



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>

## SENIOR LEADERSHIP 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)

### Rickmansworth

Paul Forrest  
[pga.forrest@btinternet.com](mailto:pga.forrest@btinternet.com)

### Chorleywood

Anne Lorrimer-Roberts  
[anne@themessagemachine.com](mailto:anne@themessagemachine.com)

### Mill End

Geraldine Page  
[geraldine.page21@gmail.com](mailto:geraldine.page21@gmail.com)

Address for all correspondence:

5 Park Road, Rickmansworth  
WD3 1HU

Telephone: 01923 773387



@ChessValleyRC

## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD 5<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2020

### SUNDAY THOUGHT

On the Epiphany of the Lord, we hear about gifts in the Gospel reading. The image of gift is an appropriate one since at Epiphany we acknowledge and celebrate the gift of God's saving grace offered to everyone in the birth of Jesus Christ.

Each Epiphany, the Gospel reading is Matthew's account of the visit of the Magi. Three important truths are revealed in this sacred story. First, God alone directs salvation history. King Herod tried to exercise control over the new-born Christ, assembling the chief priests and scribes of the people and meeting secretly with the Magi in an attempt to conceal his true motives to harm the infant. But God protected the baby Jesus, Mary and Joseph, and the Magi, directing them all to safety. A second truth is that God prepared us for this gift through the words of the Jewish prophets. We hear that the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem fulfils what the prophet Micah had foretold nearly eight centuries earlier: "And you, Bethlehem, ... out of you will come a leader who will shepherd my people Israel." A third revealed truth is that Jesus is God's gift to all nations. The Magi who brought gifts to Jesus are traditionally identified as Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar. These three astrologers from the East represented the other major nations of the world at the time of Christ.

Epiphany celebrates what the visit of the Magi reveals to us: God's gift – the gift of his firstborn Son – is a gift offered to all people, for which God has long-prepared the world.

## 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

## AT THE MASS DURING THE DAY

**Entrance Antiphon:** Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Isaiah 60:1-6

**Response to Psalm:** All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Ephesians 3:2-3. 5-6

**Gospel:** Matthew 2:1-12

**Communion Antiphon:** We have seen his star in the East, and have come with gifts to adore the Lord

### Next Sunday's Readings

Isaiah 42:1-4. 6-7; Acts 10:34-38; Matthew 3:13-17 (Gospel)

## YOUTH MINISTRY

Belinda Calen - Alpha Youth:  
[rickmansworthalphayouth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworthalphayouth@rcdow.org.uk)

Caitlin Scott - Confirmation:  
[rickmansworthconfirmation@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworthconfirmation@rcdow.org.uk)

Margaret Simon - Youth  
Ministry Leadership Team:  
[rickmansworthyouth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworthyouth@rcdow.org.uk)

## LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION

**Rickmansworth:** Envs £515.00; Loose £235.00; S/Orders £703.08; **Total £1453.08**

**Mill End:** Envs: £289.00; Loose: £164.64; Standing Orders: £176.96 **Total: £630.60**

**Chorleywood:** The Offertory collection for the month of December - **£2507.68**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY**

## FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

<b>SUN 5<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY</b>			
<b>MON 6<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY</b>	10.30am - 12.30pm 8.00pm	Mum's Connect - Hall Choir Practice	St John the Evangelist St John the Evangelist
<b>TUE 7<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY</b>			
<b>WED 8<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY</b>			
<b>THU 9<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY</b>	8.00pm	Life in the Spirit Prayer Group	Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>FRI 10<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY</b>	10.00am	Coffee after Mass for all - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>SAT 11<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY</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

	<b>Our Lady Help of Christians</b>	<b>St John the Evangelist</b>	<b>St John Fisher</b>
<b>SATURDAY</b> 4 <sup>TH</sup> JANUARY	<b>10.00am</b> For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish	<b>6pm</b> (Vigil) Mike & Margaret Tighe	<b>6pm</b> (Vigil) Patrick Dowling RIP
<b>SUNDAY</b> 5 <sup>TH</sup> JANUARY <i>THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD</i>	<b>8.30am</b> For the People of the Parish <b>11am</b> Michael Jubber RIP (Anniv.) <b>6pm</b> Mass of Thanksgiving for the Ordination of Fr Anthony Armstrong to the Priesthood	<b>10.30am</b> Anne Prendergast RIP	<b>9am</b> For the People of the Parish
<b>MONDAY</b> 6 <sup>TH</sup> JANUARY	<b>9.30am</b> Teresa Bryan RIP	<b>9.30am</b> Frank De Sousa RIP	
<b>TUESDAY</b> 7 <sup>TH</sup> JANUARY	<b>9.30am</b> For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish		<b>NO MASS TODAY</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 8 <sup>TH</sup> JANUARY		<b>9.30am</b> John & Nora O'Donoghue RIP	
<b>THURSDAY</b> 9 <sup>TH</sup> JANUARY	<b>9.30am</b> In Thanksgiving		
<b>FRIDAY</b> 10 <sup>TH</sup> JANUARY	<b>9.30am</b> Niall McNamara (Ints.)		<b>9.30am</b> Fr Bernard Crowe RIP
<b>SATURDAY</b> 11 <sup>TH</sup> JANUARY	<b>10.00am</b> In Thanksgiving	<b>6pm</b> (Vigil) Eamon Keely & Family	<b>6pm</b> (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
<b>SUNDAY</b> 12 <sup>TH</sup> JANUARY <i>THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD</i>	<b>8.30am</b> Brian Feehely RIP (Anniv.) <b>11am</b> For the People of the Parish <b>6pm</b> Mary Quilty RIP (Anniv.)	<b>10.30am</b> Mary & Billy Kerins (Ints.)	<b>9am</b> Private Intention

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISHES

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

**St John the Evangelist:** Rita Murray, John Connor, Michael Dixon, Alfredo Rock and Joan Hart

**St John Fisher:** Nora O'Toole, Francis De Souza, Georgina Kelham, Pete Murray, Steve Kibbey, Matthew Leone, Jean-Pierre Roche, Angela Hoy, Pat Finucane, Colin Dowling, Kitty Finucane, Don Williamson, Anne Trenchard, Vicky Williams, Paul Kennett and Ann Penn

## NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

### FR ANTHONY ARMSTRONG – MASS OF THANKSGIVING

At the 6.00pm Mass on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at Our Lady's, Rickmansworth, Fr Anthony Armstrong will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving for his ordination to the priesthood, which took place on 1<sup>st</sup> November this year in the USA. The Mass will be followed by light refreshments in the hall. We hope that many parishioners will come and share in this special celebration.

### PAT BREEN RIP

The funeral of Pat Breen will take place at Our Lady Help of Christians at 11.30am on **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January**, 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.

### 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 18<sup>th</sup> January at 2.00pm in Our Lady's hall.

### SVP COMMUNITY LUNCH

The next SVP Community Lunch is on **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> 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.

### CONFIRMATION

For all those in year nine or above, who would like to make their confirmation, our confirmation program will be starting in early 2020. We will be looking at Choosing your purpose, Prayer, the Creed and Reconciliation, as well as a discernment evening. Throughout these sessions we want you to experience the love that God has for you. For more information please speak to Caitlin Scott, Roisin McAleavy or Jessica Kenny, or email [rickmansworthconfirmation@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworthconfirmation@rcdow.org.uk)

### 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*

### MUM'S CONNECT - 10.30AM TO 12.30PM IN ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST'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](mailto:caitbos22@gmail.com) or 07484 754843.

### SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL (SVP)

Are appealing for donations of long-life milk, toilet rolls and cleaning detergents for the Catholic Worker Farm who provide accommodation for refugees at the farm and at Mary House. Collection boxes in the church porches. *Could we politely ask that nothing else be left in the porch other than the requested items.* Thank you.

### CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE – IMPORTANT REMINDER TO PARENTS

Parents currently collecting Mass attendance stickers for primary or secondary places in catholic schools are reminded to 1). Put cello-tape over each row once it is completed, so that stickers will not peel off over time and 2). Take regular photographs of the Mass attendance card (making sure the child's name is visible). This will ensure that you have evidence of Sunday Mass attendance should your card become lost. Please take great care of your Mass attendance card – remember that this is the evidence on which Certificates of Catholic Practice are issued.

### WATFORD, HEMEL AND ST ALBANS NHS HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY

On admission to hospital, please ensure that your religion is registered and ask for a visit from hospital chaplaincy team. Chaplains visit the wards during the week and will organise sacramental and pastoral care for you; they also provide an 'on-call' service in case of emergency. Please let Fr Shaun or Fr Damian know if you or a close relative are in hospital. To contact the hospital chaplaincy directly by calling **01923 217994** or **0777 659 8704** referrals can also be made via email: [spiritualcare@whht.nhs.uk](mailto:spiritualcare@whht.nhs.uk)

### WESTMINSTER DIOCESE JOB VACANCIES

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

### 6<sup>TH</sup> RICKMANSWORTH SEA SCOUT GROUP

We are looking for additional people to join our team of adult leaders working with children in any of our three sections Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. *This could be your opportunity to make a difference for the young people of the parishes.* New leaders will have plenty of support from the other leaders within the Group. If you would like to know more about what is involved in a leadership role, please contact our Group Scout Leader - Chris Doran at [6thRickySeaScouts@gmail.com](mailto:6thRickySeaScouts@gmail.com) or call 07792 103736. For places in Scouts, Cubs and Beavers, please register your interest via our website: [www.6thrickyseascouts.co.uk](http://www.6thrickyseascouts.co.uk)

## OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

### THANK YOU

I wish to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to everyone who played any part in making our Christmas Masses so special. Particular thanks to our organists Susana Tierney, Katy Pione and Austin Finan, to Cormac Purtill for coordinating the music and to the Choir, and the Folk Group for the wonderful music at all the Masses. Thanks too to Annie Kent and her team of flower arrangers and helpers for decorating the church so beautifully, to the parishioners who helped with the children's presentation of the Nativity and to our Welcomers, Church Cleaners, Sacristans, Altar Servers, Readers and Ministers of Communion. The hard work of so many people ensured worthy, beautiful and joyful celebrations of our Saviour's birth. On behalf of Fr Damian and myself, I also wish to express our thanks for the many Christmas cards and gifts that we have received from parishioners. Your generosity and kindness is very much appreciated. *Fr Shaun*

### A MESSAGE FROM FR JIM DUFFY

Once again, this year, I was truly overwhelmed and moved by the sheer volume of Christmas cards which I received, with greetings, good wishes, kind comments, many gifts and friendly visits. I am truly grateful. Of course I do not have everybody's address in order to respond personally, so I would ask that all accept this note as a sincere and heartfelt 'thank you'. It is nice to know that I am still not yet forgotten. I send good wishes to everybody in the parish praying that the blessings of Christmas may extend well into this new year of 2020. *Fr Jim*

### BOOKS

A number of parishioners have given their faith based books to the parish over the years. It would be good to pass them on. As a trial a small number of books will be on display each week in the porch for people to take. If you find them helpful keep them or pass them on. Please do get reading starting with books on Bible study!

### TOY DONATION APPEAL

Do you have any spare toys you could donate to our Sunday Crèche group? Please contact Kerry at the parish office if you are able to help.

## ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

### THANK YOU

I wish to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to everyone who played any part in making our Christmas Masses so special. Particular thanks to Katy Pione, Jo Rodrigues, and the choir for the wonderful music, to Liz Townsend and all those who helped with the children's Nativity presentation and to our Welcomers, Church Cleaners, Readers, Altar Servers and Ministers of Communion. Special thanks to Mary Fagan and Geraldine Page for all their hard work behind the scenes. The hard work and dedication of so many people ensured worthy, beautiful and joyful celebrations of our Saviour's birth. On behalf of Fr Damian and myself, I also wish to express our thanks for the many Christmas cards and gifts that we have received from parishioners. Your generosity and kindness is very much appreciated. *Fr Shaun*

### MILL END PARISH CORE GROUP (PCG) MEETING

There will be a meeting of the St John Evangelist PCG on **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> January**, 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 Maria Crossland at [millendpcg@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:millendpcg@rcdow.org.uk), who is the St John Evangelist Vice-Chair of the JPPC.

**100 CLUB** - congratulations to Peter Waters (£100.00), Adrian Ramsden (£50.00), Mary Lavery (£30.00).

**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

### THANK YOU

I wish to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to everyone who played any part in making our Christmas Masses so special. Particular thanks to Patricia O'Sullivan and the instrumentalists and the choir, for the wonderful music, to those who helped decorate the church and arranged the flowers, and to our Welcomers, Readers, Altar Servers and Ministers of Communion. The hard work of so many people ensured worthy, beautiful and joyful celebrations of our Saviour's birth.

On behalf of Fr Damian and myself, I also wish to express our thanks for the many Christmas cards and gifts that we received from parishioners. Your generosity and kindness is very much appreciated. *Fr Shaun*

### CHILDREN'S LITURGY

We now only have three catechists to lead the Children's Liturgy at the 9.00am Mass. This is an insufficient number to be able to run the Children's Liturgy with consistency or reliability. We are, therefore, asking for volunteers to step-up to join the team on a rota basis. You will need to apply for a Diocesan DBS check, but our Parish Safeguarding Representative will take you through this process. Sadly, if no volunteers come forward it is possible that we will have to discontinue the Children's Liturgy.

### MISSIO/APF/RED BOXES.

Thank you so much for your support of our Missionaries during 2019. I am very happy to report that we collected £544.69, with Gift Aid added (£53.40) this gives a total of £598.09. A very good response from our little parish. Thanks again.

ROTAS	Saturday 6.00pm Mass			Sunday 9.00am Mass			Sunday Counters	Laundry
	Welcomer	Reader	MoC	Welcomer	Reader	Communion		
4 & 5 Jan.	M Foggo	S Hoy	E O'Sullivan	M Fields	A Opie	J Hale		C Steet
11 & 12 Jan.	J Ingham	A Roberts	C Johnson	J Hale	K Cottingham	AM Farnsworth		A McReynolds