



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
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Parish Youth Worker:
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THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B) - 4TH NOVEMBER 2018

SUNDAY THOUGHT

Today's readings summarise the whole basis of Christian life: that fullness of communion with God can only be achieved if we "love the LORD your God, with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength"; and if we "love your neighbour as yourself". It comes down to just one word - love. It is so very simple and so very difficult.

We must love God with our "heart", "soul" and "strength" - the totality of our being. A love so complete that there remains in us no self-centredness at all, until everything we do or think is turned towards God in an expression or act of love - so overflowing that it spontaneously reaches out to others; and also to our own deepest, hidden, and often broken selves. "If anyone says, "I love God," yet hates his brother, he is a liar." (1Jn 4:20)

When Jesus was asked "Who is my neighbour?", he replied with the parable of the Good Samaritan (Lk 10:29-37), where the neighbour is the one who is right in front of us, regardless of beliefs, colour, race, sex or lifestyle. Our neighbour is especially the person that we don't want to help: the person who has hurt us, the person who hates us, who seems unworthy, the person who will take more of our time than we want to give. This is the love Jesus is talking of - not the easy love of a parent or friend with no complications or challenges, but love to be worked at. To love our neighbour as ourselves, we must consider: how do I want others to treat me? With understanding, tolerance, respect, loyalty, compassion? - and then to make sure all our words and actions meet these criteria. To arrive there needs our efforts and desire to live in love; it means ridding ourselves of self-interest, and as with everything else good and holy, we must recognise that it is impossible for us to do without God's grace.

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: Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me!
Make haste and come to my help, O Lord,
my strong salvation.

1st Reading: Deuteronomy 6:2-6

Response to Psalm: I love you, Lord, my strength.

2nd Reading: Hebrews 7:23-28

Gospel: Mark 12:28-34

Communion Antiphon: You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord.

Next Sunday's Readings

1 Kings 17:10-16; Hebrews 9:24-28; Mark 12:38-44 (Gospel)

LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION

Rickmansworth: Envelopes: £580.65; Loose Plate: £350.31; Standing Orders: £703.08 **Total: £1634.04**

Mill End: Envelopes: £257.00; Loose Plate: £160.15; Standing Orders: £176.96 **Total: £594.11**

Chorleywood: The Offertory collection for the month of September - **£3024.81**

CAFOD: Rickmansworth £590.00, Mill End £403.34, Chorleywood £358.55

Chess Valley SVP: Rickmansworth £658.10, Mill End £150.81, Chorleywood £212.40

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

SUN 4TH NOVEMBER	8.45am 9.15am 9.30am 7.00pm	First Communion Class First Communion Class - Hall Coffee after Mass - Hall Afterparty - Hall	St John Fisher St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
MON 5TH NOVEMBER	10.30am - 11.30am 5.30pm 8.00pm	Mum's Connect - Hall First Communion Class - Hall Choir Practice	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist
TUE 6TH NOVEMBER	7.30pm	Alpha - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
WED 7TH NOVEMBER			
THU 8TH NOVEMBER	11.00am 2.15pm for 2.30pm 8.00pm	Funeral - Rita Gough RIP Quiet Space Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	St John the Evangelist St Peter's, Mill End Our Lady Help of Christians
FRI 9TH NOVEMBER	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
SAT 10TH NOVEMBER	10.30am - 11.30am 11.00am 11.30am 5.30pm	Holy Hour with Benediction and Confessions Blessing of Graves Blessing of Graves - Garden of Rest Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Our Lady Help of Christians Chorleywood Old Cemetery 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 3 RD NOVEMBER	10.00am Holy Souls	6pm (Vigil) Audrey Lewin RIP	6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
SUNDAY 4 TH NOVEMBER <i>31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am Special Intention 11am For the People of the Parish 6pm Patsy Rees (Ints.)	10.30am Anthony McAleavy RIP	9am Fr George Dangerfield RIP
MONDAY 5 TH NOVEMBER	9.30am Holy Souls	9.30am Holy Souls	
TUESDAY 6 TH NOVEMBER	9.30am Julia & Phyllis Rice RIP (Anniv.)		NO MASS TODAY
WEDNESDAY 7 TH NOVEMBER		9.30am Holy Souls	
THURSDAY 8 TH NOVEMBER	9.30am Holy Souls		
FRIDAY 9 TH NOVEMBER <i>THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA</i>	9.30am Alexander Buhagiar RIP (Anniv.)		9.30am Greg McEwen RIP (Anniv.)
SAT 10TH NOVEMBER <i>ST LEO THE GREAT, POPE & DOCTOR</i>	10.00am Holy Souls	6pm (Vigil) Bernard Loughlin RIP	6pm (Vigil) Mary Parker RIP
SUNDAY 11 TH NOVEMBER <i>32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am For the People of the Parish 11am Requiem for those who died in war 6pm Colin Lawrence RIP	10.30am Bevan Smith RIP	9am Greg McEwen RIP (Anniv.)

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 and Clive Powell-Williams.

St John the Evangelist: Rita Murray; Imogen Bailey, Harry Lennon, John Connor, Michael Dixon, 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

RITA GOUGH RIP

The funeral of Rita Gough will take place at St John the Evangelist at 11.00am on Thursday 8th November, followed by committal at West Herts Crematorium. We commend her to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for her family at this sad and difficult time.

SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS' COLLECTION

Next week our parish will take up a second collection to support the sick and retired priests of the Diocese of Westminster. Your generous donation helps ensure that these priests, having followed their vocation and given their lives to the Church, are cared for and supported when they are sick and when they retire. The Sick & Retired Priests' Fund helps cover the medical, housing, convalescence, and personal needs of these priests, as well as helping them in an emergency. They have been here for us; let us be there for them. Donation leaflets are available in the back of the church today. Please take one home, read about this important work, and bring it back next weekend with your donation. Please continue to pray for the wellbeing of all of our clergy: active, retired and ill. You can donate online anytime at www.rcdow.org.uk/donations

OPEN PARISH MEETINGS

Earlier in the autumn there was an open parish meeting in each parish to discuss three important matters affecting the life of the parishes: (i) The draft Terms of Reference for the new Joint Parish Pastoral Council; (ii) The future provision of the Holy Week Triduum and (iii) a proposal for the adoption of a common identifying name for our three parishes. I wish to express my thanks to all the parishioners who attended those meetings and for the important questions they raised. On Saturday 27th October there was a joint meeting of the parish pastoral councils of the three parishes, with the express purpose of discussing the questions raised by parishioners and deciding the right way forward on each of these issues. The minutes of that meeting are now available on each parish website under the *Parish Pastoral Council* tab. A few 'hard' copies are also available in each parish for those with access to the internet. *Fr Shaun*

WATFORD DEANERY

Cardinal Vincent Nichols has appointed Fr Shaun as Dean of Watford. This means that, in addition to his duties as parish priest of the three parishes, Fr Shaun will now have some responsibilities for the care of the clergy and parishes of the Watford Deanery and will represent them at Diocesan level. Fr Shaun has been appointed to this office for a term of three years.

PARISH FINANCIAL AUDITS

In October all three parishes underwent a comprehensive diocesan financial audit. I am delighted to inform parishioners that all three parishes passed the audit with flying colours: Rickmansworth 95%, Chorleywood 98% and Mill End 98%! The auditor assured me that such an extraordinary result is very rare indeed. I wish to express my sincere thanks to Mark Blayney, Carolyn Opie and Sandra Miller, the respective Chairs of the three Finance Committees, and to all the members of the finance committees for their hard work, prudence and diligence in working with me to assure the sound financial management of the three parishes. Special thanks are due to Kerry Van Rensburg, our exceptional Parish Administrator, who handles all the book-keeping for the three parishes – and much more besides. To paraphrase one of the Finance Chairs: "*Kerry provides the bedrock which enables us to do our jobs and does it three times over with unflinching patience, calmness and good humour. We would all be lost without her!*" I couldn't have put it better myself! *Fr Shaun*

PARISH GROUNDS – RICKMANSWORTH AND MILL END

For many years the grounds at Our Lady's, and in more recent years the grounds at St John's, Mill End, have been cared for by Simon Beeston. Simon has always kept our grounds looking tidy, beautiful and at their very best, whatever the season. It is with much sadness that I share the news that Simon and his family have decided to move away from the area in the next month or so. I wish to express my sincere thanks to Simon for the care and devotion that he has lavished on our parish grounds and I am sure you will join me in wishing Simon, Flo and Theo every happiness in their new life in East Anglia. Simon's departure does mean that we need to find someone to maintain and care for our extensive parish grounds at Our Lady's and St John's. I would be grateful to hear from anyone who has knowledge or experience of any reliable grounds-person or gardener who might be interested in taking over care for our grounds. *Fr Shaun*

RICKMANSWORTH ARMISTICE DAY AND REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICE

The Rickmansworth Town Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday Service will take place on Sunday 11th November at 2.30pm at St Mary's Church (C of E), Rickmansworth. It will be preceded by the Remembrance Sunday Parade.

1.45pm Remembrance Sunday Parade musters at Our Lady, Help of Christians

2.00pm Remembrance Sunday Parade moves off, to walk along the High Street

2.30pm Remembrance Sunday Service begins in St Mary's

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the 1918 Armistice. Parishioners are invited to join us to mark this solemn and historic occasion.

DEANERY MASS FOR THE DECEASED CLERGY OF THE WATFORD DEANERY

The annual Deanery Mass for the repose of the souls of the deceased priests of the Deanery will take place at Our Lady's on Tuesday 13th November at 11.00am. This Mass will be concelebrated by the priests of the Deanery. Parishioners of the three parishes are invited to join us for this Mass. There will be no 9.30am Masses at Our Lady's or St John Fisher, Chorleywood that day.

NOVEMBER BLESSING OF GRAVES

On **Saturday 10th November** Fr Shaun and Fr Damian will be blessing graves at Chorleywood Old Cemetery at 11.00am and Our Lady's Garden of Rest at 11.30am

PRAYING FOR THE HOLY SOULS IN NOVEMBER

Holy Souls sheets on which you can write the names of your departed loved ones and friends are available from this weekend. These can then be placed inside one of the brown "November Dead" envelopes, with any offering you wish to make, and then be placed in the "Holy Souls" box provided. During the month of November weekday Masses across the three parishes will be offered for the Holy Souls and your intentions will be placed in a special box in front of the altar as a focus for our prayer for the faithful departed.

REMEMBER, REMEMBER, THE NINTH OF NOVEMBER!

6th Rickmansworth Sea Scouts present **BONFIRE NIGHT SPECTACULAR - FIREWORKS & BONFIRE** - on **Friday 9th November** at **7.00pm** in the Grounds behind Our Lady's Church. Admission £4.00 single or £15.00 per family.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

OUR LADY'S ADVENT FAIR: SAVE THE DATE!

The Advent Fair will be held on **Sunday 2nd December** 9.00am - 1.00pm. More details to follow. Donations for the tombola and raffle would be greatly appreciated. Please leave in the designated box in the church porch.

THE AFTERPARTY

Will be on **Sunday 4th November** 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.

CHRISTMAS CARDS AND CANDLES on sale in the repository.

APF MISSIO - would promoters please collect the Autumn Magazines from the porch and start collecting monies. Thank you

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Tickets go on sale for the raffle from this weekend. They 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.

PARISH CHRISTMAS FAIR

The Christmas Fair will take place after the 10.30am Mass on **Sunday 9th December**. If you are interested in helping with the fair, setting up, running a stall, clearing away or simply have something to donate please join us for a meeting in the Church hall after the 10.30am Mass on Sunday 4th November. If you are unable to attend the meeting on 4th November, but would be interested in helping, please email liztownsenduk@gmail.com

ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

WEEK DAY MASS - there will be no Mass here on Tuesday 6th November.

COFFEE AND TEA will be served after Mass next Sunday. Do stay for a while if you can.

CHARITY CHRISTMAS FAIR

Continued thanks for your gifts, requests and offers of help. Books can be put in the downstairs room, everything else in the kitchen. Very acceptable: bottles, gifts, books, toys, jewellery, cakes, plants, bric-a-brac, heirlooms, etc. HOWEVER we still need help on the day to sell b-a-b and pack up. With thanks, Mary 01923 284975.

FR PETER STEVENS: we visited him again St Anne's Nursing home. He sleeps quite a lot now but we woke him up and had a good long chat. He sends his love and prayers to all and says he is sorry not to be able to write to anybody. *Maureen & Mary.*

ROTAS	Saturday 6.00pm Mass			Sunday 9.00am Mass			Sunday Counters	Laundry
	Welcomer	Reader	MoC	Welcomer	Reader	Communion		
3 & 4 November	C Pierce	M Williamson	P Goble	M Mackie	L Munro	J Hale	Carolyn &	A McReynolds
10 & 11 November	M Bychawski	A Roberts	J McEwen	J Hale	J Donohoe	AM Farnsworth	Una & Marguerite	J Whelan

THREE PARISH NOTICES

CONFIRMATION 2019: CHANGE OF DATE: FRIDAY 24TH MAY, 7.30PM, MILL END

Due to the original date of the celebration of the sacrament of Confirmation being in the middle of many schools' exam week (Tuesday 4th June, 7.30pm), we asked, and have just received approval from, Bishop Paul McAleenan to celebrate Confirmation on Friday 24th May, 7.30pm, Mill End, instead. If this revised date causes any problems, please, email Fr Damian to discuss other options. We hope this new date will help to enhance the celebratory nature of the sacrament for as many people as possible.

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 8th December 2018**, and close **January 21st 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, Tuesday 24th May 2019**. Details of the sacramental preparation will be agreed after registration. If you have any questions, please contact Anke, the youth co-coordinator.

THREE PARISH WALKING GROUP – Saturday 17th November

The next walk will be about 7 miles level walking in and around Chipperfield Common starting 9.30am at the Cart and Horses PH, Commonwood WD4 9BA and finishing there. Please bring your family and friends and join this very friendly group. We aim to take refreshment at the end of the walk at about 12.30pm. Enquiries please to billgraham1888@gmail.com

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.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sunday 16th 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.

CATHOLIC WORKER FARM - CHRISTMAS GIFTS

This year we will again be making up Christmas gifts for the ladies currently being given shelter at CWF. We have done this for a few years with great success and we are appealing again to your generosity. We are asking for toiletries, either in box sets or individually: shower gels, soaps, body lotions/creams etc. There is a collection box in the church porch of each of the three parishes. Thankyou, SVP.