



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
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@ChessValleyRC

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD 13TH JANUARY 2019

SUNDAY THOUGHT

At Christmas we celebrate God's coming into the world for the purpose of our redemption. The Baptism of Jesus marks the end of the closed, private period of his life and the beginning of his open, public ministry.

Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, and the gateway to life in the Spirit. Through Baptism, we are freed from sin and reborn as sons and daughters of God. We become members of Christ's Body: incorporated into the Church and made sharers in her mission. The paradox of the Baptism of Christ is that our sinless, spotless Saviour came to John to publicly undergo a rite of cleansing at his hands. The obvious question is, why? One answer lies in the revelation of divine humility. At his Baptism, God who chose to come to us in the form of a helpless baby, chooses to be with us where we are, to enter into solidarity with us in our sinful state. And as he receives the waters of baptism, Jesus is offering himself to the Father as the one representing mankind to God, even as in his humanity he is also representing God to mankind.

There is gentle approval in the tender words of the Father and the presence of the Spirit in the form of a graceful dove, as Christ publicly identifies with sinners - the sinners whose company he will keep until the very end of his life on the cross. "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." Today we remind ourselves that from the moment of our own Baptism, through the grace of God's unconditional love, we are united with Christ: that the Holy Spirit dwells in us, and that the Heavenly Father's favour rests on us, too.

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:

After the Lord was baptised, the heavens were opened,
and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove,
and the voice of the Father thundered:
This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

1st Reading:

Isaiah 40:1-5. 9-11

Response to Psalm:

Bless the Lord, my soul! Lord God, how great you are.

2nd Reading:

Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7

Gospel:

Luke 3:15-16. 21-22

Communion Antiphon:

Behold the One of whom John said:
I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.

Next Sunday's Readings

Isaiah 62:1-5; 1 Corinthians 12:4-11; John 2:1-11 (Gospel)

LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION

Rickmansworth: Envelopes: £416.00; Loose Plate: £470.74; Standing Orders: £703.08 **Total: £1589.82**

Mill End: Envelopes: £306.50; Loose Plate: £144.21; Standing Orders: £176.96 **Total: £627.67**

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

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| SUN 13TH JANUARY | | | |
| MON 14TH JANUARY | 10.00am 10.30am - 11.30am 8.00pm | SJF Ladies Meeting Mum's Connect - Hall Choir Practice | Edith Moid's Flat Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist |
| TUE 15TH JANUARY | 7.30pm | RCIA | St John Fisher |
| WED 16TH JANUARY | 12.45pm | Funeral - Frances Murphy RIP | St John the Evangelist |
| THU 17TH JANUARY | 8.00pm | Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall | Our Lady Help of Christians |
| FRI 18TH JANUARY | 10.00am | Coffee after Mass for all - Hall | Our Lady Help of Christians |
| SAT 19TH JANUARY | 10.30am - 11.30am 2.00pm 5.30pm | Holy Hour with Benediction and Confessions Baptism Preparation - Hall 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

| | Our Lady Help of Christians | St John the Evangelist | St John Fisher |
|--|--|--|--|
| SATURDAY 12 TH JANUARY | 10.00am Brian Feehely RIP (Anniv.) | 6pm (Vigil) Declena & Eamon Keely | 6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish |
| SUNDAY 13 TH JANUARY <i>THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD</i> | 8.30am Jimmy Logan RIP (Anniv.) 11am Michael Jubber RIP (Anniv.) 6pm For the People of the Parish | 10.30am Zigmunt Kakulski RIP | 9am Barbara Cannon RIP |
| MONDAY 14 TH JANUARY | 9.30am Dr Renzie | 9.30am Brian Feehely RIP (Anniv.) | |
| TUESDAY 15 TH JANUARY | 9.30am Brother Philip Lecane RIP (Anniv.) | | 9.30am Fr Bob Barry RIP |
| WEDNESDAY 16 TH JANUARY | | 9.30am Nora O'Shea | |
| THURS 17TH JANUARY <i>St ANTHONY, ABBOT</i> | 9.30am Bernie O'Hegarty (Ints.) | | |
| FRIDAY 18 TH JANUARY | 9.30am Curt Stewart Paul RIP | | 9.30am For the Sick & Housebound of the Parish |
| SATURDAY 19 TH JANUARY | 10.00am For the Sick & Housebound of the Parish | 6pm (Vigil) Jim Colton RIP | 6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish |
| SUNDAY 20 TH JANUARY <i>SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i> | 8.30am Powell Family (Ints.) 11am Bill Farrell RIP (Anniv.) 6pm For the People of the Parish | 10.30am Graham & Margaret Hughes RIP | 9am Christine Goodenough 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, Vicky Williams and Paul Kennett.

NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

ALPHA 2019!

Alpha begins again on **Tuesday 22nd January** at Our Lady's church hall at 7.30-9.30pm. There are still a few places left so there are registration forms available at the back of church today. Please complete a form and hand in to the Alpha team at the table today if possible. Places are being prioritised for those who don't normally go to church and to those who have never done Alpha before. For further information please email Mike and Leona Roche at chessvalleyalpha@rcdow.org.uk.

FRANCES MURPHY RIP

The funeral of Frances Murphy will take place at St John the Evangelist at 12.45pm on Wednesday 16th January, followed by committal at Chilterns Crematorium. We commend her to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for her family at this sad and difficult time.

JOINT PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (JPPC) – TERMS OF REFERENCE

Following consultation across all three parishes in the autumn, the Pastoral Councils of the three parishes have now agreed the Terms of the Reference for the JPPC, which will come into being in March 2019. These Terms of Reference are now available on the Pastoral Council page of each parish website. A few 'hard' copies are also available in each parish for those without internet access.

FRIDAY 25TH JANUARY IS OUR THREE PARISH CELEBRATION OF THE POET ROBBIE BURNS

If haven't had an invitation, please collect an envelope on the way out of church today. Bring your friends! Please complete the menu choices and enclose a cheque made out to Our Lady Help of Christians, Rickmansworth and leave in the sacristy. You can also pay by BACS to WRCDDT Rickmansworth Our Lady Help of Christians - Account 81263587 - Sort code: 40 05 20, please use BURNS as a reference, and confirm payment by email to Adrian. This promises to be a fun evening with outside catering and Scottish amusements. We need confirmed bookings by **Tuesday 22nd January**. Further information from Adrian - 07503 898689 or email adrian@justparkers.co.uk

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.

BAPTISM PREPARATION

A reminder for couples who have already seen Fr Damian or Fr Shaun regarding the baptism of a child that the next baptism preparation session is on Saturday 19 January at 2.00pm in Our Lady's hall.

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 until 8.45pm, 25th January 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.

CONFIRMATION 2019

We are now beginning the process of application for the Confirmation programme for 2019. To be eligible the candidates should be beginning to build a habit of prayer and involvement in the life of the Church, be in Year 9 or above, and must have been baptised in the Catholic Church. Those young people who wish to be confirmed, and meet these requirements, should write a letter (no emails please) to Fr Shaun answering one of these two questions:

- 1) What type of Christian man or woman do you envision being in the future?
- 2) What steps do you need to take to get closer to God?

Please be sure to include your full name, address and the email address and phone number of a parent. The closing date by which you must have written to Fr Shaun is **Monday 21st January 2019**. No applications will be considered after this date.

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.

SVP COMMUNITY LUNCH

The next SVP Community Lunch is on **Sunday 20th January** 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.

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.

MUM'S CONNECT - 10.30AM TO 11.30AM IN OUR LADY'S CHURCH HALL

Come and join our friendly group! Plenty of toys for the children and cake and chat for the mums! If you have any questions, please contact Caitlin Boshoff on caitbos22@gmail.com or 07484 754843.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

The minutes of the PPC meeting held on 11th December 2018 are now available on the porch notice board and on the Pastoral Council page of the parish website. A few 'hard copies' are available at the back of the church for those without internet access. The final meeting of the PPC will take place on **Wednesday 16th January**. Parishioners with ideas or suggestions they wish the PPC to discuss should contact the Chair at rickmansworthppcchair@rcdow.org.uk. Alternatively parishioners can ask a PPC member known to them to raise the matter on their behalf.

A MESSAGE FROM FR. JIM DUFFY

One of the joys of my sixth Christmas since retiring was to receive so many Christmas cards, gifts and messages from parishioners. Once again I am overwhelmed by being remembered by so many at this time. I am truly grateful and deeply touched. Once again as I don't have everybody's address to respond in person, I would ask that all would accept this little note as a sincere expression of my appreciation and gratitude. I pray the Lord's blessings on all during 2019. *Fr Jim*

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 Liz Purtill at lizpurtill@yahoo.co.uk. Thank you.

200 CLUB

Congratulations to John Reid £37, A Khurwal £27.75, Annie Kent £18.50 and Pauline Starck £9.25.

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

CHURCH SECURITY

To simplify the access to the church building, both external locks for the front door will be accessed by the same key from Friday 11th January. If you have any questions about the operation of the lock, please contact Alan Opie (07801 140422).

LADIES MEETING.

The next ladies meeting is this coming Monday, 14th January, 10.00am at 2 Grenville Court, (Edith Moid's flat). All are very welcome.

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 soon.

CHRISTCHURCH KENYAN CHILDREN'S PROJECT

Thank you so much for all the silver foil and cans, please keep them coming. Also bring your used stamps to jar in lobby. We also sell old mobile phone, golf balls, stamp collections, etc. £1,000 has recently been sent for two years of these sales. Any queries phone Mary 284975. Thank you.

| ROTAS | Saturday 6.00pm Mass | | | Sunday 9.00am Mass | | | Sunday Counters | Laundry |
|----------------------------|----------------------|--------------|----------|--------------------|---------|---------------|------------------|--------------|
| | Welcomer | Reader | MoC | Welcomer | Reader | Communion | | |
| 12 & 13 January | J Ingham | J Stratton | P Goble | J Whelan | C Holly | J Hale | Una & Marguerite | C Steet |
| 19 & 20 January | A Roberts | M Williamson | J McEwen | M Calvert | A Opie | AM Farnsworth | Peter & Kate | A McReynolds |

NOTICES

SUPPORT GROUP FOR PARENTS OF THOSE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Our next meeting is on **18th January** at 11.00am, at the parish hall of Our Lady Help of Christians, Rickmansworth. To find out more, please call Veronica on 07504 104569.

CAP – CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY

The following courses will run at Mill End Baptist Church, Field Way, Rickmansworth, WD3 7EJ. These courses are free to participants.

8 week Fresh Start Course to support those who wish to overcome life-controlling issues (smoking, drinking, gambling). This course starts on February 7th 2019. Contact Annabel Brown on 07849678171 to find out more.

CAP Money Course teaches budgeting skills so that participants can budget, save and prevent debt. The daytime course starts on Monday 28th January 10am and the evening course starts Thursday 31st January 7.30pm. Check website www.millendbaptist.org or phone 01923 441115 for more details if needed.