



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](mailto:shaunchurch@rcdow.org.uk)

### Assistant Priest:

Fr Damian Ryan  
[damianryan@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:damianryan@rcdow.org.uk)

### Parish Administrator:

Kerry Van Rensburg  
[rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk)

### Parish Youth Worker:

Anke Vos  
[ankevos@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:ankevos@rcdow.org.uk)

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

Telephone: 01923 773387



@ChessValleyRC

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR C) - 2<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER 2018

### SUNDAY THOUGHT

Today is the first Sunday of the new liturgical year, and the first Sunday of Advent. It's important not to view Advent merely as the countdown to Christmas, but as a season in itself. It is a time to prepare for the second coming of the Lord, and to reflect on our own part in God's ongoing work of redemption.

The coming of Christ can be understood in three ways – in the past, the present, and the future. "Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations into the peace of God's kingdom... you come in word and sacrament to strengthen us in holiness... you will come in glory with salvation for your people." Those who long for the day when Christ will come again are overlooking his active presence in our lives here and now! Today's readings do point to his final coming, but also how we should behave in the present. Luke emphasises that we should be vigilant to recognise and welcome the Lord - and that includes recognising him as he comes to us without warning in the ordinary events and people of our daily lives; in the places we least expect.

We look at the beauty that is here on earth and in all of creation, and give thanks for the gifts that have been given. Most of all, we can thank our loving Father for sending his Son Jesus to make eternal life possible for all of us. This is really the only gift at Christmas that matters, and we can give no better gift in return than to live in union with Christ. We should use this Advent season of penitence and reconciliation to remove from our lives anything and everything that keeps us apart from him.

Our gift to Christ, our Advent prayer, can be found in the simplicity of today's psalm:  
"Your ways, O Lord, make known to me;  
teach me your paths,  
Guide me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are God my Saviour.."

## SAFEGUARDING REPS.

### Rickmansworth Parish

Dave Pione 01923 772606  
Alison Foster 01923 440951

### Mill End Parish

Matt McKiernan 01923 493747

### Chorleywood Parish

Jennifer McEwen 01923 284402

### Diocesan Safeguarding

Coordinator 0207 798 9356

### Entrance Antiphon:

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Reading:

Jeremiah 33:14-16

### Response to Psalm:

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:

1 Thessalonians 3:12 - 4:2

### Gospel:

Luke 21:25-28. 34-36

### Communion Antiphon:

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

### Next Sunday's Readings

Baruch 5:1-9; Philipians 1:3-6. 8-11; Luke 3:1-6 (Gospel)

## LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION

**Rickmansworth:** Envelopes: £680.15; Loose Plate: £314.43; Standing Orders: £703.08 **Total: £1697.66**

**Mill End:** Envelopes: £306.60; Loose Plate: £136.08; Standing Orders: £176.96 **Total: £619.64**

**Chorleywood:** The Offertory collection for the month of October - **£2366.85**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY**

## FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

<b>SUN 2<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER</b>	9.00am - 1.00pm 7.00pm	Advent Fair - Hall Afterparty - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>MON 3<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER</b>	10.30am - 11.30am 7.30pm 8.00pm	Mum's Connect - Hall Advent Praise and Worship Choir Practice	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist
<b>TUE 4<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER</b>	7.30pm	Alpha - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>WED 5<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER</b>	7.30pm	Choir Rehearsal	St John Fisher
<b>THU 6<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER</b>	11.00am 8.00pm	Funeral—Barbara Marke RIP Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	St John Fisher Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>FRI 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER</b>	10.00am 7.00pm - 8.45pm	Coffee after Mass for all - Hall Alpha Youth - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>SAT 8<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER</b>	11.00am 5.30pm	<b>NO Holy Hour and Benediction today</b> Children's First Reconciliation Service 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

	<b>Our Lady Help of Christians</b>	<b>St John the Evangelist</b>	<b>St John Fisher</b>
<b>SATURDAY</b> 1 <sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER	<b>10.00am</b> Fr Charles Michael Reddan RIP	<b>6pm</b> (Vigil) Bernard Loughlin RIP	<b>6pm</b> (Vigil) Fr Charles Michael Reddan RIP
<b>SUNDAY</b> 2 <sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER <i>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT</i>	<b>8.30am</b> For the People of the Parish <b>11am</b> Terry Thompson RIP <b>6pm</b> Noreen Crowley RIP	<b>10.30am</b> Robert Gibson (Ints.)	<b>9am</b> For the People of the Parish
<b>MONDAY</b> 3 <sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER <i>St FRANCIS XAVIER, PRIEST</i>	<b>9.30am</b> Peter Price RIP	<b>9.30am</b> Mariyam Joseph RIP (Anniv.)	
<b>TUESDAY</b> 4 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER	<b>9.30am</b> Reynolds Family RIP		<b>9.30am</b> Desmond Jenkins RIP
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 5 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER		<b>9.30am</b> In thanksgiving	
<b>THURSDAY</b> 6 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER	<b>9.30am</b> Valerie Rouse RIP		
<b>FRIDAY</b> 7 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER <i>St AMBROSE, BISHOP &amp; DOCTOR</i>	<b>9.30am</b> Adrian Thomas RIP		<b>9.30am</b> Daniel and Mae O'Sullivan RIP (Anniv.)
<b>SAT 8<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER</b> <i>THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</i>	<b>10.00am</b> Abraham & Beta Netto RIP	<b>6pm</b> (Vigil) Robert Gibson (Ints.)	<b>6pm</b> (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
<b>SUNDAY</b> 9 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER <i>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</i>	<b>8.30am</b> James Donnelly RIP <b>11am</b> Ina Murphy RIP (Anniv.) <b>6pm</b> Jonathan Pione RIP (Anniv.)	<b>10.30am</b> Gerty Morris RIP	<b>9am</b> Fr Charles Michael Reddan 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, Heather Kean, Olive Kiener, John Caneparo, Henry Cutting, Christina Thomas, Nalene Nixon, Pam Bell, Joan Townend and Clive Powell-Williams.

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

**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, Betty McGuinness, Anne Trenchard and Vicky Williams.

## NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

### LETTER FROM FR SHAUN - LEADING OUT OF A TEAM

Last weekend Fr Shaun wrote a letter to all parishioners announcing and explaining his decision to create a Senior Leadership Team (SLT) to work with him in developing and delivering the renewal of our parishes following the principles of Divine Renovation. The SLT will begin its work in January 2019 and will consist of Fr Shaun, Fr Damian, Anke Vos (Parish Youth Coordinator), Anne Lorrimer-Roberts (Chorleywood), Geraldine Page (Mill End) and Paul Forrest (Rickmansworth). Fr Shaun's letter is available on the parish websites under the *Making Missionary Disciples* tab.

### RECOMMISSIONING OF READERS

At the Sunday Masses next weekend (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent) all of our Readers will be re-commissioned.

### ADVENT PRAISE AND WORSHIP

On **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December** at 7.30pm at Our Lady's, there will be an evening of Advent Praise and Worship with contemporary Christian worship songs, scripture, reflection on an Advent theme, silence, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction. We hope that many parishioners from across the three parishes will come and join us in giving praise to the Lord at the beginning of the Advent season.

### BARBARA MARKE RIP

The funeral of Barbara Marke will take place at St John Fisher at **11.00am on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December**, 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. *Please note that the parking restriction on Shire Lane (single yellow line) has been lifted for the day.*

### PETER WARD RIP

The funeral of Peter Ward will take place at Our Lady Help of Christians at **11.30am on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December**, followed by committal 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.

### ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS LEAFLET 2018

The leaflet giving the times and locations of Advent Praise and Worship, Advent Reconciliation and Christmas Masses across the three parishes is now available. Please take a copy home with you this weekend.

**ADVENT WALK WITH ME BOOKLETS** are available (£1 per booklet).

### CONFIRMATION

For all young disciples in year 9 and above who would like to celebrate the sacrament of confirmation this academic year: registration will open on **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2018**, and close **January 21<sup>st</sup> 2019**. Prospective candidates are expected to be building up their relationship with Jesus, especially through a regular habit of prayer, the sacraments, and/or the parishes' youth programme. The celebration of confirmation will be at St John the Evangelist, Mill End, **7.30pm, Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2019**. Details of the sacramental preparation will be agreed after registration. If you have any questions, please contact Anke, the youth co-coordinator.

### CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE – NURSERY AND RECEPTION 2019

Fr Shaun will be available for the signing of Certificates of Catholic Practice on **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December** – 5.00pm to 6.00pm and **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December** – 5.30pm to 6.30pm. These sessions will be held in Our Lady's Hall, Rickmansworth. There is no need to make an individual appointment or to bring with you the child for whom you are applying for a place; 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.

### CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE – NURSERY AND RECEPTION 2020

Parents with a child who will be applying for a Nursery / Reception 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. *Please note that St John the Evangelist Primary School and St Anthony's Primary School no longer require a CCP for the 2020 school admissions.*

### DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December.** St John's Church Hall, Mill End. 11.30am - 1.30pm. Children from all three parishes, who are primary school age or younger, are most welcome. Children cannot be left unattended and must be accompanied by an adult. There is no pre-booking required and there is no charge. Details about what food to bring will be in the newsletter nearer the time. The children have a great time and it's a chance for parents to get together.

### SVP CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH

Do you know anyone who is on their own this Christmas? The SVP are hosting a Christmas Day Lunch at St John's RC Primary School. Doors open at 11.30am and a traditional Christmas dinner will be served at 1pm. The suggested donation is £5 and it will be a day of festive fun and laughter. To find out more information, or to book your place, please ring Geraldine or Emily Page on 01923 776100. We can offer lifts within Rickmansworth and the surrounding areas.

### THREE PARISH WALK GROUP

The group has gone into hibernation but will Spring!! into action March or April next year. Watch this space.

### FRIDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY - A THREE PARISH CELEBRATION OF THE POET ROBBIE BURNS

There will be Pipes and Dancing girls and Scottish Fayre in the neutral surroundings of the Chorleywood Memorial Hall. A chance for the men to show off their knees and for the ladies to bring decorum to the occasion. **PUT THIS DATE IN YOUR DIARY.** More info to follow.

### PLEASE TAKE HOME A CAFOD WORLD GIFT CATALOGUE AFTER MASS

Stuck for a Christmas present? CAFOD World Gifts offers a great alternative for friends or family who don't *need* anything, but might appreciate a gift which helps poor communities to access services like basic healthcare, clean water, and education. CAFOD provides you with a certificate detailing a gift that has been given to a community overseas on your behalf. Please take home a CAFOD World Gift Catalogue after Mass.

## OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

### ADVENT FAIR, TODAY!, 9.00AM – 1.00PM

Join us after morning Masses. £2.00 entry for adults which includes a mulled wine or Irish coffee, 50p for children. We have a great selection of stalls plus hot bacon and sausage sandwiches, tea, coffee and cakes. All profits to Michael Sobell Hospice.

### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

The next meeting of the PPC will take place on **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December**. Parishioners with ideas or suggestions they wish the PPC to discuss should contact the Chair at [rickmansworthppcchair@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworthppcchair@rcdow.org.uk). Alternatively, parishioners can approach an individual PPC member (the names of all PPC members are listed on the parish website).

### THE AFTERPARTY

Will be on **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December** after the 6.00pm Mass so starts at about 7.00pm in the parish hall. 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.

### INVITATION TO COME JOIN THE FOLK GROUP

With Christmas approaching, we would love to welcome new singers and instrumentalists (woodwind and string) to the Folk Group. We meet every Sunday at 5.30pm to rehearse before Mass at 6pm. There is no need to audition, but we do ask that instrumentalists be at Grade 4 standard. So, why not come and give us a try? We would love to have you. For any more information, you can email Katy Pione ([cepione@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cepione@hotmail.co.uk)).

## ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

### PARISH CHRISTMAS FAIR

The Christmas Fair will take place after the 10.30am Mass on **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December**. If you are interested in helping with the fair, setting up, running a stall, clearing away or simply have something to donate please email [liztownsenduk@gmail.com](mailto:liztownsenduk@gmail.com)

### CHRISTMAS FAIR DONATIONS

We are asking for Donations of Bottles, Sweets, Chocolates and Homemade cakes to support the fair. Please bring in Bottles, Sweets and Chocolates for the Tombola's; all donations can be left at the back of the porch between now and the Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December. Please bring Homemade cakes on the morning of the Fair (9<sup>th</sup> December). If you are interested in, running a stall, or simply have something to donate please speak to Liz Townsend or Geraldine Page. If you would like to help set up the fair, we will meet in the Church hall at 10.00am on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December.

### CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Tickets will be on sale after the 6.00pm Saturday vigil and before and after the 10.30am Mass on Sunday. First prize is £100 and second prize is £50. Other prizes to be announced. The draw will take place at the end of the Christmas Fair.

**200 CLUB** - congratulations to Nikki Tew £35.00, Marion Massey £25.00 and Sharon Bordley £15.00.

## ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

### OUR CHARITY CHRISTMAS FAIR

Thank you so much to everybody who helped in every way, giving their time, gifts and support, the stallholders, Chorleywood shopkeepers and all who came to enjoy the fair. We do hope it will have been a success. WE hope to have an interim profit figure for this weekend's Masses with a final result in the next week or two. Continued thanks from Mary & Co.

### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC) MEETING

The next meeting will take place on **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December**. Parishioners with ideas or suggestions they wish the PPC to discuss should submit these to Malcolm Golin (PPC Secretary) [malcolmgolin@outlook.com](mailto:malcolmgolin@outlook.com). Alternatively, parishioners can approach an individual PPC member (the names of all PPC members are listed on the parish website).

### CHURCH SECURITY

To provide the appropriate degree of security for the church building, an additional external lock will be fitted to the front door on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December. Spare keys will be passed to the registered key holders. If you have any questions about the operation of the lock, please contact Alan Opie (07801 140422).

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE CHRISTMAS MASSES

If you can help as Welcomer, Reader or Minister of Communion, please sign up on the list on the noticeboard.

### SOCIAL COMMITTEE

We have a newly formed St John Fisher Church social committee, whose aim is to organise social events for the St John Fisher Church parishioners. The focus of these events is building community and not charitable fundraising, which is already very well established and successfully run by other groups in the parish. The committee members are Francis Holly, Jo Whelan, Patsy Tyden, Toni D'Urso, Maureen Fields and Magda Bychawski. We are hoping to have our first event in February and will be in touch with more details after Christmas.

### RED MISSIO BOXES

Now the fair is finished, I am turning my attention to these boxes. Please could everybody with a box bring it to church on the next two weekends 8/9 and 15/16 December for the end of year collection. Thank you very much, Mary.

ROTAS	Saturday 6.00pm Mass			Sunday 9.00am Mass			Sunday Counters	Laundry
	Welcomer	Reader	MoC	Welcomer	Reader	Communion		
<b>1 &amp; 2 December</b>	GF	C Pierce	E O'Sullivan	M Calvert	A Opie	L Turnbull	Francis & Kate	C Steet
<b>8 &amp; 9 December</b>	E O'Sullivan	A Penn	P Goble	A Opie	M Calvert	J Hale	Carolyn &	A McReynolds

## DIOCESAN NOTICES

### “I WAS SICK AND YOU VISITED ME...”

The chaplaincy at Watford Hospital are look for volunteers who would be willing to spend an hour or two once a week visiting patients. This is a very rewarding role and the patients are always very glad to have someone to talk with while in hospital. Training and support is provided for all our volunteers. For an informal chat about volunteering please contact: Anthony (Head of Chaplaincy) tel: 01923 217994 email: [spiritualcare@whht.nhs.uk](mailto:spiritualcare@whht.nhs.uk)