



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

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PALM SUNDAY (YEAR B) - 25TH MARCH 2018

SUNDAY THOUGHT

As we enter the holiest week of the year, the Palm Sunday readings offer us a chance to reflect on the sacrifice of Christ and the mysteries of our faith: the institution of the Eucharist, his Passion and death, and the prediction of his Resurrection.

Within days, the adoring crowd in Jerusalem will turn against him. The same followers that Christ healed and delivered will mock him as he is condemned to death. Even his disciples betray, abandon and deny him in abject self-interest - as he knew they would. Everything which happened in Christ's last days was the fulfilment of Scripture. Today we hear Isaiah foretell the beatings and abuse. Psalm 22 - written a thousand years before the event - predicts his thirst; the piercing of his hands and feet; the casting of lots for his clothing. Yet Jesus, in full knowledge of these things, surrenders himself to be tortured to death. At any moment he could have disappeared, or overpowered the soldiers, or even come down from the cross. But no matter how great the sins of the crowd, of the disciples - our sins - Christ's love is greater.

Let's allow this Holy Week to remind us of the role that we ourselves, as sinners, play in Christ's suffering and death. We can reflect prayerfully on his Passion using the gospels, or the Stations of the Cross. We can admit our weakness through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We can make attending the Easter Triduum a priority, and literally keep watch with Christ at the Altar of Repose on Holy Thursday. We can fast and abstain from meat on Good Friday, for our penance and spiritual focus.

1st Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7
Response to Psalm: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
2nd Reading: Philippians 2:6-11
Gospel: Mark 14:1 - 15:47
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: £312.00; Loose Plate: £340.57; Standing Orders: £703.08 **Total: £1355.65**

Mill End: Envelopes: £239.00; Loose Plate: £159.45; Standing Orders: £176.96 **Total: £575.41**

Chorleywood: The Offertory collection for the month of February - **£2358.75**

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 25TH MARCH	11.45am	Sunday Brunch - Hall	St John the Evangelist
MON 26TH MARCH	9.45am 10.00am for 10.15am 8.00pm	SJF Ladies Meeting Quiet Space - Upper Room Choir Practice	Ann Penn's House Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist
TUE 27TH MARCH	12 noon	Chrism Mass	Westminster Cathedral
WED 28TH MARCH	7.30pm 7.30pm 7.30pm	Lenten Holy Hour Confessions - Sacristy Choir Practice	St John the Evangelist St John the Evangelist St John Fisher
THU 29TH MARCH	3.00pm	Altar Servers' Rehearsal	Our Lady Help of Christians
FRI 30TH MARCH	10.30am 11.00am 11.00am 7.30pm	Altar Servers' Rehearsal Children's Good Friday Stations of the Cross Ecumenical Walk of Witness for Good Friday Stations of the Cross	Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist Crossroads in Chorleywood Our Lady Help of Christians
SAT 31ST MARCH	12 noon 12 noon	NO MORNING MASS OR HOLY HOUR Altar Servers' Rehearsal Altar Servers' Rehearsal	Our Lady Help of Christians 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 24 TH MARCH	10am Mike Townend RIP	6pm (Vigil) Paddy Lewin RIP	6pm (Vigil) Patrik Biel RIP
SUNDAY 25 TH MARCH <i>PALM SUNDAY</i>	8.30am Mary & Evandro Girolami RIP 11am For the People of the Parish 6pm James O'Brien RIP	10.45am For the People of the Parish	9am For the People of the Parish
MONDAY 26 TH MARCH	9.30am Martin McCann RIP	9.30am Bridie Sweeney RIP	
TUESDAY 27 TH MARCH	9.30am Canon Digby Samuels RIP		9.30am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish
WEDNESDAY 27 TH MARCH		9.30am Paddy Lewin RIP	
THURSDAY 29TH MARCH <i>MAUNDY THURSDAY</i>	NO MORNING MASS 8pm For the People of the Parish	8pm For the People of the Parish	8pm Malcolm Stacey RIP
FRIDAY 30TH MARCH <i>GOOD FRIDAY</i>	3pm Celebration of the Passion of the Lord	3pm Celebration of the Passion of the Lord	NO MORNING MASS 3pm Celebration of the Passion of the Lord
SATURDAY 31ST MARCH <i>HOLY SATURDAY</i>	NO MORNING MASS 8pm For the People of the Parish	8pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish	8pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
SUNDAY 1ST APRIL <i>EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION</i>	8.30am Tess & Jim Logan RIP 11am Henry Cutting (Ints.) NO EVENING MASS	10.30am Joe Donnelly RIP	9am Fr Nicholas Kavanagh RIP

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISHES

Our Lady Help of Christians: Kathleen Collins, Wendy Goldsmith, Kathy Wright, Brenda Reynolds, 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 and Joan Townend.

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

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

From the 5th Sunday of Lent 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 Damian. 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.** Those of you who make your offering to the parish by standing order might also wish to use the loose Easter Offering envelopes available at the back of the church for your Easter offering to the clergy of the parish. 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.

CHESS VALLEY SVP

Members of Chess Valley SVP would like to thank parishioners for their generous response to the SVP Raffle last weekend which raised £388 for SVP National and £97 for Chess Valley SVP. Thank you.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES 2018/19

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 – SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS)

Fr Shaun will be available to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation this Wednesday 28th March at the Lenten Holy Hour at St John's, Mill End from 7.30pm to 8.30pm in the Sacristy.

COMPOSTELA PILGRIMAGE TRAINING WALKS - ALL WELCOME!

Commencing in April there will be a series of "training" walks for those taking part in the pilgrimage to Santiago di Compostela at the end of May. These walks will take place in the local countryside and parishioners interested in joining us for any of these walks would be most welcome. The first walk will be on **Saturday 7th April**. The route will be: Our Lady's Church - Chess Valley - Croxley Green - Dell Wood - Cassiobury Lock - Stockers Lake - Our Lady's Church. This will be about 9 miles, with a shorter alternative route back to the church from Lot Mead Lock (G.U. Canal) reducing the walk to about 7.5 miles. Future walks will take place on 21st and 28th April, 5th, 12th and 19th May (details to follow in due course). All the walks depart from Our Lady's at 9.00am.

MASS OF THANKSGIVING AND FAREWELL FOR THE DAUGHTERS OF JESUS

As many of you will know, the Daughters of Jesus are sadly leaving the parish after over 100 years of service the Catholic community in this area. There will be a special Mass of Thanksgiving for them at 7.00pm on **Friday 13th April** at Our Lady, Help of Christians. All parishioners are warmly invited to attend.

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.

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. *Could we politely ask that nothing else be left in the porch other than the requested items.* Thank you.

DIOCESAN NOTICES

THE PASSAGE

The Passage, working with homeless people, is raising funds through the Big Give from 12pm (midday) Thursday 22 March - 12pm Thursday 29 March to support its work with homeless people this winter. **Double your Donation, Double your impact.** This is a matched giving scheme for online donations. If someone (can be company, individual or trust) gave £10 online matched giving of £10 would bring the Gift up to £20 (and for individuals to £22.50 with Gift Aid with higher rate tax relief it may cost the donor less than £10). For more information ring Andrew Hollingsworth 020 75921856 andrew.h@passage.org.uk

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 by **Sunday 15th April**: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

REFURBISHMENT OF THE CHURCH

The parquet flooring has now been sanded and re-varnished and the new carpets laid. The refurbished statues of St Anthony of Padua and St Therese of Liseux will be returning this week, together with our repolished tabernacle.

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 available in the repository.

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

MASS ROTA'S

Would readers and Ministers of Communion who can exercise their ministry during Holy Week please sign up on the special sheet on the porch noticeboard.

Copies of the rota's for April - June available now at the back of the church for those who haven't received them by email.

MISSIO RED BOXES - please bring your boxes to church within the next couple of weeks. Thank you. *Geraldine*

SUNDAY BRUNCH AT ST JOHN'S

Sunday Brunch at St John's (with bacon and sausage rolls) will take place on **Sunday 25th March** after 10.45am Mass. All proceeds raised will go to Aid to the Church in Need. We hope that you will come and join us!

EASTER CARDS available in the repository.

HEALTH AND SAFETY – FIRE PROCEDURES

As a parish we are constantly reviewing safety including the risk of fire at our church. As with any public building we are developing a fire plan and will in some point in the future have a fire drill. Please take the time over the next few weeks to familiarise yourself with the fire precautions already in place. There are 3 green marked designated fire exits in the main church area, through the front door and through the sacristy and into the hall. Once in the hall area, there is an exit from the hallway, and in the hall itself exits on both sides of the hall. The designated meeting point is at the top of the hill up towards the entrance to the church, this is where for children in the liturgy group and any altar servers will be taken for parents to collect. All other parishioners, head away a safe distance from the church or leave the site to allow quick access for firefighters, do not return to the church or car park until the all clear is given. We are also setting up roles of fire wardens to help if the situation ever occurs, they are aware of all exits, and where extinguishers and fire blankets are placed around the buildings. There will be a fire warden at each Mass, they will be distinguished by an armband and an extra fire blanket, they are there to guide, check only if safe that the church is empty and liaise with the fire fighters. A designated parish member on the Sunday Mass will have the role to solely alert the children's liturgy. There is a possibility that you are familiar with this scenario through your workplace. We are in need for more volunteers to share the load, so please speak to Father Shaun if you can assist. Full fire safety details will be available on the outside noticeboard and in the hallway and also designated meeting points displayed around the buildings.

ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

EASTER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - please sign up on list on the noticeboard if you can be welcomer, reader, Minister of Communion or have your feet washed.

NEW MASS DUTY ROTAS - copies for welcomers, readers and Ministers of Communion are in the lobby.

LADIES MEETING

The postponed meeting from last week has been reconvened for next Monday, 26th March at 9.45am at Ann Penn's house, 21 Whitelands Avenue. All very welcome.

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.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY AT THE 9.00AM MASS

I am delighted to be able to announce that a Children's Liturgy at the 9.00am Mass will begin on **Sunday 15th April**. The Children's Liturgy will be for children in Reception upwards. The children will begin the Mass with us in the church, proceed to the lounge area for their own Liturgy of the Word and then re-join us at the Offertory. I am very grateful to the group of parishioners who have agreed to take on this important new ministry in the parish. *Fr Shaun*

ROTAS	Saturday 6.00pm Mass			Sunday 9.00am Mass			Sunday Counters	Laundry
	Welcomer	Reader	MoC	Welcomer	Reader	Communion		
24/25 March	M Foggo	A Roberts	J Biel	M Calvert	J Hale	L Turnbull	Una & Ann	A McReynolds
31/03 & 1/04	EASTER - ROTA ON NOTICEBOARD						Peter & Kate	J Whelan

Young Adult Pub Socials

Pub socials for young adults every third Sunday of the month. Next one on Sunday **15th April**, 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



Year 6's are invited to our youth group after Easter!

Next one takes place Tuesday 17th April, 6 pm—7.30 pm @ Mill End parish hall. We get together, share good news, have a chat, play some crazy games and eat delicious pizza & sausage rolls. You're so welcome! No need to sign up, just come along on the evening.