



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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THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (YEAR B) - 7TH JANUARY 2018

SUNDAY THOUGHT

To have an 'epiphany' means to have a moment of sudden and great realisation about something. One of the great and sudden moments of realisation the Gospel gives is that Jesus is a light for *all* people. The beginning of his Gospel shows pagan wise men, non-Jews, as one of the first to worship Jesus as the light. At the end of his Gospel, Jesus' last words are 'Go, make disciples of all nations' (Matthew 28:19). Of *all* nations. Those considered 'outside the faith' are like bookends in St. Matthew's Gospel. Maybe St. Matthew is telling us just how important it is for those considered 'outside the faith' to experience Jesus Christ as the light that has come.

The Catholic Church is excellent at doing benevolent acts of charity for those in financial, material, and emotional need. How good are we at helping those 'outside the church' to experience Jesus as a spiritual light? Maybe we haven't experienced him in that way personally, and feel unable to bring those who are looking for Jesus to him – like the wise men – and to fulfil Jesus' command to 'make disciples of all nations'. If you feel 'in the dark' about how to bring your family, friends, and loved ones, who have fallen away from faith, back to the light of faith, do not despair. Look up to the star and light of Jesus. Trust that he will be your light to help bring those you love back to faith. 'Your light *has* come'.

AT THE MASS DURING THE DAY

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

1 Samuel 3:3-10. 19; 1 Corinthians 6:13-15. 17-20; John 1:35-42 (Gospel)

LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION

Rickmansworth: Envelopes: £468.16; Loose Plate: £293.11; Standing Orders: £747.79 **Total: £1508.76**

Mill End: Envelopes: £361.00; Loose Plate: £217.77; Standing Orders: £197.00 **Total: £775.77**

Chorleywood: The Offertory collection for the month of December - **To be advised.**

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 7TH JANUARY	7.00pm	Afterparty - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
MON 8TH JANUARY	10.00am - 12 noon 10.00am 11.00am 5.00pm - 6.00pm 7.15pm - 8.45pm 8.00pm	Lets Get Together and Grow - Hall SJF Ladies Meeting Funeral Service - Greta Lam RIP B-Attitude (year 9-13) - Upper Room Confirmation Course - Hall Choir Practice	Our Lady Help of Christians Edith Moid's Flat Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist
TUE 9TH JANUARY	6.00pm - 7.30pm 8.00pm - 9.30pm	Saints (school year 7-9) - Hall RCIA - Upper Room	St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
WED 10TH JANUARY			
THU 11TH JANUARY	2.15pm for 2.30pm 8.00pm	Quiet Space Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	St Peters, Mill End Our Lady Help of Christians
FRI 12TH JANUARY	10.45am for 11am	Lectio Divina - Upper Room	Our Lady Help of Christians
SAT 13TH JANUARY	10.30am - 11.30am 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 6 TH JANUARY	10.00am Agnes McAleenan RIP	6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish	6pm (Vigil) Kenneth & Terry Messer RIP
SUNDAY 7 TH JANUARY <i>THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD</i>	8.30am Michael Williams RIP 11am Michael Jubber RIP (Anniv.) 6pm For the People of the Parish	10.30am Joe Furey & Family (Ints.)	9am For the People of the Parish
MONDAY 8 TH JANUARY <i>THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD</i>	9.30am Denise Waters RIP	9.30am Andrew Carolan	
TUESDAY 9 TH JANUARY	9.30am Agnes McAleenan RIP		9.30am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish
WEDNESDAY 10 TH JANUARY		9.30am Ciaran Mallon	
THURSDAY 11 TH JANUARY	9.30am John, Nora, Daniel & Michael O'Donoghue RIP		
FRIDAY 12 TH JANUARY	9.30am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish		NO MASS TODAY
SATURDAY 13 TH JANUARY	10.00am Agnes McAleenan RIP	6pm (Vigil) Michael James Denning RIP (Anniv.)	6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
SUNDAY 14 TH JANUARY <i>SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am Xenia Murray RIP (Anniv.) 11am Jack Crowley RIP (Anniv.) 6pm For the People of the Parish	10.30am Reg Viner RIP (Anniv.)	9am Una Maguire RIP

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISHES

Our Lady Help of Christians: Kathleen Collins, Wendy Goldsmith, Kathy Wright, Monica Clatworthy, Brenda Reynolds, Maureen Giles, Olive Cordery, Neville Mathews, Agnes Harper, Eileen Durkan, Ginny Goodgol, Maria Wallis, Peter Ward, Heather Kean, Olive Kiener, John Caneparo, Henry Cutting, Christina Thomas, Nalene Nixon, Pam Bell, Joan Townend and Mike Townend.

St John the Evangelist: Jean Mulderrig; Rita Murray; Imogen Bailey, Harry Lennon, Joe Donnelly, John Connor, Michael Dixon, Pat Beaton, Audrey and Paddy Lewin

St John Fisher: Nora O'Toole, Francis De Souza, Georgina Kelham, 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



LENTEN READING GROUPS

During Lent we are offering parishioners the opportunity to enjoy exploring their faith together, within small *informal* weekly sessions. These will be lay-led groups, drawing from themes of personal and shared faith / missionary discipleship as discussed in "Divine Renovation". Sessions will also invite discussion of the processes Fr. Mallon has used to create a joyful invitational culture in his own parish. Please do sign up using the sheets at the back of each church by **Sunday 28th January**. Once we have an idea of numbers we will be able to discuss dates, times and venues for each group.

EVENING OF PRAYER FOR THE THREE PARISHES

At the end of 2017, Fr. Shaun and Fr. Damian spoke to the parishes of their vision to be and make missionary disciples, becoming more invitational and joyful in bringing others to Jesus Christ. The starting point, mid-point and end-point of this process is prayer! So as we prepare to make this vision a reality, we will gather in prayer as a community at **St. John's, Mill End** on **Thursday 25th January 7.30-8.30pm** for a powerful evening of Scripture, Adoration, hymns and reflection. Please do join us if at all possible for this short but important occasion.

GRETA LAM RIP

The funeral of Greta Lam will take place at Our Lady Help of Christians on **Monday 8th January** at **11.00am** followed by burial at Chorleywood Lawn Cemetery. We commend her to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for her family at this sad and difficult time.

CONFIRMATION COURSE

We would like to remind our young confirmation candidates that the first session for you and your parents will take place on **Monday 15th January** from 7.15pm to 8.45pm in Our Lady's parish hall. Please bring some food to share.

A MESSAGE FROM FR JIM DUFFY:

Once again, this year, I was truly overwhelmed and moved by the sheer volume of Christmas cards which I received, with greetings, good wishes, kind comments and many gifts. I am truly grateful. Of course I do not have everybody's address in order to respond personally, so I would ask that all accept this note as a sincere and heartfelt 'thank you'. It is nice to know that I am not yet forgotten. I send good wishes to everybody in the parish praying that the blessings of Christmas may extend well into this new year of 2018. *Fr Jim*

LECTIO DIVINA

This is a simple, prayerful process of listening and responding. It is a shared, personal encounter with the Word of God. It is not a Bible study or a discussion. Ecumenical meetings on 2nd Friday at Our Lady help of Christians, Rickmansworth 10.45am for 11.00am. The first meeting will be on 12th January in the Upper Room.

QUIET SPACE – ECUMENCIAL GATHERING FOR PRAYERFUL REFLECTION IN STILLNESS

There is a twice-monthly gathering for silent prayer and reflection on the 2nd Thursday of each month at St Peter's, Mill End and on the 4th Monday of each month Our Lady Help of Christians, Rickmansworth. There will be a short reading from scripture and a poem, which will lead into 20 minutes of prayerful silence. All are welcome. For further details please contact Anne on 07810 805900 or Kathy on 07712 626169. Information leaflets are available at each parish.

MONDAY TODDLER GROUP 10AM-12 NOON IN OUR LADY'S CHURCH HALL

Come and join our friendly group! Plenty of toys for the children and cake and chat for the mums! If you have any questions, please contact Charlotte Gomes on charlotte.gomes@comconsult.co.uk or 07834 987686.

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 Damian 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 (2017/18 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 – 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.

DIOCESAN NOTICES

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 10th February 2018** 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 Damian or Kerry know before Sunday 28th January so that the appropriate space can be reserved in the Cathedral.

VINNIE PACKS

The SVP are distributing **12,000 Vinnie Packs** containing cold weather essentials to the homeless and those spending the principal part of their day on the streets. Each pack contains thermal gloves, two pairs of socks, gloves, toothbrush, toothpaste, information card and pen. Please could you consider sponsoring packs at a suggested donation of £3.50 per pack. Donations can be sent to **Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London SW1P 9EZ** with cheques made out to SVP. Thank you so much for your support.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

THANK YOU

On behalf of Fr Shaun and myself, I wish to express our 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 again of Fr Shaun 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 Damian

PASTORAL COUNCIL

The note of the recent Pastoral Council meeting is now available on the porch notice board and on the parish website. A few hard copies are available at the back of church for those without access to the internet.

THE AFTERPARTY

Sunday 7th January after 6.00pm Mass (starts 7pm-ish, finish 8pm) in the parish hall at Our Lady's, Rickmansworth. Ping pong, hot chocolate, a flamingo, foosball & tea. Everyone is warmly invited, especially families with teenagers.

REDECORATION OF THE CHURCH

The first phase of the work on the installation of the new lighting system has now been completed. The work will recommence on 9th January but we hope to be able to keep the church open for Masses at that time. There will be further periods in the early part of this year when we will have to cancel weekday Masses as the work of redecoration of the church continues.

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

THANK YOU

On behalf of Fr Shaun and myself, 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 Katy Pione, Jo Rodrigues, and the choir for the wonderful music, to all those who helped with the children's Nativity presentation and to our flower arrangers, 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 again of Fr Shaun 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 Damian

READERS, WELCOMER'S AND MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION ROTA for January to March 2018 are available now at the back of the church.

ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

THANK YOU

On behalf of Fr Shaun and myself, 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 Patricia O'Sullivan, and the choir, for the wonderful music, to Rosemary Ellis for the flowers, to those who helped decorate the church and to our Welcomers, Readers, Altar Servers, Sacristans, and Ministers of Communion. The hard work of so many people ensured worthy, beautiful and joyful celebrations of our Saviour's birth. On behalf again of Fr Shaun 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 Damian

PASTORAL COUNCIL

The Minutes of the recent Pastoral Council meeting are now available on the lobby notice board and on the parish website. A few hard copies are available in the lobby for those without access to the internet.

WEEKDAY MASSES AT ST JOHN FISHER IN THE NEW YEAR

There will be **no** 9.30am weekday Masses on the following dates: Tuesdays: 16th and 30th January. Fridays: 12th, 26th January and 9th February. Masses on other Tuesdays and Fridays of January and February will be as normal.

LADIES MEETING - the next ladies meeting is on MONDAY, 8th of JANUARY, 10.00am at 2 Grenville Court, (Edith Moid's flat). All are very welcome.

ROTAS	Saturday 6.00pm Mass			Sunday 9.00am Mass			Sunday Counters	Laundry
	Welcomer	Reader	MoC	Welcomer	Reader	Communion		
6/7 Jan.	G F	E O'Sullivan	D Gibney	J Hale	A Opie	F Holly	Francis & Una	
13/14 Jan.	A Dennis	C Pierce	E O'Sullivan	M Mackie	H McGrath	L Turnbull	Marguerite & Ann	

Trampolining

3rd February 2018. For young people from the parish + friends, in school year 7 to sixth form. We'll meet at Gravity Force St Albans at 1.30 pm and finish at 3 pm. Forms to sign up are available in the porch/back of church.

Saints (school year 7-9)

Games, food & reflection

Welcome back! Ready to continue the journey together this term? **Tuesday 9th January, 6 pm— 7.30 pm @ Mill End parish hall.** Come and tell us about your holiday! Can't wait to see you there!



B-Attitude (year 9-13)

Put your faith into action

Meeting **Monday 8th January @** Our Lady's parish hall (up the staircase) **from 5 pm to 6 pm.** We'll be planning projects to help our community and learning how to improve our listening skills.

Pub Social

For young adults (age 18-35ish) from 7.15 pm to 9 pm at the Coach & Horses in Ricky on the **21st of January.** Hope to see you there for a drink & a chat!