



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
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FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT 10TH MARCH 2019

SUNDAY THOUGHT

We have now entered Lent, a word taken from old English for the lengthening of days; a time for new hope, new beginnings. After the winter, we gladly welcome the promises of spring. But do we realise the promises of Lent? We may be tempted to view Lent as a reminder of how sinful we are, a season in which we try to control ourselves by “giving something up”, instead of a season of letting go and doing these same actions from a different perspective - that of new growth.

Lent is a time to learn how to manage our trials and temptations more closely from Jesus’ teachings on faithfulness and prayers. No-one is so good and holy that they are exempt from temptation, even Jesus: “we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathise with our weakness but one who was tempted in every way like us yet he did not sin” (Heb.4:15). The struggle between Jesus and the devil goes on within each one of us, every day of our lives. Our modern desert is a world of commuting, financial stress, deadlines, shopping centres, fast food, smartphones, etc. These can be places of holiness, reflecting our Gospel commitment, or they can be the wilderness where we are tempted to sin. The urge to be true to God is real, but so is the urge to be untrue.

Part of the beauty of the Church’s liturgical seasons is aligning our life to Christ’s through the Scriptures. Every year, through the practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving, Lent allows us to pause and consider: “what do I believe?”, “who am I?”, “what values do I represent?” - and to bring us closer to a Christian answer. Yes, Lent is an opportunity to reflect on our lives and discern where we are failing; but above all perhaps failing to appreciate the nature of our relationship with God and the extraordinary freedom and dignity that he offers us. It is an invitation to be spiritually renewed, particularly through the mercy of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and prepare to collectively reaffirm our baptismal promises at Easter - to reject Satan and all his works, and all his empty promises.

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: When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

1st Reading: Deuteronomy 26:4-10

Response to Psalm: Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.

2nd Reading: Romans 10:8-13

Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

Communion Antiphon: One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

Next Sunday’s Readings

Genesis 15:5-12. 17-18; Philippians 3:17 - 4:1; Luke 9:28-36 (Gospel)

LAST SUNDAY’S COLLECTION

Rickmansworth: Envelopes: £607.97; Loose Plate: £417.68; Standing Orders: £703.08 **Total: £1728.73**

Mill End: Envelopes: £281.50; Loose Plate: £209.47; Standing Orders: £176.96 **Total: £667.93**

Chorleywood: The Offertory collection for the month of February - **£2359.71**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

SUN 10TH MARCH	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 11TH MARCH	10.00am for 10.15am 10.30am - 11.30am 5.30pm 8.00pm 8.00pm	Quiet Space - Upper Room Mum's Connect - Hall First Communion Class - Hall Annual Parish Meeting Choir Practice	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians St John Fisher St John the Evangelist
TUE 12TH MARCH	10.00am for 10.15am 7.30pm - 9.30pm 7.30pm	Lectio Divina - Upper Room Alpha - Hall RCIA	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians St John Fisher
WED 13TH MARCH	7.45pm	First Communion Parent's Meeting - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
THU 14TH MARCH	2.15pm for 2.30pm 8.00pm	Quiet Space Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	St Peters, Mill End Our Lady Help of Christians
FRI 15TH MARCH	10.00am 7.00pm - 8.45pm 7.30pm	Coffee after Mass for all - Hall Alpha Youth - Hall Stations of the Cross	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist
SAT 16TH MARCH	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 9 TH MARCH	10.00am For the Sick & Housebound of the Parish	6pm (Vigil) Jimmy Hughes RIP	6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
SUNDAY 10 TH MARCH <i>FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT</i>	8.30am Fr Adrian Walker RIP 11am For the People of the Parish 6pm Fr Seamus Noctor RIP	10.30am John & Mary Gibson RIP	9am Fr Adrian Walker RIP
MONDAY 11 TH MARCH	9.30am For the Sick & Housebound of the Parish	9.30am Martin McHugh RIP (Anniv.)	
TUESDAY 12 TH MARCH	9.30am Fr Seamus Noctor RIP		9.30am Fr Seamus Noctor RIP
WEDNESDAY 13 TH MARCH		9.30am Margaret Sullivan	
THURSDAY 14 TH MARCH	9.30am Fr Adrian Walker RIP		
FRIDAY 15 TH MARCH	9.30am Margaret & John McGuinness RIP		9.30am For the Sick & Housebound of the Parish
SATURDAY 16 TH MARCH	10.00am For the Sick & Housebound of the Parish	6pm (Vigil) Sean Conway RIP	6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
SUNDAY 17 TH MARCH <i>SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT</i>	8.30am Joe Fallon RIP (Anniv.) 11am Hannah Logan RIP (Anniv.) 6pm For the People of the Parish	10.30am Patrick Conway RIP (Anniv.)	9am May Slater

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, 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, Betty McGuinness, Anne Trenchard, Vicky Williams and Paul Kennett.

NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

HOLY WEEK TRIDUUM

In the autumn of 2018 the Pastoral Councils of the three parishes jointly agreed that from 2019 onwards there would be only two celebrations of Holy Thursday and the Easter Vigil across the three parishes instead of three. It was also agreed that each parish will continue to have the Good Friday Celebration of the Passion of the Lord. Once every three years each parish will have a full celebration of the Triduum. This year St John's, Mill End will not have a celebration of Holy Thursday and St John Fisher, Chorleywood will not have a celebration of the Easter Vigil. Parishioners of the parish without a celebration of Holy Thursday or the Easter Vigil are encouraged and warmly invited to participate in the respective celebration in one of the other two parishes.

CARDINAL'S LENTEN APPEAL 2019

The Cardinal's Lenten Appeal funds initiatives in parishes, schools and charities in the three mission areas of: Marriage and Family Life, enriching and supporting marriages, the essential building block of society and the Church; Youth and Evangelisation, supporting young people, the future of the Church, as they grow in their relationship with God and deepen their Catholic faith; and the Church's Service in Society, putting our faith into action by serving the poor, the lonely and the marginalised. This year, the Cardinal is asking us to think about the last of these in particular, and he has launched a new programme focusing on the food poverty that affects so many across the Diocese. Much of this poverty remains hidden. Many use foodbanks even though there is a wage earner in the family. Please take a donation leaflet as you leave Mass today. In addition, to find out about volunteering opportunities, visit CardinalsLentenAppeal.org.uk. In the words of Cardinal Nichols: "I hope this Appeal offers you and your family one way in which to observe Lent and to grow in the richness of our response to God's blessings of life and faith."

CONFIRMATION

At all Masses this weekend our confirmation candidates who are under 18 years old will be publicly enrolled. Please keep them in your prayers. We would like to remind our confirmation candidates that the first session will take place on **Monday 18th March** from 7.00pm to 8.45pm in Our Lady's parish hall. A hot meal will be provided; please come hungry.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY: FRIDAY 15TH MARCH

CAFOD's Family Fast Day this Lent is an opportunity to support our brothers and sisters around the world. Drought, floods and storms are having a devastating impact on our global family. Like Mahinur from Bangladesh. She makes a living from fishing but a drought last year killed all the fish, and she's struggling to support her disabled husband and son. On Friday 15th March, can you eat a simple meal in solidarity and give what you save to help people like Mahinur? Through CAFOD's global Church network - one of the largest aid networks in the world - your support can reach to the ends of the earth. Please collect your Fast Day envelope from church this weekend and give whatever you can.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

As usual, Stations of the Cross will rotate around the three parishes on the Fridays of Lent at 7.30pm (beginning on **15th March**). Details of the venue will be published in the newsletter each week. This year I have invited parishioners of the respective parishes to lead the Stations of the Cross. I do hope that you will join in these activities of our Lenten journey as fully as is possible for you. *Fr Shaun*

FIRST COMMUNION PARENTS MEETING - Wednesday 13th March

Parents are reminded that there will be a meeting with Fr Shaun at 7.45pm in Our Lady's Hall.

MEMORIAL STONES FOR THE GARDEN OF REST

One of the memorial stones is now in place and it is hoped that the second stone will be installed within the next couple of weeks. We hope that the ceremony of blessing of the stones will be able to take place on a suitable weekend in March (details to follow nearer the time). *Michael Curtin*

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.

SVP COMMUNITY LUNCH

The next SVP Community Lunch is on **Sunday 17th March** 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.

THREE PARISH WALKING GROUP

We start the new season at 9.30am **Saturday 13th April** at Our Lady's with a 7 mile circular walk to Cassiobury via the Chess Valley and cross-country to the GU canal returning to Ricky for (optional) refreshment at the White Bear, Batchworth at about mid-day. Everyone very welcome to join us. Enquiries please to billgraham1888@gmail.com

DONATIONS NEEDED

Alpha Youth need the following items - are you able to help? Two 15 litre catering pots, a normal set of pots, a frying pan and a couple of baking sheets. Items should be in good condition. Please contact Kerry at the parish office for further details. Thank you.

6TH RICKMANSWORTH SEA SCOUT GROUP

Spring Jumble Sale & Nearly New will be held on Saturday 16th March at 10.30am. **Book Sale & Quality Items** will be held on Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th March from 7.00pm to 9.00pm. Any suitable items can be left at the Scout HQ behind Our Lady's Church at the usual meeting times or collection can be arranged by telephoning - 246169 / 776035. Parents and Supporters are reminded that help is needed to run these events.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING (APM)

The Minutes of the 2019 APM are available on the parish website, together with the Parish Priest's reflection and a report from the SVP. A few "hard" copies are available for those without internet access.

MONEY MATTERS

Copies of the "Money Matters" summary of the 2018 Annual Financial Report to the Diocese are available at the back of church. Parishioners are invited to take a copy home with them.

200 CLUB - Congratulations to J Gordon £37, M Thomson £27.75, M Bridge Madden £18.50, M Douglas £9.25.

LOST CAR KEY

Did anyone pick up a Peugeot car key last Sunday? Please have a look, and if you find it, contact Kerry at the parish office.

TRAIDCRAFT STALL AND TEA AND COFFEE AFTER 11.00AM MASS

This weekend marks the end of the annual Fairtrade Fortnight which this year focusses on the people, in particular the women, who grow the cocoa in the chocolate we love so much. A typical cocoa farmer in West Africa needs to earn £1.86 to achieve a living income, but instead they take home around 74p a day. By choosing Fairtrade, you can make a difference. Come and support the Traidcraft stall in the hall. There will also be an opportunity to order eggs from The Real Easter Egg Company, the only Fairtrade Easter Egg with the Easter Story included. If you're not at 11.00am Mass and would like to order, please contact Helen Nolan on helenvnolan@ntlworld.com or 07980 600549 by the end of Sunday.

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

RED MISSIO BOXES.

Could you please bring these to church by the end of March to be emptied, and collect your copy of Mission Today. Thank you. *Geraldine*

SUNDAY BRUNCH AT ST JOHN'S

Sunday Brunch at St John's (with bacon and sausage rolls) will take place on **Sunday 31st March** 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!

ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

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

The Annual Parish Meeting (APM) will take place on **Monday 11th March at 8.00pm**. At the 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 council who will serve a further two years. Nominations are now open for two new places on the JPPC. 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 Chair, Peter Mackie – chorleywoodppcchair@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*

COFFEE AND TEA will be served after Mass this Sunday. Please stay for a while if you are able.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY FROM THE LATEST LADIES' MEETING

Good Friday, 19th April at 11.00am, hospitality to worshippers from the Crossroads (**can you help?**); 12th-18th May, Christian Aid Week; Saturday 30th November, Charity Christmas Fair.

RED APF/MISSIO BOXES - please bring your boxes to church by Sunday 24th March for the March collection. Thank you.

SILVER FOIL AND CANS COLLECTION

I am now spreading my wings (call me Mrs Steptoe!) and will be happy to receive old cooking pots and oven pans, particularly aluminium. I would be happy to arrange collection of larger items e.g. broken aluminium ladders etc. Thank you, Mary 284975.

ROTAS	Saturday 6.00pm Mass			Sunday 9.00am Mass			Sunday Counters	Laundry
	Welcomer	Reader	MoC	Welcomer	Reader	Communion		
9 & 10 March	J Ingham	T Hartney	E O'Sullivan	M Calvert	T D'Urso	F Holly	Francis & Don	S Tarrant
16 & 17 March	A Roberts	M Foggo	P Goble	A Opie	K Cottingham	L Turnbull	Carolyn & Una	V Terrill

NOTICES

SUPPORT GROUP FOR PARENTS OF THOSE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Our next meeting is on Friday **15th March** at 11.00am, at the parish hall of Our Lady Help of Christians, Rickmansworth. To find out more, please call Veronica on 07504 104569.

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).

SYMBOLS OF FAITH WORKSHOP : Preparing for the Sacraments and Participation in the Liturgy for people with learning disabilities

A workshop that trains individuals in the preparation of children and adults with special needs for the sacraments, using symbolic catechesis. The workshop will be held at Our Lady Help of Christians, Rickmansworth on **Saturday 23rd March** 1.00pm to 5.00pm. Details from Sue Day at sueday@rcdow.org.uk 0208 2023999.