



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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Rickmansworth
WD3 1HU

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23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 8TH SEPTEMBER 2019

SUNDAY THOUGHT

The people in today's gospel are following Jesus, although they don't know where he is going - to his trial and crucifixion. They are following him because they want improved lives; to get rich, to get healthy, and to have security. But Jesus wants to give them another life, so he stops them and challenges them. He initially does so in the strong language about "hating" one's "father, mother, wife, children, etc.". However the meaning of "hate" is not the same as our English expression - here it means more to detach oneself; to be prepared to let go of, or to leave aside. Jesus is asking the people to give up on the things of this world.

Many people are attached to material possessions, some are unhealthily attached to relationships, others to their ambitions and dreams. But Jesus is telling us that to follow him we must leave whatever distracts our attention from God, and to put him first and foremost, always. He emphasises our free will - we are not forced into discipleship and (unlike the crowds) we have full knowledge of the requirements. He encourages discernment, that we "first sit down and calculate the cost" - like the tower builder, do we appreciate the cost of the journey? Like the king, do we appreciate the enormity of the task?

To be a Christian is to have a goal: we are going somewhere, and to get there we are following someone: Jesus Christ. Choices leading us away from following Christ have a veneer, a false shine. When we are struggling to remain faithful and observant to the teaching of Jesus, it can seem easier to lapse. But time and again the "good things" of the world are shown to be fleeting, impermanent and even the cause of a deeper emptiness. What the world seems to offer as freedom can quickly become compulsion and slavery to empty promises. The only people who are truly free are those with nothing left to lose; they desire nothing and are afraid of nothing. Their treasure, all that matters to them, lies in God alone, and cannot be taken away.

SAFEGUARDING REPS.

Rickmansworth Parish

Dave Pione 01923 772606
rickmansworthsg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Mill End Parish

Matt McKiernan 01923 493747
millendsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Chorleywood Parish

Laura Turnbull 01923 897899
chorleywoodsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Diocesan Safeguarding

Coordinator 0207 798 9356

Entrance Antiphon:

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;
treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

1st Reading:

Wisdom 9:13-18

Response to Psalm:

O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation
to the next.

2nd Reading:

Philemon 9-10. 12-17

Gospel:

Luke 14:25-33

Communion Antiphon:

Like the deer that yearns for running streams,
so my soul is yearning for you, my God;
my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

Next Sunday's Readings

Exodus 32:7-11. 13-14; 1 Timothy 1:12-17; Luke 15:1-32 (Gospel)

LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION

Rickmansworth: Envelopes: £342.24; Loose Plate: £409.52; Standing Orders: £703.08 **Total: £1454.84**

Mill End: Envelopes: £286.50; Loose Plate: £135.31; Standing Orders: £176.96 **Total: £598.77**

Chorleywood: The Offertory collection for the month of August - **£2215.13**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|---|
| SUN 8TH SEPTEMBER | | | |
| MON 9TH SEPTEMBER | 10.30am - 12.30pm 8.00pm | Mum's Connect - Hall Choir Practice | St John the Evangelist St John the Evangelist |
| TUE 10TH SEPTEMBER | 11.00am | Funeral - Edda Ali RIP | St John the Evangelist |
| WED 11TH SEPTEMBER | | | |
| THU 12TH SEPTEMBER | 8.00pm | Life in the Spirit Prayer Group | Our Lady Help of Christians |
| FRI 13TH SEPTEMBER | | | |
| SAT 14TH SEPTEMBER | 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 7 TH SEPTEMBER | 10.00am Jeanne Lebreton-Brown RIP | 6pm (Vigil) Robert Gibson RIP | 6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish |
| SUNDAY 8 TH SEPTEMBER <i>23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i> | 8.30am For the People of the Parish 11am Christopher Williams RIP 6pm Moreno Torrini RIP | 10.30am For the People of the Parish | 9am Helen Forrest RIP (Anniv.) |
| MONDAY 9 TH SEPTEMBER | 9.30am Fr Tom Quinn RIP | 9.30am Edda Ali RIP | |
| TUESDAY 10 TH SEPTEMBER | 9.30am For the Sick & Housebound of the Parish | | NO MASS TODAY |
| WEDNESDAY 11 TH SEPTEMBER | | 9.30am Bridget Furey RIP (Anniv.) | |
| THURSDAY 12 TH SEPTEMBER | 9.30am Fr Tom Quinn RIP | | |
| FRIDAY 13 TH SEPTEMBER <i>St JOHN CHRYSOSTOM, BISHOP & DOCTOR</i> | 9.30am Maura Shanney RIP | | 9.30am For the Sick & Housebound of the Parish |
| SAT 14TH SEPTEMBER <i>THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS</i> | 10.00am For the Sick & Housebound of the Parish | 6pm (Vigil) Robert Gibson RIP | 6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish |
| SUNDAY 15 TH SEPTEMBER <i>24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i> | 8.30am For the People of the Parish 11am Fr Tom Quinn RIP 6pm Jessie Pione RIP | 10.30am James Dixon RIP | 9am Jessie Pione RIP |

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 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

EDDA ALI RIP

The funeral of Edda Ali will take place at St John the Evangelist on **Tuesday 10th September** at **11.00am** followed by cremation 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.

ROSEMARY QUEFFURUS RIP

The funeral service of Rosemary Queffurus will take place at Chilterns Crematorium on **Monday 30th September** at **3.30pm**. We commend her to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for her family at this sad and difficult time.

BEVERLEY BATTEY RIP

Beverley, wife of William (Bill) Battey died recently, our sympathy and prayers go to Bill and his family at this time.

WALKING PILGRIMAGE – VIA FRANCIGENA (TUSCAN SECTION) – 23RD MAY TO 31ST 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*

AUTUMN ALPHA POSTPONED

Due to a number of reasons, the planned autumn term Alpha has been postponed until 2020. Our apologies to those who have already registered. We will make sure you have a place on the next Alpha! A number of our Alpha team members are dealing with difficult personal circumstances at present and it is important that we take care of them, rather than simply keep pushing ahead with Alpha. Alpha is great fun and rewarding, but it is also a lot of work and a big commitment by each of our team members. We ask for your prayers for all those on the Alpha team, including us, and we encourage you to think and pray about who you could invite to Alpha next year. With very best wishes, Mike & Leona Roche (on behalf of the Alpha Service Team)

CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE – SECONDARY TRANSFER 2021

Parents with a child who will be applying for a Secondary transfer place in a Catholic School for **September 2021** are asked to collect a letter and Mass attendance card from Fr Damian or Fr Tim 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.

CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE – Secondary Transfer September 2020 Form Signing

Fr Shaun will be available for the signing of Certificates of Catholic Practice for Secondary Transfer 2020 on the following days: **Saturday 19th October** 10.30am to 11.00am; **Monday 21st October** 6.00pm to 7.00pm and **Tuesday 22nd October** 6.30pm to 7.30pm. All three sessions will be held in Our Lady's Hall, Rickmansworth. There is no need to make an individual appointment; 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.

THANK YOU

The Pione family have been overwhelmed by the outpouring of love and support from the three Parishes. Thank you for the many beautiful cards, emails, calls and Mass offerings. Special thanks to Fr Shaun, Fr Damian and everyone who played a role in or attended Jessie's funeral. With heartfelt thanks, Dave, Katy, Andrea, David, and the whole family.

MARY'S MEALS

Mary's Meals will be here on Sunday 29th September *before* Mass starts - the van will leave just before the start of Mass (by 9am at St John Fisher, 10.30am at St John the Evangelist and 11am at Our Lady's). Please remember to bring along all your unwanted clothing/bedding (*no duvets or pillows please*) in tied sacks. Four full black sacks of good quality clothing will feed a child one good nutritious meal every school day for a whole year! Mary's Meals is a charity that sets up school feeding programmes in communities where poverty and hunger prevent children from gaining an education.

THREE PARISHES WALKING GROUP

The next walk will be on **Saturday 21st September** and will be a circular walk of about 6 miles around Chipperfield in woodland and lovely open countryside. We will meet at the Cart and Horses PH Commonwood WD4 9BA at 9.30am. Everyone most welcome. Any enquiries to Angela awmdumughn@yahoo.co.uk

SVP COMMUNITY LUNCH

The next SVP Community Lunch is on **Sunday 15th September** 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.

CHESS VALLEY SVP & WAITROSE

Waitrose has chosen Chess Valley SVP as one of the Community Matters Charities for the month of September. Please support your local SVP Group if you are shopping at Waitrose during this month.

6TH RICKMANSWORTH SEA SCOUT GROUP

Autumn Jumble Sale & Nearly New will be held on Saturday 14th September at 10.30am.

Book Sale & Quality Items will be held on Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th September 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

FINANCE OPERATIONS AND PREMISES (FOP) COMMITTEE

There will be a meeting of Our Lady's FOP committee on **Wednesday 18th September**. 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 Our Lady's, Mark Blayney, at markblayney@rcdow.org.uk

PARISH CORE GROUP (PCG) MEETING

There will be a meeting of the Our Lady's PCG on **Saturday 21st September**, prior to a meeting of the Joint Parish Pastoral Council (JPPC). If you have any matters that you would like to be raised concerning the **spiritual, pastoral** or **social life** of the parish would you please pass them to Judy Gordon at rickmansworthpcg@rcdow.org.uk, who is the Our Lady's Vice-Chair of the JPPC.

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.

200 CLUB

Congratulations to Mark Kirwan £35, Annie Kent £26.25, John Reid £17.50 and Clare Loose £8.75.

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

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

FRANCIS ARTHUR RODERICK (ROD) DE PAULA HANIKA RIP

It is with sadness that we share the death of Rod de Paula Hanika. The funeral will take place at St Columba's Church, Chesham on Tuesday 10th September at 11.30am. We commend him to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for his family at this sad and difficult time.

100 CLUB

Congratulations to our July winners - Sean Fagan, Mary Fagan and Sandra Miller; and also to our August winners - Mrs Bugler, Mr J Elsdon and Anjali Button.

FINANCE OPERATIONS AND PREMISES (FOP) COMMITTEE

There will be a meeting of St John's FOP committee on **Tuesday 24th September**. 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's FOP, Sandra Miller, at sandramiller@rcdow.org.uk

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

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 | | |
| 7 & 8 Sept. | J Ingham | S Hoy | J McEwen | M Fields | L Munro | F Holly | Carolyn & Kate | V Terrill |
| 14 & 15 Sept. | A Roberts | E O'Sullivan | P Goble | M Calvert | T D'Urso | L Turnbull | Peter & Yasmin | C Steet |

NOTICES

ST PAUL'S (HAREFIELD) - ARTS AFTERNOON SUNDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER 3.00PM - 6.00PM

Come along to enjoy an afternoon's entertainment of talent and witness the positive effect it has on our lives. There will be song, verse, crafts, music, artwork and portrait sketches to name but a few. Sample refreshments from a successful cooking entrepreneur and hear her story. There will be a raffle to raise money for Dementia UK and Papyrus (prevention of young suicide) - many of the prizes donated by local businesses. We look forward to welcoming you

INVITATION CAFOD INFORMATION AFTERNOON - Wednesday 18th September

CAFOD will be hosting a supporter's information afternoon with a guest speaker, Laura Ouseley, who has first-hand experience of our work in Overseas. Come and hear how CAFOD is helping communities, thanks to your support. Meeting will take place from 2.30pm – 4.00pm at CAFOD's Volunteer Centre, 1st Floor, Church of Christ the King, 29 Bramley Road, Oakwood, N14 4HE. Bookings taken on 0208 449 6970 or e mail westminster@cafod.org.uk

WESTMINSTER DIOCESE JOB VACANCIES

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