



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](mailto:shaunchurch@rcdow.org.uk)

### Assistant Priest:

Fr Damian Ryan  
[damianryan@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:damianryan@rcdow.org.uk)

### Parish Administrator:

Kerry Van Rensburg  
[rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk)

### Parish Youth Worker:

Anke Vos  
[ankevos@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:ankevos@rcdow.org.uk)

Address for all correspondence:  
5 Park Road  
Rickmansworth  
WD3 1HU

Telephone: 01923 773387

 @ChessValleyRC

## 17<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 28<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2019

### SUNDAY THOUGHT

In today's Gospel, Jesus not only teaches us how to pray, but reassures us that when we pray God will not fail to answer us. So why are we often reluctant to ask God for concrete things? Perhaps it's because many of us have examples of what we are inclined to call "unanswered prayers". In truth, God does answer all our prayers, but the answer is often not the particular thing that we ask for. If we ask, what is good for us is given to us; if we seek, it is found; and if we knock, the door is opened - but what is given and found may not be what we expected or hoped for. This should not deter us! Jesus tells us that persistence is key.

Persistence in prayer brings about a clarity and a wisdom through our regular communication with God. Persistence puts us in the best position for God to influence our thoughts and feelings to ones more suited to our true needs, and prepares us to be open to receive his answer - even though it may be "No." In our first reading, Abraham is bargaining with God relentlessly, like a child wearing down a parent for something he wants. And God shows his patience, he listens and replies. Ultimately, though, Abraham has to flee Sodom - but through it all, he himself is formed by God's mercy and justice and learns to live by the will of God. Like Abraham, the more we turn to God, the more we come to know how good and loving he is - and the more we are able to follow Jesus' example and truly mean: "Not my will but thine be done". The Lord's Prayer invites us to surrender to God, to rely on his providence, by seeking his will as we request his mercy: to knock without knowing what will be opened to us, to seek without always understanding what it is we need.

## SAFEGUARDING REPS.

### Rickmansworth Parish

Dave Pione 01923 772606  
[rickmansworthsg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworthsg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

### Mill End Parish

Matt McKiernan 01923 493747  
[millendsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:millendsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

### Chorleywood Parish

Laura Turnbull 01923 897899  
[chorleywoodsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:chorleywoodsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

### Diocesan Safeguarding

Coordinator 0207 798 9356

### Entrance Antiphon:

God is in his holy place, God who unites those who dwell in his house; he himself gives might and strength to his people.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Reading:

Genesis 18:20-32

### Response to Psalm:

On the day I called, you answered me, O Lord.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:

Colossians 2:12-14

### Gospel:

Luke 11:1-13

### Communion Antiphon:

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all his benefits.

### Next Sunday's Readings

Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23; Colossians 3:1-5. 9-11; Luke 12:13-21 (Gospel)

## LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION

**Rickmansworth:** Envelopes: £625.50; Loose Plate: £362.08; Standing Orders: £703.08 **Total: £1690.66**

**Mill End:** Envelopes: £255.80; Loose Plate: £160.85; Standing Orders: £176.96 **Total: £593.61**

**Chorleywood:** The Offertory collection for the month of June - **£2770.07**

**Peter's Pence Collection:** Rickmansworth **£517.90**; Mill End **£181.07**; Chorleywood **£165.60**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY**

## FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

<b>SUN 28<sup>TH</sup> JULY</b>	12.45pm	Baptisms	Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>MON 29<sup>TH</sup> JULY</b>	10.30am - 12.30pm	Mum's Connect - Hall <b>NO</b> Choir Practice	St John the Evangelist St John the Evangelist
<b>TUE 30<sup>TH</sup> JULY</b>			
<b>WED 31<sup>ST</sup> JULY</b>			
<b>THU 1<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST</b>	8.00pm	Life in the Spirit Prayer Group	Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>FRI 2<sup>ND</sup> AUGUST</b>			
<b>SAT 3<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST</b>	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
<b>SATURDAY</b> 27 <sup>TH</sup> JULY	<b>10.00am</b> Fr Denis Watters RIP	<b>6pm</b> (Vigil) Alfredo Rock (Ints.)	<b>6pm</b> (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
<b>SUNDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> JULY</b> <i>17<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	<b>8.30am</b> Maurice Breen RIP <b>11am</b> Jack Crowley RIP (Anniv.) <b>6pm</b> For the People of the Parish	<b>10.30am</b> Josie Taggart RIP	<b>9am</b> For the People of the Parish
<b>MONDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> JULY</b> <i>ST MARTHA</i>	<b>9.30am</b> Henry Kendrick RIP	<b>9.30am</b> For the Sick & Housebound of the Parish	
<b>TUESDAY</b> 30 <sup>TH</sup> JULY	<b>9.30am</b> For the Sick & Housebound of the Parish		<b>9.30am</b> For the Sick & Housebound of the Parish
<b>WEDNESDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> JULY</b> <i>ST IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA, PRIEST</i>		<b>9.30am</b> For the Sick & Housebound of the Parish	
<b>THURSDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST</b> <i>ST ALPHONSUS LIGUORI, BISHOP &amp; DOCTOR</i>	<b>9.30am</b> Fr Denis Watters RIP		
<b>FRIDAY</b> 2 <sup>ND</sup> AUGUST	<b>9.30am</b> Mark Crabb RIP		<b>9.30am</b> For the Sick & Housebound of the Parish
<b>SATURDAY</b> 3 <sup>RD</sup> AUGUST	<b>10.00am</b> For the Sick & Housebound of the Parish	<b>6pm</b> (Vigil) Harry Borthwick RIP	<b>6pm</b> (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
<b>SUNDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST</b> <i>18<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	<b>8.30am</b> For the People of the Parish <b>11am</b> Declan Quinn RIP <b>6pm</b> Frances Mitchell RIP (Anniv.)	<b>10.30am</b> For the People of the Parish	<b>9am</b> For the People of the Parish

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISHES

**Our Lady Help of Christians:** Kathleen Collins, Brenda Reynolds, Olive Cordery, Neville Mathews, Agnes Harper, Eileen Durkan, Ginny Goodgol, Maria Wallis, Heather Kean, John Caneparo, Henry Cutting, Nalene Nixon, Pam Bell, Joan Townend and Maureen Douglas.

**St John the Evangelist:** Rita Murray; John Connor, Michael Dixon, Mary Gardner, Robert Gibson, Edda Ali and Alfredo Rock

**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, Paul Kennett and Ann Penn (please, no phone calls)

## NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

### DEACON ANTHONY ARMSTRONG TO BE ORDAINED PRIEST

We are delighted to announce that Deacon Anthony Armstrong (a former parishioner of this parish) will be ordained as a priest in Tenafly, New Jersey, USA on the feast of All Saints, Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November at 7.30pm. It is hoped that Anthony will be able to come and celebrate a Thanksgiving Mass in the parish sometime after Christmas. Anthony has also mentioned that there is a possibility that the ordination Mass might be livestreamed on the internet. If this happens we will provide a link so that any parishioners who wish to watch the ordination can do so.

### WHITE FATHERS – MISSION APPEAL

On the weekends of 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> August we will be joined by Fr John Gerrard of the Missionaries of Africa (White Fathers) who will speak to us about the work of the White Fathers in Africa and make an appeal for our financial support. Fr John will be present at the following Masses:

**3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> August:** Chorleywood (6.00pm Vigil), Rickmansworth (8.30am and 6.00pm), Mill End (10.30am)

**11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> August:** Mill End (6.00pm Vigil), Chorleywood (9.00am), Rickmansworth (11.00am)

There will be a retiring collection at each of the Masses to support the mission of the White Fathers.

### YOUTH MINISTRY

After three years as youth ministry coordinator, Anke Vos has decided to move on to new challenges. She will finish her role with the parishes over the weekend of the 10<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> of August. The Youth Ministry Leadership Team has been meeting for five months now, and are greatly looking forward to building up our youth ministry for all local teenagers. We thank Anke for her time, enthusiasm and devotion during her stay with us, and wish her well for the future. There will be a farewell celebration for Anke after the 10.30am Mass on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> August at St John's, Mill End.

### WALKING PILGRIMAGE – VIA FRANCIGENA (TUSCAN SECTION) – 23<sup>RD</sup> MAY TO 31<sup>ST</sup> MAY 2020

Following the great success of our 2018 Camino to Santiago di Compostela, I am organising another walking pilgrimage. This time we will walk the Tuscany section of the ancient **Via Francigena** from Lucca to Siena. There will be five walking days, with the longest day being 24km and the shortest 13km. Providing we can gather a group of 20 or more pilgrims the cost per person sharing a twin/double room will be 1,115 euros. Breakfasts and dinners, coach transfers from and to Pisa airport, daily baggage transfers and the services of a local guide are all included. Single room supplement will be 270 euros, though only five single rooms will be available at this price (based on a group size of twenty). Flights to and from Pisa will be booked individually by the pilgrims (details of the preferred flight will be provided in good time). If you are seriously interested in joining us for this pilgrimage please email me as soon as possible so that I can provide you with more information. *Fr Shaun*

### THINKING ABOUT BECOMING A CATHOLIC?

Have you, or someone you know, been thinking about becoming a catholic? Are you a baptised catholic but have never received the Sacrament of Confirmation and would now like to complete your initiation? If the answer to either of these questions is 'yes', please drop me an email and we can have a chat about what is involved and how our parishes can help you to take the next step. *Fr Shaun*

### ALPHA

Alpha begins again on **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September** at 7.30-9.30pm and runs until 3<sup>rd</sup> December at Our Lady's hall. The first few weeks may be held at St John's church hall, Mill End, if the refurbishment of Our Lady's hall is not completed. Alpha is an opportunity to explore life's big questions and the Christian faith in a friendly and informal environment. Each session includes food (so please come hungry!), an engaging video designed to generate conversation, and a discussion time where you can say whatever you like or nothing at all. Sessions include topics such as 'Who is Jesus?', 'Why did Jesus die?' and 'How can I have Faith?'. Registrations are now open and you can register online at [cvalpha.eventbrite.co.uk](http://cvalpha.eventbrite.co.uk). There will also be paper registrations available in early September after all Masses. As before, places are being prioritised for those who have not previously tried Alpha, so please do share the link and invite others to attend as well. If you have any questions please contact Mike and Leona Roche at [chessvalleyalpha@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:chessvalleyalpha@rcdow.org.uk) or call Mike on 07505 307323.

### HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

On **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> August** the Church celebrates The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Being one of the major feasts in the Church's year, Wednesday is therefore a holy day of obligation, meaning that Catholics should attend Mass that day. Please take note of the extra Masses being celebrated across the three parishes: St John Fisher - Vigil (Wednesday) 8pm; Our Lady Help of Christians - 9.30am; St John the Evangelist - 8pm.

**PARISH NEWSLETTER** - there will be no newsletter during the month of August.

### THREE PARISHES WALKING GROUP

The next walk will be on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> August starting at 9.30am at The Black Horse Inn, Chesham Vale, HP5 3NS - the landlord kindly permits parking for walkers at the far end of the car park. It's a 5.7 mile easy circular walk with two gentle climbs and one steep descent, taking in ancient field patterns and hedges, old earthworks and a home of D H Lawrence. Everyone is very welcome to join our friendly group! Any queries, please contact Sam Benson [bensonbensonsamantha@hotmail.com](mailto:bensonbensonsamantha@hotmail.com).

### SEMINARIAN SUMMER PLACEMENT – SEPTEMBER 2019

From 31<sup>st</sup> August until 27<sup>th</sup> September 2019 we will be joined by Deacon Alex Balzanella. Alex is a seminarian for the Westminster Diocese, in formation at the Venerable English College in Rome. We look forward to welcoming him to our parishes at the end of August.

### ST JOHN BOSCO SUMMER CAMPS 2019

The Chess Valley SVP would like to sponsor two more children this year for a week's holiday at one of the St John Bosco Camps held during the school summer holidays. Boys must be aged between 8 and 13 years old and girls between 9 and 12 years old. If you would be interested in a place for your child or you know someone who might be interested, please contact the Presbytery on 01923 773387.

### 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 17<sup>th</sup> August** at 2.00pm at the presbytery.

## OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

### REFURBISHMENT OF THE PARISH HALLS

I am delighted to announce that work on the refurbishment of the parish halls has begun and the current estimated date for completion of the main build is **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September**. There will be some ancillary works to be completed after that. During this time we will inevitably have to put up with some disruption to parish activities. However, the end results: a redecorated, modernised and better equipped parish centre will be well worth whatever disruption we have to endure in the short term. *Fr Shaun*

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY** - please note there will be no Children's Liturgy until mid October.

### WHAT A WELCOME!

Are you smiley and friendly and can spare a few minutes before and after Mass on the occasional Sunday? If yes, then please join our Welcoming Team. It's a really important ministry, that ensures that the parish gives a warm welcome to visitors and regulars alike. Contact Martin, [martinbradyxxx@aol.com](mailto:martinbradyxxx@aol.com).

### FOR THE MISSIONS

Many thanks to all who have saved their used stamps for the Missions. Everyone's small contributions can make a difference. The box is in the church porch. Please keep them coming! *Sheila Harrington*.

## ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

### READERS AND WELCOMER'S

Copies of the rota for July - September are available now at the back of the church for those of you who haven't already received it by email.

**HALL BOOKINGS** - please contact Kerry at the parish office if you would like to book the hall.

### 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

### FINANCE OPERATIONS AND PREMISES (FOP) COMMITTEE

There will be a meeting of St John Fisher's FOP committee on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> August. If there is any matter concerning finances, operations or parish premises that you would like to be raised at that meeting please contact the Chair of St John Fisher's FOP, Carolyn Opie, at [carolynopie@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:carolynopie@rcdow.org.uk)

ROTAS	Saturday 6.00pm Mass			Sunday 9.00am Mass			Sunday Counters	Laundry
	Welcomer	Reader	MoC	Welcomer	Reader	Communion		
<b>27/28 July</b>	J Ingham	M Foggo	E O'Sullivan	M Calvert	A Opie	E Price	Yasmin & Una	S Tarrant
<b>3/4 August</b>	M Foggo	T Hartney	J McEwen	A Opie	M Calvert	F Holly	Carolyn & Kate	V Terrill
<b>10/11 August</b>	E O'Sullivan	L Johnson	P Goble	U Lean	M Fields	L Turnbull	Francis & Peter	C Steet
<b>17/18 August</b>	M Bychawski	C Johnson	M Latimer	J Hale	K Cottingham	AM Farnsworth	Carolyn & Una	A McReynolds
<b>24/25 August</b>	C Pierce	S Hoy	C Johnson	J Whelan	M Golin	J Hale	Francis & Kate	J Whelan
<b>31/08 &amp; 01/09</b>	M Foggo	M Williamson	E O'Sullivan	A Opie	C Holly	E Price	Marguerite & Yasmin	S Tarrant

## NOTICES

### REDISCOVER YOUR MARRIAGE

Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) simply means 'rediscovery'. The programme offers the chance to rediscover yourself, your spouse, and a loving relationship in your marriage. 10s of 1000s headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the programme commencing with a residential weekend on **13<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> September 2019**.

Call or text 0788 7296983 or 0797 3380443 – or Email [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) - or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

### CARITAS VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Caritas Westminster are looking for a number of volunteers to help with delivering the Caritas Food Collective initiative aimed at helping those struggling with food poverty, through school programmes over the holidays, with food delivery and through awareness raising and education. There are a variety of volunteering opportunities to suit everyone. To find out more, visit: <https://www.caritaswestminster.org.uk/caritas-westminster-463.php?oppid=263> or contact Anna Gavurin on [annagavurin@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:annagavurin@rcdow.org.uk)

### WESTMINSTER DIOCESE JOB VACANCIES

Please visit our website at <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/> where you can view the latest vacancies.