



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

TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B) - 2ND SEPTEMBER 2018

SUNDAY THOUGHT

A Eucharistic Congress is a gathering of clergy, religious and laity to promote awareness of the central place of the Eucharist in the life and mission of the Church. Next weekend in Liverpool, representatives from every Catholic diocese in England and Wales (including our own parishes) will come together for the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage and Congress (“*Adoremus*”).

For Catholics, the Holy Eucharist is not just a symbol, or a memory - not just “something”, but “someone”. The Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist is his *physical presence*, in the fullest sense possible: body and blood, soul and divinity. He is present in the Eucharist in his divine nature, and in his own individual human nature. Thus is present the Jesus of history: the one who was conceived and carried by Mary at Nazareth; who was born in a stable at Bethlehem; who lived in Palestine; who walked and talked and wept and slept and ate and drank; who shed his blood on the cross and who rose from the grave. We believe this, because Christ himself has said so (Jn 32-69).

At the simplest level, Eucharistic Adoration is adoring or honouring the Presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. Yet in a deeper sense, remaining silent in his Presence, watching and waiting, we open ourselves to Christ’s grace which flows from the Eucharist, and the Lord draws us to himself and gently transforms us. True love sets no conditions, it simply loves; and yet it grows through intimacy, closeness or regular contact. In John 21:16, Jesus asks Peter the question that will determine his whole life: “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” Waiting in the tabernacles and on the altars of our churches, Jesus asks each of us the same question: do you love me?

We have opportunities to spend time with Jesus in the exposed Eucharist every Saturday: Our Lady’s - 10.30-11.30am; St. John the Evangelist - 5.30-6pm; St. John Fisher - 5.30-6pm. Eucharistic Adoration also includes visiting the Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle whenever the churches are open.

To mark the occasion of the Congress, there will be a **full day of Eucharistic Adoration at Our Lady’s on Saturday September 8th from 7am-10pm.**

Entrance Antiphon: Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.
O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

1st Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-2. 6-8

Response to Psalm: The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

2nd Reading: James 1:17-18. 21-22. 27

Gospel: Mark 7:1-8. 14-15. 21-23

Communion Antiphon: How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.

Next Sunday’s Readings

Isaiah 35:4-7.; James 2:1-5; Mark 7:31-37 (Gospel)

LAST SUNDAY’S COLLECTION

Rickmansworth: Envelopes: £393.80; Loose Plate: £320.47; Standing Orders: £703.08 **Total: £1417.35**

Mill End: Envelopes: £252.50; Loose Plate: £93.84; Standing Orders: £176.96 **Total: £523.30**

Chorleywood: The Offertory collection for the month of August - **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 2ND SEPTEMBER | 9.30am | Coffee after Mass - Hall | Our Lady Help of Christians |
| MON 3RD SEPTEMBER | 10.00am 10.30am - 11.30am | SJF Ladies' Meeting Mum's Connect - Hall NO Choir Practice | Mary Latimer's Flat Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist |
| TUE 4TH SEPTEMBER | | | |
| WED 5TH SEPTEMBER | 7.30pm | Choir Rehearsal | St John Fisher |
| THU 6TH SEPTEMBER | 8.00pm | Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall | Our Lady Help of Christians |
| FRI 7RD SEPTEMBER | 10.00am | Coffee after Mass for all - Hall | Our Lady Help of Christians |
| SAT 8TH SEPTEMBER | 7.00am - 10.00pm 10.30am - 11.30am 5.30pm | Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Holy Hour with Benediction and Confessions Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament | 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 1 ST SEPTEMBER | 10am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish | 6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish | 6pm (Vigil) Margaret O'Loughlin RIP |
| SUNDAY 2 ND SEPTEMBER <i>22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i> | 8.30am Ruth & George Forrest RIP 11am Jane Netto RIP (Anniv.) 6pm Moreno Torrini RIP | 10.30am John James Maloney RIP (Anniv.) | 9am For the People of the Parish |
| MON 3RD SEPTEMBER <i>ST GREGORY THE GREAT, POPE & DOCTOR</i> | 9.30am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish | 9.30am Fr Michael Durand RIP | |
| TUESDAY 4 TH SEPTEMBER | 9.30am Fr Michael Durand RIP | | 9.30am Fr Michael Durand RIP |
| WEDNESDAY 5 TH SEPTEMBER | | 9.30am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish | |
| THURSDAY 6 TH SEPTEMBER | 9.30am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish | | |
| FRIDAY 7 TH SEPTEMBER | 9.30am Frank Waters RIP | | 9.30am Sandie & Mick Tew (50 th Wedding Anniversary) |
| SAT 8TH SEPTEMBER <i>THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</i> | 10.00am Fr Michael Durand RIP | 6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish | 6pm (Vigil) Rafael Solis Garcia RIP |
| SUNDAY 9 TH SEPTEMBER <i>23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i> | 8.30am Pat Byrne RIP 11am Christopher Williams RIP (Anniv.) 6pm Jonathan Pione RIP | 10.30am Lesley Ann Johnston RIP | 9am Molly & Michael O'Sullivan 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: 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, Kitty Finucane, Don Williamson, Helen Forrest, Barbara Marke, Betty McGuinness, Anne Trenchard and Vicky Williams.

NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

HOLY FATHER'S LETTER TO ALL CATHOLICS

At the end of August Pope Francis wrote a letter to all the People of God regarding the abuse of children in the Church. In this letter Pope Francis expresses his '*shame and sorrow*' for the atrocious acts of abuse carried out upon children by a significant number of clerics and consecrated persons and acknowledges that the '*heart-wrenching pain of these victims, which cries out to heaven, was long ignored, kept quiet or silenced.*' The full text of Pope Francis' letter can be downloaded here: <https://rcdow.org.uk/news/letter-of-his-holiness-pope-francis-to-the-people-of-god/>. Cardinal Vincent Nichols subsequently wrote to all the clergy of our Diocese expressing his own sense of utter shame at the abhorrent evil perpetrated against children by clergy and religious. The Cardinal's letter can be downloaded here: <https://rcdow.org.uk/cardinal/news/cardinal-expresses-sorrow-and-shame-about-abuse-in-the-church/>

THE LAUNCH OF ALPHA

This Autumn our three parishes are launching Alpha. It will run on Tuesdays from 25th September to 4th December at 7.30-9.30pm at Our Lady's parish hall. Alpha is an opportunity for everyone and anyone to explore the big questions: life, faith and meaning. Each evening typically includes food, a short and engaging video which is designed to generate conversation, and a small group discussion where there's no obligation to say anything and there is nothing you can't say (seriously!) We are encouraging as many parishioners as possible to try Alpha and to invite friends who don't go to church. Places will have to be limited due to constraints on space this time around, so book early to secure a place. You will be able to register for Alpha next weekend after all Masses by filling out one of the Alpha registration forms at the back of the church and handing it in to Fr Shaun or Fr Damian. Alpha is free of charge but there is a small suggested donation towards the food. You will be hearing more about it at all Masses next weekend.

OPEN PARISH MEETINGS

Before the summer holidays I notified you of open parish meetings which will take place in each parish during September. The dates and venues are as follows:

Our Lady's, Rickmansworth – Sunday 23rd September at 3.30pm – Our Lady's Hall

St. John Fisher, Chorleywood – Monday 24th September at 7.30pm

St John's, Mill End – Sunday 30th September at 12 noon – St John's Parish Centre

Parishioners from across the three parishes are welcome to attend whichever meeting is most convenient for them. The agenda for the three meetings is exactly the same and there are three major items for presentation and discussion:

The Draft Terms of Reference for the Joint Parish Pastoral Council (JPPC)

The Future Provision of Masses for the Easter Triduum

A proposal for the adoption of a common identifying name for our three parishes

The draft Terms of Reference for the JPPC and explanatory papers for items 2 and 3 are now available on each parish website under the **Open Parish Meetings** tab. Parishioners are invited to download these in advance of the meetings. A few 'hard' copies of all these papers are available in each parish for those who do not have access to the internet at home. I encourage all parishioners to attend one of these important meetings in September. *Fr Shaun*

CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE – SECONDARY TRANSFER 2020

Parents with a child who will be applying for a Secondary transfer place in a Catholic School for **September 2020** are asked to collect a letter and Mass attendance card from Fr Shaun or Fr Damian after Mass this weekend. Please read the letter carefully, as it contains **very important** information regarding what is required of you in order for us to be able to provide a Certificate of Catholic Practice for your family.

QUIZ NIGHT - Saturday 13th October at Our Lady's Hall

This event is going to raise money for the SVP and their many good works. Please come from all three parishes to make this a great success. We are having a catered curry and a bar. Best of all ridiculously easy questions or are they! Put this in your diary. Tickets available soon.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (RCIA)

In September we will be beginning the RCIA process for those adults who are considering becoming Roman Catholics and for those adult Catholics who have not received the sacrament of Confirmation and now wish to complete their Christian initiation. Leaflets with information about the RCIA process are available at the back of the church. If you are interested in being a part of the RCIA process please complete the "About You" section on the leaflet and return it to Fr Shaun as soon as possible.

CONFIRMATION

Parents and their teenagers, who have received their first Holy Communion, are in year 9 or above, and who would like to be confirmed in the summer term of 2019, are invited to come to hear and discuss our new vision for youth and Confirmation on **Friday 14th September**, 7-8pm, at Our Lady's parish hall. Please, email Fr Damian if you're planning to attend, or if you're are interested in being confirmed but unable to attend that day and time.

YOUTH

Our three parishes are introducing an exciting new series for young people called Alpha Youth. Alpha Youth is an opportunity for every young person to explore life's big questions. Whether they go to church or are of no faith background whatsoever, all are welcome to explore life and faith in a relaxed, open, and non-judgemental way, with good food and fun games. It is a weekly series starting **Friday 28th September** 7-8.45pm, and finishing **Friday 14th December** 7-8.45pm. We hope that all of the young people from years 7 to 11 will take this opportunity to explore life, faith, and meaning and bring their friends, whether Catholic or non-Catholic. Please, email Anke Vos by **Monday 17th September** to let us know you're coming. We believe you'll enjoy it and will want to come back for more!

WOMEN'S WORLD OF PRAYER

WWDP was cancelled in March 2018 due to snow. We are pleased to let you know another date has been arranged for the celebration. **Friday 21st September** at **2.30pm**. Methodist Church, Berry Lane, Rickmansworth. Please do come along and celebrate this day of prayer followed by tea and cakes afterwards. Everyone is welcome - all you gentlemen as well. If you would like any more information please speak to Cristina MacGillivray or Geraldine Page.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

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.

LAY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

The rota for September - November was sent out earlier this summer. Please let us know if you did not receive it or would like a paper copy. Thank you. Richard and Angela

200 CLUB

The 200 Club begins again in October and if anyone is interested in joining (or cancelling their membership) please contact Kerry on 01923 773387 for further details. The membership fee is due by mid September for those who pay their annual subscription (£60) by cheque.

HELP NEEDED – FIRE WARDENS FOR 11.00AM MASS

We need some more volunteers to act as Fire Wardens at the 11.00am Sunday Masses. It is not an onerous duty and some training would be given. If you would be willing to help with this please contact Fr Shaun.

HEALTH AND SAFETY - HELP NEEDED

Are you involved in Health and Safety in your workplace? If so, would you be willing to help Paul Forrest, our designated Health and Safety Rep in the parish, with Health & Safety issues in the parish? If so, please speak to Fr Shaun.

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

RED MISSIO BOXES.

Could you please bring these to church over the next couple of weeks to be emptied and collect your copy of Mission Today. Thank you, Geraldine.

ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

RED APF/MISSIO BOXES

I hope you have all had a good Summer break and it is now time, once again, to bring your boxes to Church for the September collection. Thank you very much, Mary.

LADIES' MEETING

The next Ladies' Meeting is this **Monday, 3rd September** at **10am** at Mary Latimer's flat, 18 Turneys Orchard. All very welcome.

| ROTAS | Saturday 6.00pm Mass | | | Sunday 9.00am Mass | | | Sunday Counters | Laundry |
|------------------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------|-----------|---------------|---------------------|-----------|
| | Welcomer | Reader | MoC | Welcomer | Reader | Communion | | |
| 1 & 2 Sept. | V & A Cray | A Roberts | P Goble | J Whelan | J Donohoe | AM Farnsworth | Francis & Patsy | J Whelan |
| 8 & 9 Sept. | C Pierce | E Page | M Latimer | U Lean | A Opie | E Price | Yasmin & Marguerite | S Tarrant |

NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

THREE PARISH WALKING GROUP

Will meet at The Cock Inn, Sarratt, WD3 6HH at **9.30am** on **8th September**. Enquiries to Adrian Parker 07503 898689.

QUIET SPACE - LECTIO DIVINA

There will be two opportunities each month to meet in quiet prayer. For further information see flyers at the back of the church or contact Kathy 07712 626169 or Anne 07810 805900

MARY'S MEALS

Mary's Meals will be here on Sunday 23rd September *before* Mass starts - the van will leave just before the start of Mass (by 9am at St John Fisher, 10.30am at St John the Evangelist and 11am at Our Lady's). Please remember to bring along all your unwanted clothing/bedding (*no duvets or pillows please*) in tied sacks. Amazingly four full black sacks of good quality clothing will feed a child one good nutritious meal every school day for a whole year! Mary's Meals is a charity that sets up school feeding programmes in communities where poverty and hunger prevent children from gaining an education.

GENERAL NOTICES

KERALA FLOODS: AN SVP APPEAL

As you've probably seen in the media, terrible floods have been taking place in Kerala in southern India. Hundreds of people have been killed and many more are missing; countless homes have been washed away, and the monsoon season is set to continue until early September. Kerala is the most Christian state in India – it has more churches than any other region. The leading Catholic volunteering charity, the St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP), is very active there and they are doing great work helping the victims of the flood in local communities. However, they desperately need funds. Please contribute to the SVP's Kerala appeal. To donate visit www.svp.org.uk, telephone 020 7703 3030 or send cheques made out to SVP (write 'Kerala appeal' on the back) to SVP, Romero House, 55 Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7JB. And please remember our sisters and brothers in Kerala in your prayers.

6TH FORM RETREAT DAY

What does it mean to find happiness in today's world? Come join us to explore what is true, good and beautiful in our lives today and establish a solid foundation for life's next step. The Diocese of Westminster Youth Ministry are hosting a retreat day for those in school years 11-13 to see where God fits within these new phase of life. Saturday 28th September 10am-9pm £20 (including meals). HA5 3EP. Contact: youth@rcdow.org.uk www.dowym.com