphon:** Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.
- 1st Reading:** Isaiah 60:1-6
- Response to Psalm:** All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.
- 2nd Reading:** Ephesians 3:2-3. 5-6
- Gospel:** Matthew 2:1-12
- Communion Antiphon:** We have seen his star in the East, and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.

Next Sunday’s Readings (during the day)

Isaiah 49:3. 5-6; 1 Corinthians 1:1-3; John 1:29-34 (Gospel)

LAST SUNDAY’S COLLECTION

Rickmansworth: Envelopes: £406.28; Loose Plate: £272.97; Standing Orders: £510.00 **Total: £1189.55**

Mill End: Envelopes: £194.66; Loose Plate: £135.76; Standing Orders: £197.00 **Total: £527.42**

Chorleywood: The Offertory collection for the month of December - **£1804.80**

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 8TH JANUARY	7.15pm	Young Adults Pub Social	Coach and Horses
MON 9TH JANUARY	10.45am 8.00pm	Lets Get Together and Grow - Hall Choir Practice	Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist
TUE 10TH JANUARY	6.00pm - 7.30pm 8.00pm - 9.30pm	Youth Group (Year 7-8) RCIA - Hall	St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
WED 11TH JANUARY			
THU 12TH JANUARY	6.00pm - 8.00pm 7.30pm 8.00pm - 9.30pm	Youth Group (Year 9-11) SVP Meeting Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
FRI 13TH JANUARY	10.00am 11.00am	Coffee after Mass for all - Hall Funeral Mass - Tom Bugler RIP	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
SAT 14TH JANUARY	10.30am - 1.30am 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 7 TH JANUARY	10.00am Stephen Birch RIP	6pm (Vigil) Ryan Family RIP	6pm (Vigil) Kenneth Messer RIP
SUNDAY 8 TH JANUARY <i>THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD</i>	8.30am Xenia Murray RIP (Anniv.) 11am Michael Jubber RIP (Anniv.) 6pm For the People of the Parish	10.30am Joe Hornsby RIP (Anniv.)	9am Denis & Josephine Holly RIP
MONDAY 9 TH JANUARY <i>THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD</i>	9.30am Christina Thomas (Ints.)	NO MASS TODAY	
TUESDAY 10 TH JANUARY	9.30am Leila Robinson RIP		NO MASS TODAY
WEDNESDAY 11 TH JANUARY		9.30am Rowena & Niall McCabe (Ints.)	
THURSDAY 12 TH JANUARY	9.30am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish		
FRIDAY 13 TH JANUARY	9.30am Canon John McDonald RIP		NO MASS TODAY
SATURDAY 14 TH JANUARY	10.00am Stephen Birch RIP	6pm (Vigil) Martin & Sheila Candon RIP	6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
SUNDAY 15 TH JANUARY <i>2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am Michael James Denning RIP 11am For the People of the Parish 6pm Canon Charles Acton RIP	10.30am For the People of the Parish	9am Canon John McDonald RIP

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, Josie Westhrop, Eric Selley, Henry Cutting, Noel Jackson and Christina Thomas

St John the Evangelist: Jean Mulderrig; Rita Murray; Joyce Baldwin, Imogen Bailey, Harry Lennon, Joe Donnelly, John Connor, Mary Hornsby and Mary Harris

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, Susan Maynard, Don Williamson and Aidan O'Mahony.

NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

TOM BUGLER RIP

The funeral Mass of Tom Bugler will take place at Our Lady Help of Christians on **Friday 13th January** at **11.00am** followed by burial at Woodcock Hill. We commend him to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for his family at this sad and difficult time.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL – OUR LADY'S, RICKMANSWORTH AND ST JOHN'S, MILL END

Any Our Lady's parishioners who have any suggestions/ideas that they would like to be discussed at the next Our Lady's PPC meeting (**9th January**) should submit them to the Secretary at rickmansworthppcsec@rcdow.org.uk as soon as possible. Fr Shaun has appointed Anke Vos, our Parish Youth Worker, as an ex-officio member of the PPC.

Any Mill End parishioners who have any suggestions/ideas that they would like to be discussed at the next St John the Evangelist PPC meeting (**11th January**) should submit them to the Chair at millendppcchair@rcdow.org.uk as soon as possible. Fr Shaun has appointed Anke Vos, our Parish Youth Worker, as an ex-officio member of the PPC.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE –MAY/JUNE 2017

As many of you will know, I had been planning a walking pilgrimage to Santiago di Compostela for May 2017. Due to difficulties in arranging suitable flight times, I have decided to postpone this pilgrimage until 2018. However, I have now arranged an alternative pilgrimage from **Tuesday 30th May to Sunday 4th June 2016** to the early saints of northern England in Northumbria and Holy Island (Lindisfarne). We will be based in Newcastle, from where we will visit Durham, Jarrow and Monkwearmouth (home of St Bede), Inner Farne Island and Holy Island. The cost of the pilgrimage including travel to and from Newcastle by train, accommodation at the Premier Inn, Newcastle, breakfasts and dinners will be £699 per person (single room supplement = £180 for the 5 nights). We are also able to offer a great deal for families with two children under 15 willing to share a family room (4 people) – the children's price would be £299 each.

The itinerary and booking forms are available in the parishes this weekend and are also downloadable from the parish websites. If you would like to join this pilgrimage please do consider booking before 27th January 2017, as the price is fixed only until that time. *Fr Shaun*

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 21st January** at **10.00am** in Our Lady's hall.

SVP COMMUNITY LUNCH

The next SVP Community Lunch is on Sunday 15th January 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.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL MASS IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

The annual Mass in honour of Our Lady of Lourdes in this Year of Mercy will take place in the Cathedral on **Saturday 11th February 2017** at **2.00pm**. As in previous years, the Sacrament of the Sick will be administered during the Mass. All are welcome, no seat reservations or tickets. If you are bringing a wheelchair, please let Fr Shaun or Fr Mark know before Sunday 29th January so that the appropriate space can be reserved in the Cathedral.

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 (2016/17 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.

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.

SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL (SVP)

Are appealing for donations of long-life milk, toilet rolls and cleaning detergents for the Catholic Worker Farm who provide accommodation for refugees at the farm and at Mary House. Collection boxes in the church porches - thank you.

SLEEPING BAG APPEAL

Many many thanks to everyone who has donated bedding or money to buy sleeping bags. We have been overwhelmed at the generosity of your church family and we know that your gifts have met a very real and urgent need in our community. It has been a witness to us of God's provision "just for today". We continue to ask for on-going donations throughout the winter months if you feel able, but we just wanted to say a big THANK YOU!

God Bless, Malcolm and Anna 07926 193877, 07805 121379

Youth

Our youth leaders are looking forward to welcoming you to our first youth evening. Come along and let us know what we can do for you!

Year 7-8

Tuesday
10 & 24 January
6 – 7.30 pm
St John the Evangelist,
Mill End – Parish Hall



(£1.50 per evening)

Year 9-11

Thursday
12 & 26 January
6 – 8 pm
Our Lady's,
Rickmansworth
Parish Hall

Young Adults

Pub Social

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 6pm Mass) on Sunday 8th January for a drink and a chat.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

THANK YOU

I wish to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to everyone who played any part in making our Christmas Masses so special. Particular thanks to our organists Susana Tierney, Katy Pione and Austin Finan, to Cormac Purtill for coordinating the music and to the Choir, and the Folk Group for the wonderful music at all the Masses. Thanks too to Annie Kent and her team of flower arrangers and helpers for decorating the church so beautifully, to the parishioners who helped with the children's presentation of the Nativity and to our Welcomers, Church Cleaners, Sacristans, Altar Servers, Readers and Ministers of Communion. The hard work of so many people ensured worthy, beautiful and joyful celebrations of our Saviour's birth. On behalf of Fr Mark and myself, I also wish to express our thanks for the many Christmas cards and gifts that we have received from parishioners. Your generosity and kindness is very much appreciated. *Fr Shaun*

GROWING IN FAITH CAMPAIGN – PARISH PROJECT

In December we received the sum of £15,690 as the first tranche of *Growing in Faith* parish project funds for our Youth Worker Project. I am very grateful to all those parishioners who have and continue to so generously support the *Growing in Faith* campaign. The parish stands to receive a further £24,000 in the coming years to help us support and develop youth ministry in the parish. *Fr Shaun*

SOUP LUNCH IN AID OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL

There will be a homemade soup and bread lunch in aid of SVP on **Friday 27 January** from **12 noon to 2pm** in our Lady's church hall. There will be no charge but we ask, if you are able, that you give what you can towards helping provide Vinnie cold weather pack for homeless people. These contain basic essentials to help provide a little comfort for the homeless. As a guide, a Vinnie pack cost about £3 each to produce. All are welcome. Please do come and bring a friend and meet some of your fellow parishioners while helping SVP. Children welcome.

A MESSAGE FROM FR JIM DUFFY

Again this year I wish to offer thanks to the many parishioners who sent cards and gifts to me this Christmas. I was deeply moved by the sheer volume of cards. It is good to know that I am not yet forgotten. I am truly grateful. As I do not have everybody's address in order to respond personally, I would ask that all accept this little note as a sincere and heartfelt 'thank you'. I wish all in the parish every blessing for 2017. *Fr Jim*

200 CLUB - congratulations to Maureen Douglas (£40), Martin Brady (£30), Tom McAteer (£20) and Clare Loose (£10)

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

THANK YOU

I wish to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to everyone who played any part in making our Christmas Masses so special. Particular thanks to our Katy Pione, Jo Rodrigues, and the choir for the wonderful music, to Liz Townsend and all those who helped with the children's Nativity presentation and to our Welcomers, Church Cleaners, Readers, Altar Servers and Ministers of Communion. Special thanks to Robert Gibson and Mary Fagan for all their hard work behind the scenes. The hard work and dedication of so many people ensured worthy, beautiful and joyful celebrations of our Saviour's birth. On behalf of Fr Mark and myself, I also wish to express our thanks for the many Christmas cards and gifts that we have received from parishioners. Your generosity and kindness is very much appreciated. *Fr Shaun*

URGENT APPEAL FOR CHILDREN'S LITURGY VOLUNTEERS

The children's liturgy group **URGENTLY** needs more helpers. We have recently lost 2 members of the team who have moved away from the Parish. Members of the current team already plan all the sessions, craft activities and rota. We need extra people to help in the class on the day. Two adults are needed for each class. The class involves reading the gospel, leading the children through pre-set questions and helping the children complete the craft activity. You do not need any previous experience, just simply be at Mass and go out with the children for the first half of Mass. All volunteers do need to have a DBS check. This is straight forward and is organised through the parish. We need at least eight volunteers altogether so that each volunteer is required once a month. At present we have only four volunteers. Please consider volunteering and speak to Liz Townsend, Natalie Zammit, Geraldine Page, Fr. Shaun or Fr. Mark if you are interested. Sadly if more volunteers do not come forward we will have to close the Liturgy group.

ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

THANK YOU

I wish to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to everyone who played any part in making our Christmas Masses so special. Particular thanks to Caroline Holly and the instrumentalists and the choir, for the wonderful music (also to Patricia O'Sullivan for all her work with the Choir leading up to Christmas), to Rosemary Ellis for the flowers, to those who helped decorate the church and to our Welcomers, Readers, Altar Servers and Ministers of Communion. The hard work of so many people ensured worthy, beautiful and joyful celebrations of our Saviour's birth.

On behalf of Fr Mark and myself, I also wish to express our thanks for the many Christmas cards and gifts that we received from parishioners. Your generosity and kindness is very much appreciated. *Fr Shaun*

TOM GILLIES RIP

It is with sadness that we share the news of the death on New Year's Day of Tom Gillies, the husband of the Rev. Arderne Gillies, the Baptist Minister in Chorleywood. There will be a Committal Service on Tuesday 17th January at 1pm at Chilterns Crematorium followed by a Service of Thanksgiving at 2pm at Chorleywood Free Church (Baptist), Hillside Road, Chorleywood. After this there will be a buffet tea in the Church Hall. We pray for the repose of Tom's soul and we keep Arderne and her family in our prayers at this very sad and difficult time for them.

APPLE JUICE made from Chorleywood apples professionally juiced locally. £2.50 for a 75cl bottle. All proceeds to Kenyan Children's Project www.thehcp.org. Bob Hubbard 282635 email rk.hubbard@ntlworld.com. Can deliver within Chorleywood.

ROTAS	Saturday 6.00pm Mass			Sunday 9.00am Mass			Sunday Counters	Laundry
	Welcomer	Reader	MoC	Welcomer	Reader	Communion		
7/8 Jan.	M Foggo	J Stratton	E O'Sullivan	J Hale	H McGrath	AM Farnsworth	Peter & Kate	S Treanor
14/15 Jan.	J Ingham	E O'Sullivan	C Johnston	D Treanor	M Calvert	E Price	Marguerite & Ann	V Terrill