



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](mailto:shaunchurch@rcdow.org.uk)

### Assistant Priest:

Fr Mark Walker  
[markwalker@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:markwalker@rcdow.org.uk)

### Parish Administrator:

Kerry Van Rensburg  
[rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk)

### Parish Youth Worker:

Anke Vos  
[ankevos@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:ankevos@rcdow.org.uk)

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

Telephone: 01923 773387

 @ChessValleyRC

## PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD (YEAR A) - 9<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2017

### SUNDAY THOUGHT

The Roman numeral three is usually made up of three vertical strokes; the Arabic numeral three originated from three horizontal strokes. Vertical and horizontal: up and down, back and forth, all over. The number three in ancient times was considered a perfect number symbolising completion. In Matthew's passion account, threes abound as Jesus completes his earthly ministry and sets in motion the events that lead to his exaltation, to our continuing ministry, and to our completion in the fullness of life.

The accounts of Jesus' passion and death are filled with human treachery and weakness, but also with Jesus' obedience and courage. Unjustly accused, judged, and condemned, Jesus never gets defensive or angry or vindictive. Instead he accepts what takes place and in that act he is shown to be who he is, "the Son of God." His truth is our salvation. His "My God, my God" is our prayer. His death is our victory.

The "threes" of Jesus' life, death and resurrection must be the threefold pattern of our own lives. We must hear his Good News so that we can live it. We must die to self so that we can give to others the goodness, hope, and healing he has given us. We must open ourselves to the new life he offers us so that we might join him in his everlasting reign. Today's passion gospel is not about the past, but about the present and the future fullness of life given us by the perfect and complete Three – the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Isaiah 50:4-7

**Response to Psalm:** My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Philippians 2:6-11

**Gospel:** Matthew 26:14 - 27:66

**Communion Antiphon:** Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.

**Next Sunday's Readings (Easter Sunday Morning)**

Acts 10:34. 37-43; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-9 (Gospel)

### LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION

**Rickmansworth:** Envelopes: £726.00; Loose Plate: £346.11; Standing Orders: £510.00 **Total: £1582.11**

**Mill End:** Envelopes: £343.58; Loose Plate: £124.77; Standing Orders: £197.00 **Total: £665.35**

**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

|                                  |   |  |  |
|----------------------------------|---|--|--|
| <b>SUN 9<sup>TH</sup> APRIL</b>  |   |  |  |
| <b>MON 10<sup>TH</sup> APRIL</b> | 10.00am<br>1.30pm<br>7.30pm<br><br>8.00pm | Lets Get Together and Grow - Hall<br>Robert Barron's DVD Course <i>Conversion</i> - Hall<br>Holy Hour - Meditations for Lent from St Thomas Aquinas " <i>The Last Supper</i> "<br>Choir Practice | Our Lady Help of Christians<br>St John the Evangelist<br><br>Our Lady Help of Christians<br>St John the Evangelist |
| <b>TUE 11<sup>TH</sup> APRIL</b> | 12 noon<br>8.00pm                         | Chrism Mass<br>RCIA - Rehearsal for Easter Vigil   | Westminster Cathedral<br>Our Lady Help of Christians   |
| <b>WED 12<sup>TH</sup> APRIL</b> | 7.30pm<br>7.45pm                          | Choir Practice<br>Robert Barron's DVD Course <i>Conversion</i> - Hall  | St John Fisher<br>Our Lady Help of Christians  |
| <b>THU 13<sup>TH</sup> APRIL</b> | 3.00pm<br>5.00pm                          | <b>NO SVP MEETING THIS WEEK</b><br>Altar Servers' Rehearsal for Holy Thursday Mass<br>Altar Servers' Rehearsal for Holy Thursday Mass  | Our Lady Help of Christians<br>St John the Evangelist  |
| <b>FRI 14<sup>TH</sup> APRIL</b> | 10.30am<br>11.00am<br>11.00am<br>7.30pm   | Altar Servers' Rehearsal for Good Friday<br>Children's Good Friday Stations of the Cross<br>Ecumenical Walk of Witness for Good Friday<br>Stations of the Cross                                  | Our Lady Help of Christians<br>St John the Evangelist<br>Crossroads in Chorleywood<br>Our Lady Help of Christians  |
| <b>SAT 15<sup>TH</sup> APRIL</b> | 12 noon                                   | <b>NO MORNING MASS OR HOLY HOUR</b><br>Altar Servers' Rehearsal for Easter Vigil   | Our Lady Help of Christians<br>Our Lady Help of Christians   |

## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

|  | Our Lady Help of Christians  | St John the Evangelist                                  | St John Fisher  |
|--|--|---|---|
| <b>SATURDAY</b><br>8 <sup>TH</sup> APRIL   | <b>10am</b> For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish  | <b>6pm</b> (Vigil) Patsy Meegan RIP                     | <b>6pm</b> (Vigil) Fr Jim Fanning RIP                   |
| <b>SUNDAY</b><br>9 <sup>TH</sup> APRIL<br><i>PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD</i>                | <b>8.30am</b> Private Intention<br><b>11am</b> For the People of the Parish<br><b>6pm</b> Fr Jim Fanning RIP | <b>10.30am</b> For the People of the Parish             | <b>9am</b> For the People of the Parish                 |
| <b>MONDAY</b><br>10 <sup>TH</sup> APRIL  | <b>9.30am</b> Margaret Reynolds RIP  | <b>9.30am</b> Val Gemmel (Ints.)                        |   |
| <b>TUESDAY</b><br>11 <sup>TH</sup> APRIL   | <b>9.30am</b> Peter Price RIP & Mrs Price RIP  |   | <b>9.30am</b> For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b><br>12 <sup>TH</sup> APRIL   |  | <b>9.30am</b> For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish |   |
| <b>THURSDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> APRIL</b><br><i>MAUNDY THURSDAY</i>  | <b>NO MORNING MASS</b><br><b>8pm</b> For the People of the Parish  | <b>8pm</b> For the People of the Parish                 | <b>8pm</b> For the People of the Parish                 |
| <b>FRIDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> APRIL</b><br><b>GOOD FRIDAY - THE CELEBRATION OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD</b> | <b>3pm</b> Celebration of the Passion of the Lord  | <b>3pm</b> Celebration of the Passion of the Lord       | <b>3pm</b> Celebration of the Passion of the Lord       |
| <b>SATURDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> APRIL</b><br><i>HOLY SATURDAY</i>  | <b>NO MORNING MASS</b><br><b>8.30pm</b> (Vigil) For the People of the Parish                                 | <b>8.30pm</b> (Vigil) For the People of the Parish      | <b>8.30pm</b> (Vigil) For the People of the Parish      |
| <b>SUNDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> APRIL</b><br><i>EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION</i>                        | <b>8.30am</b> Patricia Breen RIP (Anniv.)<br><b>11am</b> Kevin Ford RIP<br><b>NO EVENING MASS</b>            | <b>10.30am</b> Cyril Borthwick RIP (Anniv.)             | <b>9am</b> 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

### GOOD FRIDAY

Good Friday is a day of abstinence and fasting. At the 3.00pm Celebration of the Passion of the Lord, in all three parishes, there will be a retiring collection for the support of the holy places of our faith in the Holy Land. There will be a celebration of Children's Stations of the Cross at St John's, Mill End at 11.00am.

### THE VEILING OF CROSSES AND STATUES

Until the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday the crosses and statues of our churches are veiled in purple cloths. The veiling of crosses and images is a sort of "fasting" from sacred depictions which represent the paschal glory of our salvation. Just as the Lenten fast concludes with the Paschal feast, so too, our fasting from the cross culminates in an adoration of the holy wood on which the sacrifice of Calvary was offered for our sins. Likewise, a fasting from the glorious images of the mysteries of faith and the saints in glory culminates on the Easter night with a renewed appreciation of the glorious victory won by Christ, risen from the tomb to win for us eternal life.

### EASTER OFFERING ENVELOPES

The offerings at the Easter Day Masses are your personal gift to your priests. The Christmas and Easter offerings, together with the stole fees and Mass stipends form the personal income paid by the parishes to Fr Shaun and Fr Mark. These monies are paid into the respective three parishes' accounts and are then paid to the priests as a monthly salary or stipend. If you use Planned Giving Envelopes please use the one marked *Easter Offering*. If you do not use Planned Giving, there are loose *Easter Offering* envelopes available at the back of church. If you know that you are going to be away for Easter you might wish to put your Easter Offering envelope into the collection this weekend. Thank you.

### PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES 2017/18

Are available for collection this weekend. Please make sure that the address on your box of envelopes is correct.

### HOLY WEEK AND EASTER LEAFLET

Copies of the Holy Week and Easter leaflet, giving the times of all the Masses and liturgies over Holy Week and Easter are available this weekend. Please be sure to take one home with you.

### 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 14<sup>th</sup> April.

### PARISH PILGRIMAGE – MAY/JUNE 2017

There will be a pilgrimage to Northumbria and Holy Island from **Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May to Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> 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

There will be no SVP Community Lunch this month. The next one will be on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May at 12.30pm.

### SVP REQUEST

The SVP has been asked by a local family for a bunk bed, with the bottom bunk being a double. If anyone has one they are looking to dispose of please ring Geraldine Page on 07725 748490. Thank you.

### CHESS VALLEY SVP UPDATE

We would like to thank all parishioners for their continued support through the SVP boxes in all three parishes. Through your support, we have recently been able to help families with fuel costs and needed travel expenses for medical care. We have also donated to the Crisis in Sudan Appeal, which will help with their Baby Feeding Programme and providing Medical Care. Should you wish to read more about this appeal or make a direct donation please go to [www.twinnage.org.uk](http://www.twinnage.org.uk).

### CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE – IMPORTANT REMINDER TO PARENTS

Parents currently collecting Mass attendance stickers for primary or secondary places in catholic schools are reminded to 1.) Put cello-tape over each row once it is completed, so that stickers will not peel off over time and 2.) Take regular photographs of the Mass attendance card (making sure the child's name is visible). This will ensure that you have evidence of Sunday Mass attendance should your card become lost. Please take great care of your Mass attendance card – remember that this is the evidence on which Certificates of Catholic Practice are issued.

### 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.

#### Youth Group

Year 7-8 will meet on  
Tuesday 18 April, 6-7.30 pm  
@ Mill End.

Year 9-11 will meet on  
Thursday 20 April, 6-8 pm  
@ Rickmansworth.

#### 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 30 April, 21 May** and 25 June for a drink and a chat.

#### Thank You

Thank you for a wonderful afternoon last Saturday at the Aquadrome! I'm sure we built the best den ever. (And I think I played the worst football ever, but so much fun!) - Anke



## OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

### HOLY THURSDAY – WASHING OF FEET

There is a list in the porch for anyone willing to have their feet washed at the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday. Please do sign up.

**EASTER CARDS** - are available in the repository.

**200 CLUB** - congratulations to Deirdre Barker (£40); Diane Passmore (£30); Susan Ray (£20) and Clare Loose (£10).

## ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

### BOOK OF THANKSGIVING – STAINED GLASS WINDOW

Our Book of Thanksgiving for the new stained glass window has now been completed and rests up its new lectern, just in front of the sanctuary. Here you will find the thanksgivings associated with the 92 panes of glass in our new stained glass window. Once again, we thank all parishioners who made such generous donations towards the cost of this window, which has truly transformed our church. Please feel free to leave the book open on the page of your thanksgiving.

### MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Minutes of the recent Annual Parish Meeting, together with the Parish Priest's Report and the Report of our SVP Conference, are now available on the parish website. A copy of the Minutes is also posted on the porch notice board.

**RED MISSIO BOXES** - could you please bring yours to Mass this weekend for the March collection. Thank you.

**ROTAS** - are now available for the ministries of Welcome, Reader and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.

### HOLY THURSDAY – WASHING OF FEET

There is a list in the porch for anyone willing to have their feet washed at the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday. Please do sign up.

**EASTER CARDS** - are available in the repository.

## ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

### PLANNED GIVING REVIEW - THANK YOU

Thank you for taking part in our 'Planned Giving' appeal. In the lounge there are addressed envelopes for all parishioners who signed a promise card. Please take a few minutes to collect your letter when you leave Mass today. If you missed signing a promise card, and would like a box of donation envelopes, or to donate to the parish by standing order (bankers order) or wish to Gift Aid, please complete a promise card, which are available in the lobby today. Once again, thank you for all that you do. Please keep our parish in your prayers.

### GOOD FRIDAY CHORLEYWOOD CHURCHES' CROSSROAD SERVICE AT 11.00AM

We once again have the pleasure of giving our hospitality of refreshments after this service to our Christian friends. If anyone would like to join us in this please contact Mary for details (01923 284975). Preparing from 10.30am, washing up from 11.30am. Thank you.

### VOLUNTEERS FOR THE EASTER MASSES

We need welcomers, readers, Ministers of Communion and people willing to have their feet washed on Maundy Thursday. If you can help, please put your name on the sheet on the noticeboard. Thank you.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

At the Annual Parish Meeting, there was a discussion about the recitation of the Responsorial Psalm at Sunday Mass. There was a general consensus that the current way of reciting the psalm altogether does not foster meditation on the word of God in the way that the Church intends that it should. Therefore, it was agreed that from Easter Sunday morning we will revert to saying (or singing) the Responsorial Psalm as it is set out in the Lectionary, namely: with the Reader reading the verses and the congregation joining in with the response after each stanza, rather than with the congregation joining in throughout.

### CHILDREN'S BOOKS

A selection of children's bibles and religious story and picture books are now available for use by small children during Mass. The books are in a clear plastic box in the lounge. Please feel free to take some into the church. We would be grateful if you could return them to the box at the end of Mass.

### APF/MISSIO BOXES

The March collection amounted to £135.38p. Thank you very much for your continued support. Mary.

### CHRISTIAN AID WEEK (14<sup>TH</sup> - 20<sup>TH</sup> MAY)

Christian Aid Week is just around the corner. Please be ready to volunteer your time and your offerings to support some of the most disadvantaged people in our world. Please volunteer to be a house-to-house collector (great Christian witness) and also help at our Market, once more back at St John Fisher, on Friday and Saturday 19 and 20 May. As well as baking your delicious cakes and breads and searching your cupboards for good bric-a-brac and Silent Auction items, we also need helpers at all stalls. We will also shortly be handing out order forms for our hanging baskets and bedding plants. Please offer your help to your own Church Rep Eddie, Maureen or Mary, or respond willingly if approached. Thank you.

**EASTER CARDS** are available in the lounge.

| ROTAS       | Saturday 6.00pm Mass                    |              |              | Sunday 9.00am Mass |           |           | Sunday Counters | Laundry   |
|-------------|---|--------------|--------------|--------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|
|             | Welcomer                                | Reader       | MoC          | Welcomer           | Reader    | Communion |                 |           |
| 8/9 April   | J Ingham                                | E O'Sullivan | E O'Sullivan | M Mackie           | M Calvert | F Holly   | Carolyn & Patsy | V Terrill |
| 15/16 April | <i>See separate list on noticeboard</i> |              |              |                    |           |           | Peter & Una     | C Steet   |

## GENERAL NOTICES

**VOLUNTEER REQUIRED** - have you got a few hours to spare on a Monday once a month? Rickmansworth Care needs someone to answer the phone 9.30 to 12.30. If you can help please phone Jenny Woods on 01923 447417.