



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
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Parish Administrator:

Kerry Van Rensburg
rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Youth Worker:

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THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B) - 11TH NOVEMBER 2018

SUNDAY THOUGHT

Our readings today feature two destitute widows. The widow from Zarephath, on the verge of dying from malnutrition, gives Elijah the very last bit of food that she has, in an act of complete faith and charity. In the Gospel Jesus notices the widow at the temple humbly giving away her last coins, all that she has left to survive on. For the Jews, the practice of almsgiving was a way of recognising that all goods and gifts belong to God, and that he has entrusted the more fortunate to distribute those gifts to those in need - not out of pity, but out of the justice which human dignity requires. The widows, both materially poor and "poor in spirit" (Mt. 5:3) put all their trust in God's providence in their selfless sacrifices. Jesus uses the example of the widow at the temple to remind his disciples of this fundamental truth: that as people made in the image of God, we have a responsibility to give unselfishly to others. Today's Gospel comes right at the end of Jesus' public ministry, just before his eventual arrest and crucifixion, and points to Jesus' personal readiness to sacrifice everything, even his own life, for the true peace of the world.

This weekend, on the 100th anniversary of the end of the Great War, we remember those millions of men - our family members - who also sacrificed their lives to restore peace to the world. Many war memorials - carved onto stones in every village and every town the length and breadth of Europe - point to this profound parallel between the sacrifice of Christ and the sacrifice of these men by bearing Jesus' words: "Greater love hath no man than this" (that a man lay down his life for his friends) (Jn 15:13). We honour the sacrifice and service of those we remember today when we adopt their selflessness, and by looking outside of ourselves, beyond our own needs, when we create communities that are safe and where all people can live in peace and dignity.

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:

Let my prayer come into your presence.
Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

1st Reading:

1 Kings 17:10-16

Response to Psalm:

My soul, give praise to the Lord.

2nd Reading:

Hebrews 9:24-28

Gospel:

Mark 12:38-44

Communion Antiphon:

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me
repose, near restful waters he leads me.

Next Sunday's Readings

Daniel 12:1-13; Hebrews 10:11-14. 18; Mark 13:24-32 (Gospel)

LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION

Rickmansworth: Envelopes: £370.31; Loose Plate: £378.10; Standing Orders: £703.08 **Total: £1451.49**

Mill End: Envelopes: £327.80; Loose Plate: £158.45; Standing Orders: £176.96 **Total: £663.21**

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

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

SUN 11TH NOVEMBER	8.45am 9.15am 10.00am	First Communion Class First Communion Class - Hall Tea and Coffee after Mass	St John Fisher St John the Evangelist St John Fisher
MON 12TH 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 13TH NOVEMBER	7.30pm	Alpha - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
WED 14TH NOVEMBER	7.45pm	First Communion Parents Meeting - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
THU 15TH NOVEMBER	8.00pm	Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
FRI 16TH 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 17TH NOVEMBER	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
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 11TH 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.)
MON 12TH NOVEMBER <i>St JOSAPHAT, BISHOP & MARTYR</i>	9.30am Holy Souls	9.30am Holy Souls	
TUESDAY 13TH NOVEMBER	11.00am Repose of the souls of the deceased Priests of the Deanery		NO MASS TODAY
WEDNESDAY 14TH NOVEMBER		9.30am Holy Souls	
THURSDAY 15TH NOVEMBER	9.30am Holy Souls		
FRI 16TH NOVEMBER <i>St EDMUND OF ABINGDON, BISHOP</i>	9.30am Holy Souls		9.30am Holy Souls
SATURDAY 17TH NOVEMBER	10.00am Holy Souls	6pm (Vigil) Bernard Loughlin RIP	6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
SUNDAY 18TH NOVEMBER <i>33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am For the People of the Parish 11am Mary Robinson RIP (Anniv.) 6pm Frank & Mary Leary RIP	10.30am Angela O'Callaghan RIP	9am Fr George Dangerfield 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 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

SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS' COLLECTION

Today's second collection is for the Sick & Retired Priests' Fund. This ensures our elderly and sick priests are financially supported in their senior years, after a lifetime of service. Our priests baptised us, counselled us in times of sorrow, and celebrated with us in times of joy. Since we have received so much from their generosity, it is now our turn to assist them in their old age. The fund ensures that their housing, medical, convalescence, companionship and spiritual support needs are met. Please be generous. Most priests retire with modest means. In later years their ability to live independently can be adversely impacted by their declining health, mobility or frailty. You can also donate online at www.rcdow.org.uk/donations. Thank you for your generosity.

GROWING IN FAITH CAMPAIGN – PARISH PROJECT

In October we received the sum of £2,705 as the third tranche of *Growing in Faith* parish project funds for our Youth Worker Project. I am very grateful to all those parishioners who have and continue to so generously support the campaign. *Fr Shaun*

1ST COMMUNION PARENTS MEETING - will be on **Wednesday 14th November at 7.45pm** in Our Lady's Hall.

VINCENT DOYLE RIP

The ashes of Vincent Doyle will be interred in the Garden of Rest after the 9.30am Mass on Friday 23rd November.

CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE – NURSERY AND RECEPTION 2019

Fr Shaun will be available for the signing of Certificates of Catholic Practice on **Monday 10th December** – 5.00pm to 6.00pm and **Wednesday 12th 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.*

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 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% & 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 unfailing 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 join us for this Mass. There will be no 9.30am Masses at Our Lady's or St John Fisher, Chorleywood that day.

SVP COMMUNITY LUNCH

The next SVP Community Lunch is on **Sunday 18th November** at 12.30pm in St John's School Hall. Please do come along and have a meal and befriend our guests. Spread the word. There is no charge but donations are welcome.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

CATHOLIC WORKER FARM

Next weekend Scott Albrecht from the Catholic Worker Farm in Maple Cross will be with us at all Masses to speak about the work done at the farm with female asylum seekers. We look forward to welcoming Scott and to hearing about how we can support their work. There will be a retiring collection for the Catholic Worker Farm at all Masses next weekend.

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.

200 CLUB - congratulations to S Godfrey (£38), A Khurwal (£28.50), J Westhrop (£19) and C Bridge Madden (£9.50).

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

OCTOBER 200 CLUB - congratulations to Lionel Selvaraja (£35), Michael Page (£25) and Lynne Soames (£15).

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 8th December. Please bring Homemade cakes on the morning of the Fair (9th 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 8th 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.

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

CHRISTMAS CARDS, ADVENT & CHURCH ART CALENDARS are now available in the repository.

ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

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

CHARITY CHRISTMAS FAIR IS NEARLY UPON US

Next weekend, 17/18, is 'Please bring a bottle or a Can' time for the Tombola stall. Our Village shops have been as generous as ever and we are also going to start selling raffle tickets and put up the beginning of our Silent Auction stall. Everything happening. Also happy to report we now have volunteers for all stalls, thank you to everyone for your great generosity. *Mary and co.*

ROTAS	Saturday 6.00pm Mass			Sunday 9.00am Mass			Sunday Counters	Laundry
	Welcomer	Reader	MoC	Welcomer	Reader	Communion		
10 & 11 November	M Bychawski	A Roberts	J McEwen	J Hale	J Donohoe	AM Farnsworth	Una & Marguerite	J Whelan
17 & 18 November	J Ingham	E O'Sullivan	M Latimer	J Whelan	J Hale	E Price	Peter & Don	S Tarrant

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.