



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

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 @ChessValleyRC

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 27TH JANUARY 2019

SUNDAY THOUGHT

Today, Jesus presents what in modern terms what might be called his “mission statement”. “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me... to bring glad tidings to the poor... to proclaim liberty to captives... recovery of sight... to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord.” Jesus is the fulfilment of the prophecy of Isaiah 61; the long awaited Messiah that God the Father had promised to his people throughout the days of the Old Testament. It is through Jesus that the spiritually blind will be enlightened, that those who are slaves of sin will be free. The spiritually poor - those who admit their need of the help of God and who are open to his plan in their lives - will finally have a living hope in Christ. But the way of life that has been made known to us through Jesus Christ, the Kingdom of God, requires our humility and our obedience.

Too often Catholics are portrayed as people forced to live under oppressive rules. That is not true! If a code of morality is supposedly somber and oppressive, why are the happiest people in the world those whose lives revolve around a strict following of the Lord? People who chose the way of the Lord know true happiness - the biggest lie is that this can be found outside of the Lord. What many pass off as happiness are merely temporary plasters over broken lives. In bringing others to Jesus, we must be conscious of reflecting that the Law of God is liberating, not restrictive - that real happiness comes from God, and leads us back to God.

“The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul.
The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple.
The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart.
The commands of the Lord are radiant, giving light to the eyes.” (Ps. 19:7-8)

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: O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour, Strength and honour in his holy place.

1st Reading: Nehemiah 8:2-6. 8-10

Response to Psalm: Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life.

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-30

Gospel: Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21

Communion Antiphon: Look toward the Lord and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed.

Next Sunday's Readings

Jeremiah 1:4-5. 17-19; 1 Corinthians 12:31 - 13:13; Luke 4:21-30 (Gospel)

LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION

Rickmansworth: Envelopes: £495.47; Loose Plate: £414.81; Standing Orders: £703.08 **Total: £1613.36**

Mill End: Envelopes: £325.50; Loose Plate: £152.44; Standing Orders: £176.96 **Total: £654.90**

Chorleywood: The Offertory collection for the month of December - **£2550.94**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| SUN 27TH JANUARY | 11.30am | Sunday Brunch - Hall | St John the Evangelist |
| MON 28TH JANUARY | 10.00am for 10.15am 10.30am - 11.30am 8.00pm | Quiet Space - Upper Room Mum's Connect - Hall Choir Practice | Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist |
| TUE 29TH JANUARY | 7.30pm 7.30pm - 9.30pm | RCIA Alpha - Hall | St John Fisher Our Lady Help of Christians |
| WED 30TH JANUARY | | | |
| THU 31ST JANUARY | 8.00pm | Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall | Our Lady Help of Christians |
| FRI 1ST FEBRUARY | 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 2ND FEBRUARY | 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 26TH JANUARY <i>SS TIMOTHY & TITUS, BISHOPS</i> | 10.00am Benjamin Roy (Ints.) | 6pm (Vigil) Joe Furey & Family (Ints.) | 6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish |
| SUNDAY 27TH JANUARY <i>THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i> | 8.30am For the People of the Parish 11am Clive Powell-Williams RIP 6pm Fr Bob Barry RIP | 10.30am Mary Reardon RIP | 9am Justin O'Neil RIP |
| MONDAY 28TH JANUARY <i>St THOMAS AQUINAS, PRIEST & DOCTOR</i> | 9.30am Private Intention | 9.30am Mary & Jimmy Caplace | |
| TUESDAY 29TH JANUARY | 9.30am Ralph Kent RIP | | NO MASS TODAY |
| WEDNESDAY 30TH JANUARY | | 9.30am Mary Furey & Family (Ints.) | |
| THURS 31ST JANUARY <i>St JOHN BOSCO, PRIEST</i> | 9.30am Fr Bob Barry RIP | | |
| FRIDAY 1ST FEBRUARY | 9.30am Merwyn Mascarenhas RIP | | 9.30am For the Sick & Housebound of the Parish |
| SAT 2ND FEBRUARY <i>THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD</i> | 10.00am For the Sick & Housebound of the Parish | 6pm (Vigil) Michael Ferry & Family (Ints.) | 6pm (Vigil) Fr Bob Barry RIP |
| SUNDAY 3RD FEBRUARY <i>FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i> | 8.30am Joe Grove RIP (Anniv.) 11am Margaret Crowley RIP 6pm For the People of the Parish | 10.30am George Roberts RIP | 9am For the People of the Parish |

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 and Joan Townend.

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, Vicky Williams and Paul Kennett.

NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

CAFOD - CONNECT2

Parish representatives of the CAFOD Connect2 project with the Holy Trinity Church in Sebeya, Ethiopia, will speak for a few minutes at the end of Mass next weekend about developments and changes. The parish representative for Our Lady Help of Christians, Rickmansworth, is Stephanie MacGillivray; St. John's, Mill End and Maple Cross, is Geraldine Page; St. John Fisher, Chorleywood, is Malcolm Golin. Please, do speak to your parish rep if you would like more information or would like to be involved in this exciting project. Alternatively go to <https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Parish-fundraising/Hands-On/Connect2-Ethiopia> and <https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Parish-fundraising/Hands-On>

VALENTINE'S DAY PRAISE AND WORSHIP

Please, join us on **Thursday 14th February**, at 7.30pm, at Our Lady's church, for a Valentine's praise and worship evening. There will be contemporary Christian worship songs, scripture, reflection on a Valentine's Day theme, and prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament with Benediction (special prayer of blessing). This is for all those who have experienced Alpha and want something more, and is also open to all parishioners from across the three parishes. Everyone is most welcome.

CLIVE POWELL-WILLIAMS RIP

The funeral of Clive Powell-Williams will take place at Our Lady Help of Christians at 11.00am on Monday 4th February, followed by committal at Breakspear Crematorium. We commend him to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for his family at this sad and difficult time.

ELIZABETH LYONS RIP

The funeral of Elizabeth Lyons will take place at Our Lady Help of Christians at 11.00am on Tuesday 5th February, followed by committal at Breakspear Crematorium. We commend her to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for her family at this sad and difficult time.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETINGS AND ELECTIONS TO THE JOINT PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (JPPC)

The Annual Parish Meetings (APM) of the three parishes will take place as follows:

Mill End – Sunday 17th February at 12 noon, Rickmansworth – Sunday 24th February at 3.00pm and Chorleywood – Monday 11th March at 8.00pm

At each APM respectively two parishioners will be elected to serve on the new JPPC. They will be joined by the two continuing members from the existing parish pastoral councils, who will serve a further two years. Nominations are now open for two new places on the JPPC in each parish. Parishioners may nominate themselves or another parishioner. Due to the specific nature of the role of the JPPC in strategically planning the development of our on-going parish renewal, it is essential that the nominees share the vision for the Divine Renovation model of parish renewal. The particular expectations on JPPC members are set out in the JPPC Terms of Reference, which can be found on the Pastoral Council page of each parish website. Please be sure to read these before nominating yourself or someone else. Nominations can be made either directly to me, or through the respective Chairs of the current three pastoral councils:

Rickmansworth – Paul Burke – rickmansworthppcchair@rcdow.org.uk

Chorleywood – Peter Mackie – chorleywoodppcchair@rcdow.org.uk

Mill End – Bob Livingston – millendppcchair@rcdow.org.uk

Nominations may be made in person, by letter or by email. If you are nominating another parishioner please be sure that they are willing to stand before nominating them. Please pray for our parishes as we prepare enter this new and exciting phase of our parish renewal. *Fr Shaun*

ALPHA YOUTH

Alpha Youth is a place to explore the big questions of life, faith, and meaning. In a series of 10 sessions you will be able to ask every question you want to ask, and say anything you want to say. Every evening starts with a hot meal (come hungry - free of charge, donations welcome), followed by a game, a good video and great conversation. No pressure, no judgment, no wrong answers. Practical details: every Friday from 7.00pm to 8.45pm until 29th March 2019, at Our Lady's parish hall. Please let Anke know if you're planning to attend (ankevos@rcdow.org.uk) so we can count you in for catering. The course includes an overnight in Pinner Friday evening 1st March until Saturday evening 2nd March.

THREE PARISHES' PILGRIMAGE 2019 - LORETO, RAVENNA, BOLOGNA & FERRARA

The 2019 three parishes' pilgrimage will take place from 28th September to 5th October. We will spend two nights in the town of Loreto to visit the Basilica of the Holy House and five night in the historic town of Ravenna, where we will have the opportunity to visit several churches containing the finest examples of Byzantine mosaics in the western world. From Ravenna we will also have two day trips: to the city of Bologna (with a visit to the shrine of St Dominic) and to the beautiful Renaissance city of Ferrara. Itineraries and booking forms are available in each parish. There are only a limited number of single rooms available. Please book early to avoid disappointment.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

The origins of WWDP date back to 19th century in USA and Canada when Christian women from different denominations started organising days of prayer for missionary work. Gradually the movement spread throughout the world and to the UK as well, where the first service was held in Scotland in 1930. Now it is a truly international and ecumenical world day of prayer with about 170 countries participating. Every year the focus is on a different country and the service is written by the women of that country and then translated into over 60 languages and 1000 dialects. In the Rickmansworth area the service rotates among the different participating churches and is a great opportunity for meeting and praying with fellow believers.

This year we are celebrating the WDP on **Friday 1st March** at **2.00pm** at St Mary's Church, Church Street, Rickmansworth. This years service has been written by the women of Slovenia. Please do come and join us - all men, women and children.

GIFT AID

We would like to thank all our parishioners who have signed up to Gift Aid in our Parishes. With your help and generosity we have received £14,035.02 (Our Lady Help of Christians); £4,553.16 (St John the Evangelist) and £6,733.31 (St John Fisher) from the government for the tax year 2017/2018. It is never too late to join. If you are a tax payer and currently make your donations either by Standing Order or weekly donation envelopes please complete a Gift Aid declaration which is available from the parish office. You can also backdate your Gift Aid by completing the relevant section on the form. If you are making your donations in any other way but would like to consider making your donations through Standing Order or Envelopes please contact Kerry at the parish office.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

THE AFTERPARTY

The Afterparty resumes on **Sunday 3rd February** after the 6.00pm Mass so starts at about 7.00pm, in the parish hall just behind Our Lady's church. 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 a catch up and make new parish friends at our coffee morning after Mass next Sunday.

CRECHE

There is a creche for small children under the age of 5 during the first half of the 11.00am 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 Henry Egbu at hegbu3@gmail.com. Thank you.

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

SUNDAY BRUNCH AT ST JOHN'S

Sunday Brunch at St John's (with bacon and sausage rolls) will take place on **Sunday 27th January** 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!

COFFEE AND TEA AFTER 10.30AM MASS

A reminder that tea and coffee is available in the parish hall after the 10.30am Mass each Sunday. Do please come and join us for a cuppa and a chat.

ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

RITA REECE RIP

We are sorry to have learned of the death of Rita Reece of Amersham. In past years Rita regularly attended weekly and Sunday Masses at St John Fisher and was our good friend. If you knew her and would like to join a small group at her funeral Mass at Chesham Bois at 11.30am on Thursday 31st January, please contact Mary Latimer on 284975.

WEEKDAY MASS

There will be no Mass here on Tuesday 29th January.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY FROM THE LATEST LADIES' MEETING

Thursday, 31st January, Rita Reece funeral; 12th February, next Ladies' Meeting; Friday 1st March, Women's Word Day of Prayer at St Andrew's (info on time later); Good Friday, 19th April 11.00am hospitality to worshippers from the Crossroads (can you help?); 12th - 18th May, Christian Aid Week; Saturday 30th November, Charity Christmas Fair.

SOCIAL EVENT SJF Thursday 28th February

Our first social event will be a 3-course dinner at West Herts College on Thursday 28th February at 6.30pm. The menu for this dinner and cost (payable on the evening), is displayed on the Church notice board in the entrance porch. If you would like to come along please sign up in order that we know numbers to inform the College. By signing, you are making a commitment to come. Please join us for this first event, an opportunity for you to get to know fellow parishioners, and enjoy excellent cooking at a very competitive price. There is also a very good wine list. Parking is free in the College car park. Should you need any further details of the evening, the phone numbers of your Social Committee Members are on the signing up sheet in the porch, or have a chat with a member after Mass.

| ROTAS | Saturday 6.00pm Mass | | | Sunday 9.00am Mass | | | Sunday Counters | Laundry |
|----------------------------|----------------------|--------------|-----------|--------------------|---------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|
| | Welcomer | Reader | MoC | Welcomer | Reader | Communion | | |
| 26 & 27 January | GF | E O'Sullivan | M Latimer | A Opie | J Hale | E Price | Patsy & Yasmin | J Whelan |
| 2 & 3 February | M Bychawski | A Roberts | P Goble | U Lean | L Munro | F Holly | Francis & Don | S Tarrant |

NOTICES

CARDINAL'S MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 8th June 2019 at 3pm.

The Cardinal will be inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their **5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60)** wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2019. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give Fr Shaun or Fr Damian the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).

SVP FUND-RAISING CONCERT

On **Monday 4th February at 7.00pm in the Catholic Church in Farm Street, Mayfair** the SVP are holding a fund-raising concert to raise funds to cover the costs for the 12,000 Vinnie Packs sent out this winter and to support continuation of the project into next winter and beyond. The concert will feature **Alexander Armstrong** as compère and soloist, soprano **Miranda Heldt**, the **Choir With No Name** (members of which are currently homeless or recently affected by homelessness) and actor **Alex MacQueen**. Tickets cost £30 and must be pre-booked at eventbrite.co.uk (search for Vinnie Packs).

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL MASS IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

The Annual Mass in honour of Our Lady of Lourdes takes place on **Saturday 9th February** at 2.00pm. The Sacrament of the Sick will be administered during Mass. All are welcome to attend. A special invitation is extended to all who are sick or infirm, all hospital chaplains, doctors, nurses, healthcare assistants and all who work in healthcare. If you or someone you know plan to attend in a wheelchair, please let Fr Shaun or Fr Damian know by **Sunday 27th January**.