

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

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PAPAL KNIGHTHOOD FOR ANDY ROGERS

We are delighted to announce that the Holy Father has awarded one of our parishioners, Mr Andy Rogers, with the Papal Award of Knight of St Gregory the Great. We offer Andy our warmest congratulations on this great honour. Bishop John Sherrington will come to the parish later this spring or in the early summer to present Andy with his award.

R.C.I.A. 2ND SCRUTINY

This Sunday at the 8.30am Mass, Our Elect Kanat Ayyildiz will take part in the 2nd Scrutiny. This is part of his preparation for receiving the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist at Easter.

Please pray for him and our two candidates Chris Prytherch and Samantha Benson.

WELCOMERS AT SUNDAY 6.00 PM MASS

We are looking for some volunteers to join our team of Welcomers at the Sunday 6.00pm Mass. If you would be interested in playing a part in the crucial parish ministry of welcome please speak to Fr Shaun or Fr Mark or contact Martin Brady at martin.brady@mustangeng.com

RENOVATION OF THE PRAYER GARDEN AT ST JOHN'S SCHOOL

For a number of years there has been a Prayer Garden at St John's School for the use of the children. In recent years the garden has lost much of its original beauty and has become a rather barren space. The school, supported by the PTA, are now undertaking a renewal of the Prayer Garden with the help of a team of professional landscapers. Next weekend there will be a special retiring collection for anyone who would like to contribute to the costs of restoring and developing the Prayer Garden, so that it may become a beautiful and tranquil place for the children to feel close to the Lord. At all the Masses next weekend children from St John's School will speak to us about why the Prayer Garden is so important for them.

PARISH MUSIC

It is with much sadness that we announce that Peter and Julia Adlard have decided to step down at the end of Holy Week from their leadership of the 11.00am (formally 10.30am) Choir. Peter and Julia have given nearly 30 years of dedicated service to the choir and their enthusiasm and hard work have resulted in a choir of which the parish is rightly proud. We thank them for their dedicated and generous service to the parish community and wish them much happiness in their future endeavours. The departure of Peter and Julia does, of course, mean that we now need to begin looking for someone to take over the leadership of the choir. Ideally, we are looking for an accomplished musician who can play the organ and direct the choir. If you, or someone you know, might be interested in taking on this role please do speak to Fr Shaun, Fr Mark or Peter or Julia Adlard.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH:

Madeleine McGrory, Maureen Digges, Gerry Koller, Elsie Alexander, Vinny Spiteri, Ruary Chisholm, Jonathan Pione, Bessie Collins and her daughter Kathleen Collins, Wendy Goldsmith, Kathy Wright, John Byrne, John Overend, Monica Clatworthy, Peter Czarniecki, Tony Infante, Brenda Reynolds, Brian Hunt, Maureen Giles, Olive Cordery, Sheelah Spence, George O'Neill, Neville Mathews, Norah MacWilliam, Agnes Harper, Diane Price and Joan Marioni.

LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION: £ 1557.07
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS, RICKMANSWORTH,
ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, MILL END & MAPLE CROSS,
AND ST JOHN FISHER, CHORLEYWOOD



Parish Priest: Fr Shaun Church Assistant Priest: Fr Mark Walker
Parish Administrator: Mrs Kerry Van Rensburg
Telephone: 01923 773387 Email: rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk
www.rickmansworthcatholicchurch.org
www.rcdow.org.uk/millend
www.stjohnfisherchorleywood.org.uk

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT - 23RD MARCH 2014 SUNDAY THOUGHT

First impressions when we encounter someone we don't know either leave us attracted to that person, or turned off. We are attracted to another person when there is a resonating chord, a sense of common values and experiences, when the other seems genuinely interested in us. Subsequent encounters help us to get to know each other and learn from each other. Where have we experienced this kind of encounter with Jesus?

A woman comes to the well seeking water; she leaves the well having found salvation. The dramatic change is brought about by an encounter with a tired, thirsty man who turns out to be far more than he appears to be. It is Jesus who initiates the encounter, but the woman's willingness to pursue the conversation is crucial to the encounter's outcome. Her openness to seeking the truth opens her to receive the gift of Jesus' very self and be changed by him.

Jesus comes to us today with the same gift of self. Are we willing to be open to what he offers us? What does he offer? Jesus offers us the truth about ourselves when another challenges our words and actions. Jesus offers us the opportunity to grow on our journey toward salvation when others ask us to get involved in doing good works that we might not have chosen. Jesus offers us the opportunity to come to deeper belief when we take the time to share with family and others our own experiences of prayer and encounters with divine Presence.

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 17:3-7

Response to Psalm: O that today you would listen to his voice: 'Harden not your hearts.'

2nd Reading: Romans 5:1-2. 5-8

Gospel: John 4:5-42

Communion Antiphon: For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord, the water I shall give will become in him a spring welling up to eternal life.

NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

SUN 23RD MAR	9.00am - 9.50am	1st Communion Class - Hall	St John the Evangelist
MON 24TH MAR	10.15am - 11.45am 5.45pm - 6.30pm 7.30pm - 8.30pm 8.00pm	'Let's Get Together & Grow' – Hall 1st Communion Class – Hall Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Choir Practice	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians St John Fisher St John the Evangelist
TUE 25TH MAR	7.30pm 8.00pm 8.00pm - 9.30pm	Confirmation Class - Hall Finance Committee Meeting RCIA - Upper Room	Our Lady Help of Christians St John Fisher Our Lady Help of Christians
WED 26TH MAR	7.30pm - 9.00pm 7.30pm	Catholicism Course - Hall Music Group	Our Lady Help of Christians St John Fisher
THU 27TH MAR	8.00pm 8.00pm 8.00pm - 9.30pm	Anniversary Mass - Fr Jim Brand RIP Choir Practice Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	St John Fisher Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
FRI 28TH MAR	10.00am 8.00pm	There won't be coffee after Mass this week. Stations of the Cross	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
SAT 29TH MAR	10.00am 11.30am - 12.15pm	Newsletter Folding - Presbytery Confessions	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians

WEEKEND MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

RICKMANSWORTH

8.30 am — People of the Parish
11.00 am — Merwyn Mascarenhas RIP
6.00 pm — James O'Brien

MILL END

6.00 pm (Vigil) — People of the Parish
10.30 am — Martin & Nora Connor (Anniversary Mass)

CHORLEYWOOD

6.00 pm (Vigil) — For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish
9.00 am — People of the Parish

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

RICKMANSWORTH

Mon 9.30 am — John Clarke RIP
Tue 9.30 am — Fatima Venancio RIP
Thu 9.30 am — Private Intention
Fri 9.30 am — For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish

MILL END

Mon 9.30 am — Madge McGrath RIP
Wed 9.30 am — For the Sick & Housebound of the Parish

CHORLEYWOOD

Tue 9.30 am — For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish
Thur 8.00 pm — Fr Jim Brand RIP
Fri 9.30 am — Ron Latimer RIP

THIS WEEK'S FEAST DAYS

Tuesday 25th March — The Annunciation of the Lord

OUR FAMILY OF PARISHES

Our Lady Help of Christians, 5 Park Road, Rickmansworth, WD3 1HU
St John the Evangelist, Berry Lane, Mill End, WD3 7HG
St John Fisher, Hill Cottage, Shire Lane, Chorleywood, WD3 5NH

THIS WEEK'S LENTEN ACTIVITIES

Monday 24th March – Holy Hour – St John Fisher – 7.30pm - 8.30pm

Wednesday 27th March – Catholicism Series – Our Lady's Hall, Rickmansworth – 7.30pm – 9.00pm

Friday 29th March – Stations of the Cross – Our Lady Help of Christians - 8.00pm

Copies of the *Our Lenten Journey* leaflet with full details on all our Lenten activities are available at the back of church.

LENTEN ALMS

The Diocesan charities that we are supporting with Lenten Alms are: **Aid to the Church in Need** – providing relief especially for the people of Syria and the **Bakhita Fund with Caritas Westminster** supporting victims of human trafficking and modern slavery. One of the money boxes in the church is dedicated Lenten Alms for your almsgiving during Lent.

WHAT TO DO ABOUT PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES WHEN ATTENDING MASS AT ONE OF THE OTHER PARISHES

You can still use your existing Planned Giving envelopes should you choose to attend Mass, either frequently or occasionally, in one of the other two parishes. All such envelopes will be returned unopened to the parish from which they originated and will be counted in the collection for that parish.

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS: The University Chaplaincy in the Diocese is doing a survey of Students in Parishes, to see what your needs are, and to see how we can support you. At the end of the Masses this weekend we will be asking for a show of hands from any university/higher education students at the Mass.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO ROME AND ASSISI (15TH - 20TH SEPTEMBER)

There are still places available on the parish pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi. Itineraries and booking forms are available. Please book soon to secure your place.

RICKY WEEK – BOUTIQUE FAIR 16TH MAY 2014

It's time to start planning this year's Boutique Fair. This fund raiser is a way our family of parishes can contribute to bringing our community together during Ricky Week. All proceeds go to the Rickmansworth Society. It takes a lot of organisation so I would love to hear from anyone willing to help me this year. No experience is necessary. Help is needed for the organisation of the event, during the fair itself, from baking cakes, tombola donations, taking a stall, selling tea/coffee, making phone calls, or ideas for fund raising. Please call Angela O'Donovan on 07971 587848, email aodonovan@ntlworld.com. All help gratefully received.

VOCATIONS DISCERNMENT GROUP FOR YOUNG ADULTS (18-40)

Will be on Friday 28th March, 7.00pm - 9.00pm in the Hinsley Room next to Westminster Cathedral. Two recently ordained Jesuit deacons will be reflecting on Chapter 2 of Pope Francis' *Evangelii Gaudium* - Amid the Crisis of Communal Commitment. For more info, contact Fr Richard at richardnesbitt@rcdow.org.uk