



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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SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR B) - 6TH MAY 2018

SUNDAY THOUGHT

Today's readings all centre on the love that is the very essence of God: explaining the working of his nature, and calling us to love others in the same way if we are to experience the fullness of life in Christ. Love can be difficult to define against the backdrop of Western secular culture. For many, love is merely a series of temporary feelings of attraction, lust, and sometimes illusion - emotions that primarily serve the interest of self and not the other. As Christians we are not called to this distorted, trivialised idea of love, but to *agape* love. Agape love focuses entirely, unconditionally, on the other person, seeking the good of the other with no expectation of anything in return. It is the pure, undeserved love that God has for us. He pours out this love on every creature, and it continues to flow unceasingly regardless of whether there is response.

Christ *commanded* us to love one another. These were his final instructions to his disciples before he was crucified, and he wanted to make it clear that it was the most important of all his teachings. Christ's whole life demonstrates agape love more clearly than any explanation - "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." Significantly, many of the apostles and early Christians later did the same, martyred for their faith. To this day Christians in India, Vietnam, Iraq, Colombia, Pakistan, Nigeria, Mexico, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, North Korea, Sri Lanka, China and Indonesia are still reflecting God's love back to him in this way - more Christians were martyred in the 20th Century than all the previous centuries combined. Incredibly, living comfortably here in the UK, we are members of the most persecuted religious group in the world, with the most victims. God loves those martyrs, and still he loves their persecutors equally. Without love Christianity can not exist - pray that we may be worthy of having been chosen by Christ, to bear the fruit of this love which can change the world.

Entrance Antiphon: Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth:
The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

1st Reading: Acts 10:25-26. 34-35. 44-48

Response to Psalm: The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations.

2nd Reading: 1 John 4:7-10

Gospel: John 15:9-17

Communion Antiphon: If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia.

Next Sunday's Readings

Acts 1:15-17. 20-26; 1 John 4:11-16; John 17:11-19 (Gospel)

LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION

Rickmansworth: Envelopes: £804.49; Loose Plate: £452.00; Standing Orders: £703.08 **Total: £1959.57**

Mill End: Envelopes: £303.90; Loose Plate: £137.70; Standing Orders: £176.96 **Total: £618.56**

Chorleywood: The Offertory collection for the month of March - **£2555.35**

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 6TH MAY	8.45am 9.30am 10.00am 10.30am 7.00pm	First Communion Class Coffee after Mass - Hall Coffee and tea after Mass First Holy Communion Mass Afterparty - Hall	St John Fisher Our Lady Help of Christians St John Fisher St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
MON 7TH MAY	10.30am - 11.30am	Mom's Connect - Hall NO CHOIR PRACTICE THIS WEEK	Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist
TUE 8TH MAY	5.30pm 7.00pm	Rehearsal for 1 st Communion Mass (12 th May) Rehearsal for 1 st Communion Mass (13 th May)	Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist
WED 9TH MAY			
THU 10TH MAY	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 11TH MAY	10.00am 2.00pm for 2.15pm	Coffee after Mass for all - Hall Lectio Divina	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
SAT 12TH MAY	10.30am 5.30pm 5.30pm	NO HOLY HOUR OR CONFESSIONS THIS WEEK First Holy Communion Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist St John Fisher

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

	Our Lady Help of Christians	St John the Evangelist	St John Fisher
SATURDAY 5TH MAY	NO MASS TODAY	6pm (Vigil) Mary & John Gibbs RIP	6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
SUNDAY 6TH MAY SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	8.30am Frank Waters RIP (Anniv.) 11am Mike Townend RIP 6pm Heather Kean (Ints.)	10.30am Bridie Rodgers RIP	9am Michael Fields RIP
MONDAY 7TH MAY	9.30am Joan Harbird (Ints.)	9.30am Frank Page RIP	
TUESDAY 8TH MAY	9.30am Henry O'Kelly RIP		9.30am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish
WEDNESDAY 9TH MAY		9.30am James Clark (Ints.)	8pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
THURSDAY 10TH MAY THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD	9.30am John Rees RIP (Anniv.) 8pm For the People of the Parish	9.30am For the People of the Parish	
FRIDAY 11TH MAY	9.30am Kathleen Barclay RIP		NO MASS TODAY
SATURDAY 12TH MAY	NO MASS TODAY	6pm (Vigil) Mavis Livingston RIP (Anniv.)	6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
SUNDAY 13TH MAY SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	8.30am Powell Family (Ints.) 11am Henry Cutting (Ints.) 6pm Heather Young RIP	10.30am Mike Townend RIP	9am Private Intention

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, Audrey Lewin and Mary Gardner.

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

PATRICIA POGGI RIP

The funeral of Patricia Poggi will take place at Our Lady Help of Christians on **Wednesday 16th May** at **12 noon** followed by burial at Chorleywood Cemetery. We commend her to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for her family at this sad and difficult time.

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION (change from previously advertised).

On **Thursday 10th May** the Church celebrates the Solemnity of The Ascension of the Lord. Being one of the major feasts in the Church's year, Thursday is therefore a holy day of obligation, meaning that Catholics should attend Mass that day. Please take note of the extra Masses being celebrated across the three parishes:

St John Fisher - Vigil 8.00pm; Our Lady Help of Christians - 9.30am and 8.00pm; St John the Evangelist - 9.30am.

PENTECOST NOVENA

A Novena is nine days of prayer that usually encourages us to pray for a particular intention as we prepare for a feast day. We would like to invite you to pray the Pentecost Novena – between Ascension and Pentecost - for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit, especially since it is through the Holy Spirit that a person can encounter Jesus Christ and experience the love of God our Father. Copies of the Pentecost Novena booklet are available in each parish this weekend. They are just 50p each.

A SPECIAL VISITOR

At the 6.00pm Mass at Our Lady's this Sunday we will be joined by Fr Simon Lobo. Fr Simon is now the Pastor (Parish Priest) at St Benedict's Parish, Halifax, Nova Scotia in Canada. Fr Simon was previously the Associate Pastor in that parish, working with Fr James Mallon, the author of *Divine Renovation: Bringing your parish from maintenance to mission*. Fr Simon continues to work with Fr Mallon in sharing and developing this exciting vision of parish renewal with parishes in North America and around the world. Fr Simon has recently had his own book published: *Divine Renovation Apprentice: Learning to Lead a Disciple-Making Parish*. Fr Simon has very kindly agreed to preach. We very much look forward to welcoming him and hearing him. I hope that many of you will come and share in our celebration of Mass that evening and hear first-hand from Fr Simon how 'Divine Renovation' is being lived out at St Benedict's, where it all began! Divine Renovation is filming stories of parishes that are moving from maintenance to mission. They will be with us filming during this Mass, if you do not wish to be filmed, could you please sit towards the back of the side aisle. *Fr Shaun*

DIVINE RENOVATION - VISION DAY – SATURDAY 9TH JUNE

On Saturday 9th June there will be a Divine Renovation Vision Day at the Niland Centre, Bushey. This will take the place of the Day of Recollection for Readers, Ministers of Communion and Welcomers, and will be open to all parishioners who exercise any ministry at all in the parish. The day will be an opportunity to explore more deeply together the vision of Divine Renovation for the spiritual renewal of our three parishes and also an opportunity for you to hear more about Alpha and how it will work in our parishes. The day will take the form of prayer, priest and lay presentations, group discussions and Q&A. There is no charge for the day; we simply ask that everyone bring something for our shared lunch together. Forms are available in each parish this weekend for you to book your place. We are limited to a maximum of 100 places, so don't miss out – get your completed form back to us as soon as possible in order to secure your place. Places will be allocated on a "first come, first served" basis. If we are oversubscribed we will have a reserve list, in case of later cancellations.

COMPOSTELA PRILGRIMAGE TRAINING WALKS - ALL WELCOME!

The next walk is **Saturday 12th May**. The route will be Our Lady's Church - Chess Valley - Sarratt Bottom - Baldwins Wood - Latimer - Cock Inn (P.H.) - Our Lady's Church. This will be about 13 miles. The last walk will take place on 19th May. All the walks depart from Our Lady's at 9am. All parishioners are welcome to join us.

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.

GUIDED TOUR - SUNDAY 13TH MAY

As part of Ricky Week, there will be a guided tour of Our Lady's by the historian of the parish, Peter Waters, at 3 o'clock. Meet him outside the church porch or inside once started. No charge but donations to the church will be gratefully received.

FILM NIGHT IN AID OF CHRISTIAN AID WEEK - Friday 18th May at Christ Church, Chorleywood

"A United Kingdom" is the story of King Seretse Khama of Botswana and how his loving, but controversial marriage to Ruth Williams, a British white woman, put his kingdom into political and diplomatic turmoil. Doors open at 7.15pm & film starts at 7.45pm - entry free! Soft drinks and nibbles are provided for generous donations! All are most welcome.

Saints—Parish Youth Group School Year 7-9

Year 6's are now invited to come along to our parishes' youth group! We meet fortnightly and meet next on Tuesday 15th May, 6 pm—7.30 pm @ Mill End parish hall. We start the evening with a chat about life and then pour all our energy into some games; continue to chat and share as we eat pizza & sausage rolls; and we wrap up the evening with a song. You're so welcome to join us!

For teenagers who enjoy drama and acting...

RISE Theatre are running a residential course for 13-18 year olds, 13th to 16th August at Kintbury. RISE Theatre is a Christian theatre company with lots of experience teaching drama to young people and they're exceptionally good at it. On the final day, participants will present a drama piece to friends and family. Very warmly recommended for our young parishioners who enjoy doing drama.

Info & sign up: www.risetheatre.co.uk/rise-youth

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC)

At the PPC meeting this past week Paul Burke was elected as Chair for the final year before we move on a Joint Pastoral Council for the three parishes in February 2019. Steph MacGillivray was elected as vice-chair and Teresa Dinsey was re-elected as Secretary to the PPC. We express our thanks to all three for agreeing to take on these important roles.

HCPT RAFFLE

After each Mass this weekend we will be selling raffle tickets to support the work of the Hosanna House and Children's Pilgrimage Trust (HCPT). HCPT is a registered charity offering pilgrimage holidays, to Lourdes in the south of France, for disabled and disadvantaged people from around the UK and further afield.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS

The First Holy Communion Mass will take place on 12th May at 10.30am. The rehearsal will take place in the church at 5.30pm on Tuesday 8th May.

SATURDAY MORNING MASS, HOLY HOUR AND CONFESSION

Due to the First Holy Communion Mass there will be **NO** 10.00am Mass, Holy Hour or Confessions on **Saturday 12th May**.

THE AFTERPARTY

The Afterparty takes place this weekend, on Sunday 6th May. The Afterparty takes place after the 6.00pm Mass so starts at about 7.00pm, in the parish hall just behind Our Lady's church. There will be tea and hot chocolate waiting for you, as well as ping pong and table football. Everyone is warmly invited to come along.

COFFEE AFTER 8.30AM MASS - please join us in the hall for our coffee morning after Mass this Sunday.

COME AND JOIN THE 11.00AM MASS CHOIR!

Would you like to sing in the 11am choir? We practise from 10 most Sundays (restarting on May 13th). It's a lovely way to contribute to the Mass - no experience needed, and you don't need to read music. Contact Cormac on 07759 118770 or cormac.purtill@gmail.com, or just turn up!

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASSES

First Holy Communion Masses will take place on 6th May and 13th May at 10.30am. Rehearsals will take place in the church at 7.00pm on Tuesday 8th May.

200 CLUB DRAW (APRIL) - congratulations to Marion Massey £35; Bill Mulderrig £25; Catherine Margetts £15.

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

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC) MEETING

The next meeting will take at 8pm on **Tuesday 14th May**. Parishioners with ideas or suggestions they wish the PPC to discuss should submit these to Malcolm Golin (PPC Secretary) malcolmgolin@outlook.com. Alternatively, parishioners can approach an individual PPC member (the names of all PPC members are listed on the parish website).

PENTECOST NIGHT OF ECUMENICAL PRAYER AND WORSHIP EVENT

There will be a night of praise and worship on Saturday 19th May from 7.30pm at Hillside Baptist Church, Chorleywood for all the churches in the local area. A warm invitation is extended to come and join us in seeking the Lord, glorifying his precious name and praying for his kingdom to come!

COFFEE AND TEA - all are welcome to stay for a cup of coffee or tea after Mass this Sunday.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK MARKET – 17 & 18 MAY

Hello everybody please note the silent auction starts today in the lounge. Please do stay and look at the very interesting items so far and do start to make your bids straight away. The auction closes at 4.00pm on Friday 18th May.

Next Sunday, 13th May, please could as many strong people as possible stay after, or come along at about 10am to help move the furniture and bring in the tables, books and bric-a-brac etc from the mezzanine floor. Thank you for the items you are kindly bringing and leaving in the kitchen.

ROTAS	Saturday 6.00pm Mass			Sunday 9.00am Mass			Sunday Counters	Laundry
	Welcomer	Reader	MoC	Welcomer	Reader	Communion		
5/6 May	E O'Sullivan	M Foggo	M Latimer	M Fields	T D'Urso	L Turnbull	Peter & Don	A McReynolds
12/13 May	V & A Cray	T Hartney	C Johnson	J Whelan	K Cottingham	J Hale	Francis & Patsy	J Whelan