



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

Assistant Priest:
Fr Damian Ryan
damianryan@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Administrator:
Kerry Van Rensburg
rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Youth Worker:
Anke Vos
ankevos@rcdow.org.uk

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

Telephone: 01923 773387

 @ChessValleyRC

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B) - 4TH FEBRUARY 2018

SUNDAY THOUGHT

Today's Gospel encapsulates the ministry of Jesus - preaching, healing and casting out demons, and then moving on to the next town. We hear how he heals Peter's mother-in-law of an unspecified disease. Her illness has enslaved her, and left her without purpose or social standing. But through Jesus' healing, her dignity as lady of the house is restored, and she responds with humble service - the epitome of discipleship that Jesus invites us to and models for us with his own life. His presence brings wholeness and holiness, restoring sufferers to a healthy relationship with God and others. "He approached, grasped her hand, and helped her up" - this gesture symbolises the transmission of His divine power - and at his touch she represents the whole of humanity.

Throughout all, Jesus also models the necessity of prayer. On the Sabbath he prays in community in the synagogue; and first thing in the morning, he rises in the dark to be alone with the Father in personal dialogue. Many desperate people were still waiting to be healed and "everyone" was looking for him, but Jesus knew that prayerful renewal is necessary for sustaining an active proclamation of the Gospel. As Job laments, the world we live in is full of worry, illness, drudgery and misery. But we await an eternal world where none of these exist. Jesus prayed, but the crowds of needy people did not diminish - prayer is not an escape from difficulties, nor a guarantee of miracles. It is the encounter with God which helps us to see our problems as he sees them. Through his close relationship and reliance on the Father, Jesus received the strength and renewal to continue in his mission. It is vital that we also prioritise time to nurture our relationship with God - it is the most important relationship we will ever have.

Entrance Antiphon: O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us,
for he is the Lord our God.

1st Reading: Job 7:1-4. 6-7

Response to Psalm: Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:16-19. 22-23

Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

Communion Antiphon: Let them thank the Lord for his mercy, his wonders for the children of men,
for he satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry he fills with good things.

Next Sunday's Readings

Leviticus 13:1-2. 44-46; 1 Corinthians 10:31 - 11:1; Mark 1:40-45 (Gospel)

LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION

Rickmansworth: Envelopes: £533.75; Loose Plate: £355.65; Standing Orders: £747.79 **Total: £1637.19**

Mill End: Envelopes: £285.50; Loose Plate: £173.19; Standing Orders: £197.00 **Total: £655.69**

Chorleywood: The Offertory collection for the month of December - **£2779.57**

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 4TH FEBRUARY	9.30am 12 noon 7.00pm	Coffee after Mass - Hall Baptisms The Afterparty - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
MON 5TH FEBRUARY	10.00am - 12 noon 5.00pm - 6.00pm 7.15pm - 8.45pm 7.45pm 8.00pm	Lets Get Together and Grow - Hall B-Attitude (year 9-13) - Upper Room Confirmation Course - Hall 1 st Communion Parents Meeting - Hall Choir Practice	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist St John the Evangelist
TUE 6TH FEBRUARY	11.00am 6.00pm - 8.00pm 8.00pm - 9.30pm	Funeral - Joseph Donnelly RIP Saints (school year 7-9 youth group) - Hall RCIA - Upper Room	St John the Evangelist St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
WED 7TH FEBRUARY	11.00am 7.30pm	Funeral - Catherine Giles RIP Parish Pilgrimage Meeting - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
THU 8TH FEBRUARY	2.15pm for 2.30pm 7.45pm 8.00pm	Quiet Space SVP Meeting - Hall Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	St Peter's, Mill End St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
FRI 9TH FEBRUARY	10.00am 10.45am for 11.00am	Coffee after Mass for all - Hall Lectio Divina - Upper Room	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
SAT 10TH FEBRUARY	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 3RD FEBRUARY <i>SS LAURENCE, DUNSTAN & THEODORE, ARCHBISHOPS OF CANTERBURY</i>	10am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish	6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish	6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
SUNDAY 4TH FEBRUARY <i>FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am Joe Grove RIP (Anniv.) 11am Mary Robinson RIP 6pm Kathleen Barclay RIP	10.30am Agnes Kenny RIP	9am Francis William Byrne RIP
MONDAY 5TH FEBRUARY <i>St AGATHA, VIRGIN & MARTYR</i>	9.30am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish	9.30am Chris Hurley RIP	
TUESDAY 6TH FEBRUARY <i>St PAUL MIKI & COMPANIONS, MARTYRS</i>	9.30am Fr John Murray RIP		9.30am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish
WEDNESDAY 7TH FEBRUARY		9.30am Brian Feehely RIP	
THURSDAY 8TH FEBRUARY	9.30am Hugh Riggans RIP		
FRIDAY 9TH FEBRUARY	9.30am Enid Covington RIP (Anniv.)		NO MASS TODAY
SAT 10TH FEBRUARY <i>St SCHOLASTICA, VIRGIN</i>	10am Tom Byers RIP	6pm (Vigil) Joe Donnelly RIP	6pm (Vigil) Angela Leeson
SUNDAY 11TH FEBRUARY <i>SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am For the People of the Parish 11am Radko & Banas Family (Ints.) 6pm Clare Loose (Ints.)	10.30am Brian Feehely RIP	9am For the People of the Parish

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, 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

ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the solemn season of Lent, is on **14th February**. Masses (with the imposition of ashes) across the three parishes will be as follows: 9.30am at St John the Evangelist, Mill End; 9.30am and 8.00pm at Our Lady Help of Christians, Rickmansworth; 8.00pm at St John Fisher, Chorleywood.

FUNERALS

The funeral service of Maureen Carroll RIP will take place at Breakspear Crematorium on **Tuesday 6th February** at **12.30pm**. We commend her to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for her family at this sad and difficult time.

The funeral service of Joseph Donnelly RIP will take place at St John the Evangelist on **Tuesday 6th February** at **11.00am** followed by burial at Woodcock Hill Cemetery. We commend him to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for his family at this sad and difficult time.

The funeral of Catherine Giles will take place at Our Lady Help of Christians on **Wednesday 7th February** 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.

Tom Byers RIP - those who remember former parishioners Tom and Alice Byers will no doubt be sad to hear that Tom died on Monday last (29th) unexpectedly after a brief illness. His funeral will be held at the Catholic Church in Buckingham on **Thursday 22nd February**. May he rest in peace. *Fr Jim Duffy*

1ST COMMUNION PARENTS MEETING - Monday 5th February

Parents are reminded that there will be a meeting with Fr Shaun at **7.45pm** in *St John the Evangelist's Hall* (not Our Lady's Hall).

THREE PARISH WALKING PILGRIMAGE TO SANTIAGO DI COMPOSTELA

On Wednesday 7th February at 7.30pm there will be a meeting in Our Lady's hall for those coming on the parish pilgrimage. This will be an opportunity to meet each other over some light refreshments and find out a little more about what we can expect on the pilgrimage.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETINGS AND THE ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS TO THE PASTORAL COUNCILS

In November I wrote to explain that in 2018 we will begin the transition from three pastoral councils to one joint pastoral council to serve the three parishes. The Annual Parish Meetings (APMs) of the three parishes will take place as follows:

St John's, Mill End – Sunday 18th February 2018 at 12 noon

Our Lady's, Rickmansworth – Sunday 25th February at 3.00pm

St John Fisher, Chorleywood – Tuesday 20th March at 8.00pm

We are now inviting nominations for **two** places on each of the pastoral councils. Parishioners may nominate either themselves or another parishioner (please be sure to ask them before doing so). The new members elected at the APMs in 2018 will serve on the existing pastoral councils for one year, and then a further two years on the new joint pastoral council from February/March 2019. During 2018 the three pastoral councils will work with me to determine how the joint pastoral council will be constituted, function and ensure that the "everyday" business of the three parishes can be discussed in appropriate forums. As the new members to be elected in 2018 will serve a further two years on the joint pastoral council, I particularly encourage nominations from those who feel a passion for helping us to build parishes of missionary disciples. This will be the principle task of the joint pastoral council. Our focus will be on 'mission' not 'maintenance' and I ask you to please keep this in mind when nominating yourself or another parishioner. Nominations for each pastoral council will remain open until one week before the respective APMs. Nominations should be submitted to the respective Chairs as follows:

Our Lady's, Rickmansworth – Angela Steele – rickmansworthppcchair@rcdow.org.uk

St John Fisher, Chorleywood – Peter Mackie – chorleywoodppcchair@rcdow.org.uk

St John's, Mill End – Bob Livingston – millendppcchair@rcdow.org.uk

Written nominations can also be submitted to the respective Chairs c/o The Parish Office at Rickmansworth.

Thank you. *Fr Shaun*

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

This year we are celebrating the WWDP on **Friday 2nd March** at **2.30pm** at the Methodist Church, Berry Lane, Rickmansworth. This year's service has been written by the women of Suriname, South America. Please do come and join us. Although it is called WWDP men are most definitely welcome.

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.

DIOCESAN NOTICES

CARDINAL'S MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 19th May 2018 at 3pm.

The Cardinal will be inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their **5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60)** wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2018. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give Fr Shaun or Fr Damian the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).

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 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.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

TABERNACLE

As part of the redecoration of the church our tabernacle has been taken away to be refurbished. We have been loaned a tabernacle whilst this is being done.

THE AFTERPARTY

After 6.00pm Mass every first Sunday of the month in the parish hall at Our Lady's, Rickmansworth. This term we'll have another Afterparty on **4th February** and **4th March**. Starts 7.00pm-ish, finish 8.00pm. Ping pong, foosball, hot chocolate & tea. Everyone is warmly invited, especially families with teenagers. Looking forward to seeing you on Sunday 4th February!

BINGO EVENING

A social event aimed at families. We are holding a Bingo evening on **Saturday 3rd March** starting at 6.30pm and ending by 9.30pm at the latest. Pizza will be served for supper. Great fun for kids from 5 to 95. We hope for a large turnout with tickets at just £6.00 for adults and £4.00 for children to include the Pizza. Tickets available after Masses from next weekend or phone Adrian on 07503898689

COFFEE AFTER 8.30AM MASS

Please join us in the hall for a catch up and make new parish friends at our coffee morning after Mass this Sunday. Thank you for your generous donations. We have raised £70.00 which will be donated to the Catholic Worker Farm.

CRECHE AT 11AM MASS

There is a crèche with toys and books for pre-school children (walking age upwards, as long as they're happy to be left) which runs throughout the year, usually alongside the Children's Liturgy, for the first half of the 11am Mass. This is not for school-aged children who can join the Children's Liturgy group in the small hall (during term time). We organise a rota on a two monthly basis and we are always looking for new volunteers (who will need to undergo a DBS check) so if you'd like to join us, please pop into the hall or contact Liz Purtil on lizpurtil@yahoo.co.uk or 07967 213963.

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

SUNDAY BRUNCH AT ST JOHN'S

Sunday Brunch at St John's (with bacon and sausage rolls) will take place on **Sunday 25th February** after 10.30am Mass. All proceeds raised will go to Aid to the Church in Need. We hope that you will come and join us!

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

WEEKDAY MASSES AT ST JOHN FISHER IN THE NEW YEAR

There will be **no** 9.30am weekday Masses on Friday 9th February.

MISSIO/APF/RED BOX HOLDERS

Thank you so much, once again for your hugely generous response through out the year for our Missionary Priests and Nuns, who give up everything, family and friends, in Our Lord's service. Our final figures: December quarter £270.59; full year £665.65 plus Gift Aid £80 a brilliant total figure of £745.75. Thank you all.

If you would like a red box for your spare change please contact Mary 284975.

ROTAS	Saturday 6.00pm Mass			Sunday 9.00am Mass			Sunday Counters	Laundry
	Welcomer	Reader	MoC	Welcomer	Reader	Communion		
3/4 Feb.	J Ingham	M Fields	D Gibney	M Calvert	T D'Urso	E Price	Ann & Marguerite	T Price
10/11 Feb.	A Roberts	G Fisher	M Latimer	U Lean	K Cottingham	F Holly	Peter & Don	A McReynolds

Young Adults Pub Social

Pub socials for young adults on Sunday **18th February** and Sunday **18th March**, from 7.30 pm to 9 pm at the Coach & Horses in Ricky. Everyone age 18-35ish is very welcome to come along for a drink & a chat.

Saints (school year 7-9)

Games, food & reflection

MOVIE NIGHT! For anyone in school year 7-9. **Tuesday 6th February, 6 pm—8 pm @ Mill End** parish hall. You're so welcome to join us!



B-ATTITUDE

B-Attitude (year 9-13)

Put your faith into action

Meeting **Monday 5th February @ Our Lady's** parish hall (up the staircase) **from 5 pm to 6 pm**. Interested in visiting the local care home on Wednesdays? Come along to one of our meetings on Monday to find out more about the various ways in which you can live out your faith.