



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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 @ChessValleyRC

TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B) - 23TH SEPTEMBER 2018

SUNDAY THOUGHT

Many people tend to define and evaluate others (and themselves) in terms of their job, wealth, house, looks, or education. But these things are of no significance whatsoever to God: true value lies in the human being behind the facade. The mistake that the apostles make in today's Gospel is to put social standing first - in their eyes the greatest was the one who had the highest position. Each wanted to get to the top in Jesus' kingdom. But Jesus told them - yet again - that that his kingdom was not about seeking honour and glory for oneself, but about serving others. Every time Jesus encountered a person deemed worthless by society, he preached this same message. Every time he engaged in conversation with a woman, a leper, a person crippled or deaf or possessed, he spoke loudly and clearly that his first priority was in the value of the person. He cured the illness, forgave the sin, but only after treating the person with compassion and respect first. Jesus was preaching to anyone who would hear that this is the hallmark of ministry and leadership: to serve those who can give nothing in return, to lift up the brokenhearted, the despised, the shunned and to help them to realise that they are loved for who they are, not for what they have or what they can offer.

If you were to list those in our world to whom society effectively accords no status or dignity, it would be a very long list indeed. Many of us in our parishes have been greatly blessed. Much has been given to us in life, and the Gospel demands that we give much to others in return. God entrusts us to use whatever wealth, skills, abilities, and time that we have, as the servants of all. Everyone can and ought to see a true calling from God in their vocation and obligations in life; to do good, to improve the world in which we live, and to correct the abuses and selfishness we encounter.

Entrance Antiphon: I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.
Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

1st Reading: Wisdom 2:12.17-20

Response to Psalm: The Lord upholds my life.

2nd Reading: James 3:16 - 4:3

Gospel: Mark 9:30-37

Communion Antiphon: You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept;
may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

Next Sunday's Readings
Numbers 11:25-29; James 5:1-6; Mark 9:38-43. 45. 47-48 (Gospel)

LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION

Rickmansworth: Envelopes: £354.91; Loose Plate: £374.82; Standing Orders: £703.08 **Total: £1432.81**

Mill End: Envelopes: £327.70; Loose Plate: £125.50; Standing Orders: £176.96 **Total: £630.16**

Chorleywood: The Offertory collection for the month of August - **£2322.10**

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 23RD SEPTEMBER	3.30pm	Open Parish Meeting - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
MON 24TH SEPTEMBER	10.00am for 10.15am 10.30am - 11.30am 7.30pm 8.00pm	Quiet Space - Upper Room Mum's Connect - Hall Open Parish Meeting Choir Practice	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians St John Fisher St John the Evangelist
TUE 25TH SEPTEMBER	7.30pm	Alpha - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
WED 26TH SEPTEMBER	7.30pm	Choir Practice	St John Fisher
THU 27TH SEPTEMBER	8.00pm	Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
FRI 28TH SEPTEMBER	10.00am 10.00am 7.00pm - 8.45pm	Burial of Ashes - Alf Loose RIP Coffee after Mass for all - Hall Alpha Youth - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
SAT 29TH SEPTEMBER	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 22 ND SEPTEMBER	10.00am Fr Michael Durand RIP	6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish	6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
SUNDAY 23 RD SEPTEMBER <i>25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am Frank Truman RIP 11am Sheelagh Hannigan RIP 6pm Bridget & James O'Brien RIP	10.30am Jack Rock RIP	9am Helen Forrest RIP
MON 24TH SEPTEMBER <i>OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM</i>	9.30am Fr Thomas Patrick RIP	9.30am Bridget Furey RIP (Anniv.)	
TUESDAY 25 TH SEPTEMBER	9.30am For the People of the Parish		NO MASS TODAY
WEDNESDAY 26 TH SEPTEMBER		9.30am Martin Humphries (Ints.)	
THURS 27TH SEPTEMBER <i>St VINCENT DE PAUL, PRIEST</i>	9.30am Douglas Gardiner RIP		
FRIDAY 28 TH SEPTEMBER	9.30am Alf Loose RIP		9.30am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish
SAT 29TH SEPTEMBER <i>SS MICHAEL, GABRIEL, RAPHAEL, ARCHANGELS</i>	10.00am Fr Thomas Patrick RIP	6pm (Vigil) Seamus Fagan RIP (Anniv.)	6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
SUNDAY 30 TH SEPTEMBER <i>26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am In Thanksgiving 11am Mary Robinson RIP 6pm For the People of the Parish	10.30am Seamus Fagan RIP	9am Helen Forrest 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, Joan Townend, Clive Powell-Williams and Rhiann Alton.

St John the Evangelist: Rita Murray; Imogen Bailey, Harry Lennon, John Connor, Michael Dixon, Audrey Lewin, Mary Gardner and Robert Gibson.

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, Barbara Marke, Betty McGuinness, Anne Trenchard and Vicky Williams.

NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

ALPHA - UPDATE ON PLACES

We are delighted that we have had such a fantastic number of people signing up to try Alpha starting this coming Tuesday 25th September. As we explained last week, due to constraints on space, we only have 32 spaces available and all of these spaces have now been filled. This means that many of you who filled out a registration form will be invited to attend one of the Alphas being run in 2019.

If you filled in a form, you should by now have received an email or phone call from a member of the Alpha team to let you know whether or not you have a place on this Alpha. If you are not aware of having received anything yet, please double check your email to see if you have a place or email Mike & Leona at chessvalleyalpha@rcdow.org.uk or ring Mike on 07505 307323. We want to avoid any disappointments because the Alpha team will not be able to accommodate anyone who turns up on Tuesday evening who does not have a place. Thank you so much for your understanding. *Fr Shaun & Fr Damian*

ALF LOOSE RIP

The ashes of Alf Loose will be interred in the Garden of Rest after the 9.30am Mass on **Friday 28th September**.

HELEN FORREST RIP

The funeral of Helen Forrest will take place at St John Fisher at **11.00am on Thursday 4th October**, followed by committal 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.

QUIZ NIGHT - Saturday 13th October

Folks from all three parish communities are warmly welcomed to attend a super fun quiz at Our Lady's hall. Any funds raised will be going to help the SVP in their good works. We have an excellent caterer coming to provide a Curry dinner. Tickets will be on sale this weekend across the 3 parishes at £12.50 per person. For further info or to book your place call Adrian 07503898689 or email adrian@justparkers.co.uk

ANNUAL MASS COUNT

This year the Mass count will take place on the last two weekends in September and on the first two weekends in October (each parish is required by the Diocese to count the number of people attending Mass). The details are forwarded to the Diocese along with other parish statistics at the end of the year. So, if you see someone "clicking you in" at Mass today you will know why!

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*

THREE PARISH WALKING GROUP - Saturday October 13th

Our next walk will be the beautiful Ivinghoe Beacon Ridgeway 10 mile circular walk, which passes through the Ashridge Estate. The Ridgeway National Trail is described as Britain's oldest road, following a route used for at least 5,000 years by travellers, herdsman and soldiers. We will meet in Aldbury car park in Stocks Road, HP23 5RU (Grid Ref. SP965127), at the slightly later time of 10am to allow for travel. Everyone is welcome - bring your friends and family! It is always lovely to see new faces. Enquiries to bensonsamantha@hotmail.com

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 to let us know you're coming. We believe you'll enjoy it and will want to come back for more!

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 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.

CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE – SECONDARY TRANSFER SEPTEMBER 2019 FORM SIGNING

Fr Shaun will be available for the signing of Certificates of Catholic Practice for Secondary Transfer 2019 on the following days: **Tuesday 2nd October** – 5.00pm to 6.00pm; **Saturday 6th October** – 2.00pm to 3.00pm and **Monday 8th October** – 6.00pm to 7.00pm. All three sessions will be held in Our Lady's Hall, Rickmansworth. There is no need to make an individual appointment; please just turn up for the date and time that best suits you. **Please be sure to bring your Mass attendance card.** If you have been regularly attending Sunday Mass elsewhere please remember to bring the documentation outlined in the letter which accompanied your Mass attendance card.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

CRECHE

There is a creche for small children under the age of 5 during the first half of the 11am Mass. Everyone is welcome! We would be very grateful for any parents willing to volunteer to join the rota. The Sunday School liturgy group runs at the same time for children of Reception age upwards. Both groups are a brilliant way for your children to make friends and enjoy church! If you would like to volunteer (you will need to undergo a DBS check), please contact Liz Purtil at lizpurtil@yahoo.co.uk. Thank you.

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 soon for those who pay their annual subscription (£60) by cheque.

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

ROTAS

Ministries of Welcome, Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. For those of you who haven't received the new rota's by email please collect a copy from the back of the church. Thank you

SUNDAY BRUNCH AT ST JOHN'S

Sunday Brunch at St John's (with bacon and sausage rolls) will take place on **Sunday 30th September** 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!

ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

NEW MASS DUTY ROTAS

The new rotas start weekend of 29/30 September. Would Welcomers, Readers and Ministers of Communion please take their copy from the lobby. Thank you. *Maureen*

WEEK DAY MASS - there will be no Mass here on Tuesday 25th September.

RED MISSIO BOXES - last call for the September collection. Would love to receive all your boxes. Thank you, Mary.

ROTAS	Saturday 6.00pm Mass			Sunday 9.00am Mass			Sunday Counters	Laundry
	Welcomer	Reader	MoC	Welcomer	Reader	Communion		
22 & 23 Sept.	J Ingham	A Penn	M Latimer	J Hale	H McGrath	F Holly	Carolyn & Francis	C Steet
29 & 30 Sept.	E O'Sullivan	GF	P Goble	M Fields	T D'Urso	J Hale	Vivian & Peter	A McReynolds

NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

WATFORD, HEMEL AND ST. ALBANS NHS HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY

On admission to hospital, please ensure that your religion is registered and ask for a visit from hospital chaplaincy team. Chaplains visit the wards during the week and will organise sacramental and pastoral care for you; they also provide an 'on-call' service in case of emergency. Please let Fr Shaun or Fr Damian know if you or a close relative are in hospital. To contact the hospital chaplaincy directly by calling **01923 217994** or **0777 659 8704** referrals can also be made via email: spiritualcare@whht.nhs.uk

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. Mary's Meals is a charity that sets up school feeding programmes in communities where poverty and hunger prevent children from gaining an education.

6TH RICKMANSWORTH SEA SCOUT GROUP

Book Sale & Quality Items will be held on Monday 24th and Tuesday 25th September from 7 to 9pm. Any suitable items can be left at the Scout HQ behind Our Lady's Church at the usual meeting times or collection can be arranged by telephoning – 246169 / 776035. Parents and Supporters are reminded that help is needed to run these events.

QUIET SPACE - LECTIO DIVINA

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. All are welcome. For further details please contact Kathy on 07712 626169 or Anne on 07810 805900. Information leaflets are available at each parish.

DIOCESAN NOTICES

ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

St John's Catholic Primary School has a vacancy for a lunchtime supervisor. The hours are from 12.00 - 1.30pm. The role involves supervising the children whilst eating their lunch and on the playground during the lunch break. If you are looking for part time work which fits in with the school day and school holidays, this could be the ideal opportunity for you. Please contact the school office on 01923 774004 for further details

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. 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.