



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>

ENCOUNTERING JESUS, SERVING OTHERS

SENIOR LEADERSHIP 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

Rickmansworth

Paul Forrest
pga.forrest@btinternet.com

Chorleywood

Anne Lorrimer-Roberts
anne@themessagemachine.com

Mill End

Geraldine Page
geraldine.page21@gmail.com

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WD3 1HU
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 @ChessValleyRC

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) - 9TH FEBRUARY 2020

SUNDAY THOUGHT

You are the light of the world. We expect Jesus to say of himself *I am the light of the world*, as he does in John's Gospel. After all, he is God's Son. But it should take us aback a little when Jesus tells us that we also are the light of the world.

Jesus is the Light, and for several weeks we have heard Scripture characterize Jesus in this way. On the Solemnity of the Epiphany, Isaiah's words *Arise, shine out Jerusalem, for your light has come* complemented Matthew's account of the star over the stable. Two weeks ago, Matthew borrowed the metaphor again as he paraphrased Isaiah to describe Jesus taking up his ministry in Galilee: *The people that lived in darkness has seen a great light.* Christ is certainly the sun in the centre of our Christian universe. And yet he calls us lights as well and tells us our light must shine before others. How will our light shine? By reflecting his light and teaching through what we do and what we say: *that, seeing your goods works, they may give praise to your Father in heaven.* In this way, the loving acts of service Christ has taught his disciples to perform become a means of evangelising. These acts will bring so much light and goodness into the world that people will know instantly they come from God and will turn to praise him. It is by reflecting the light of Christ that we shine out to others.

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:

O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.

1st Reading:

Isaiah 58:7-10

Response to Psalm:

The good man is a light in the darkness for the upright.

2nd Reading:

1 Corinthians 2:1-5

Gospel:

Matthew 5:13-16

Communion Antiphon:

Let them thank the Lord for his mercy, his wonders for the children of men, for he satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry he fills with good things.

Next Sunday's Readings

Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20; 1 Corinthians 2:6-10; Matthew 5:17-37 (Gospel)

YOUTH MINISTRY

Belinda Calen - Alpha Youth:

rickmansworthalphayouth@rcdow.org.uk

Caitlin Scott - Confirmation:

rickmansworthconfirmation@rcdow.org.uk

Margaret Simon - Youth

Ministry Leadership Team:

rickmansworthyouth@rcdow.org.uk

LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION

Rickmansworth: Envs £534.98; Loose £339.94; S/Orders £647.01; **Total £1521.93**

Mill End: Envs: £360.50; Loose: £185.76; Standing Orders: £159.08 **Total: £705.34**

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

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

SUN 9TH FEBRUARY	9.30am 12 noon	Coffee after Mass for all - Hall Annual Parish Meeting - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist
MON 10TH FEBRUARY	10.30am - 12.30pm 7.30pm 8.00pm	Mum's Connect - Hall RCIA Choir Practice	St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist
TUE 11TH FEBRUARY	10.00am for 10.15am 7.30pm 7.30pm	Lectio Divina - Upper Room Alpha - Invitation to pray- Church Alpha - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
WED 12TH FEBRUARY			
THU 13TH FEBRUARY	2.15pm for 2.30pm 8.00pm	Quiet Space Life in the Spirit Prayer Group	St Peter's, Mill End Our Lady Help of Christians
FRI 14TH FEBRUARY	10.00am	Coffee after Mass for all - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
SAT 15TH FEBRUARY	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 8 TH FEBRUARY	10.00am Mgr Charles John Klyberg RIP	6pm (Vigil) Frank Rice RIP (Anniv.)	6pm (Vigil) John Barnett RIP (Anniv.)
SUNDAY 9 TH FEBRUARY <i>FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am Mgr Charles John Klyberg RIP 11am For the People of the Parish 6pm Francie Mohan RIP	10.30am Tony Barrett RIP	9am For the People of the Parish
MONDAY 10 TH FEBRUARY <i>St SCHOLASTICA, VIRGIN</i>	9.30am Mgr Charles John Klyberg RIP	9.30am Patsy Callaghan RIP	
TUESDAY 11 TH FEBRUARY	9.30am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish		9.30am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish
WEDNESDAY 12 TH FEBRUARY		9.30am Rosanna Lawlor (Ints.)	
THURSDAY 13 TH FEBRUARY	9.30am Mgr Charles John Klyberg RIP		
FRIDAY 14 TH FEBRUARY <i>SS CYRIL, MONTH & METHODIUS, BISHOP</i>	9.30am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish		9.30am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish
SATURDAY 15 TH FEBRUARY	10.00am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish	6pm (Vigil) Anne Gemmell (Ints.)	6pm (Vigil) Joyce Dowling RIP (Anniv.)
SUNDAY 16 TH FEBRUARY <i>SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am Christina Wraight RIP 11am Michael Townend RIP (Anniv.) 6pm Merwyn Mascarenhas RIP	10.30am May Slater RIP (Anniv.)	9am For the People of the Parish

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 Townend 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

A WORD FOR LENT

Following on in this year's theme of The Year of the Word, the Diocese of Westminster together with Redemptorist Publications have produced a 6 week Lent programme for 2020 called 'A Word for Lent'. Using sacred scripture and sacred art, we are taken on a Lenten journey seeing salvation through the eyes of Gospel women and men. Groups will start week commencing 17 February. If you would be interested in participating, there is a sign up sheet at the back of the church or you can e-mail the discipleship team on chessvalleydiscipleshipgroups@rcdow.org.uk. We would be particularly grateful if you could host or lead a group as this will increase the number of groups that can run giving more choice for participation. There will be a small charge to cover the cost of the accompanying book. Many thanks, *The Discipleship Team*.

SVP NATIONAL RAFFLE

SVP members will be selling tickets for the SVP National Raffle after all Masses this weekend (8th/9th February). The National Raffle is the biggest annual fundraising event held by the SVP, a percentage of which goes to your local Chess Valley SVP group. Books are just £5 each. Please support us in helping the people who need it most.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETINGS (APMs)

The APMs for the three parishes will take place as follows:

Mill End – Sunday 9th February 2020 at 12 noon – Parish Centre

Rickmansworth – Sunday 23rd February 2020 at 3.00pm – Parish Hall

Chorleywood – Monday 2nd March 2020 at 7.30pm – Hill Cottage

There are no elections to the Joint Parish Pastoral Council (JPPC) this year, but there will be reports on various aspects of parish life, a report on the parish finances for 2019 and the opportunity for parishioners to ask questions. All parishioners are warmly invited to attend the APM of their respective parish.

ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 30th May 2019 at 3.00pm.

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 2020. 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).

ALPHA - INVITATION TO PRAY

We are inviting all parishioners to join some of the Alpha team at Our Lady Help of Christians church for one or more of the next eight Tuesdays at 7.30-8.30pm to pray for the guests and team attending Alpha. In addition to this we would also love to invite you to pray daily for our parish community and its ongoing formation. Maybe you could consider praying the following prayer:

Thank you loving Father for all those you have called to participate in Alpha; we ask your blessing upon all, both team and guests. Without you we can do nothing you are the Way, the Truth and the Life. Pour out your Holy Spirit and abundant blessings and gifts during this Alpha. May Alpha ignite or re-ignite the flame of faith in all hearts so that we may experience the wonder, joy and hope that being in relationship with you brings. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit... Amen

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

The origins of WDP date back to 19th century in USA and Canada when Christian women from different denominations started organising days of prayer for missionary work. Gradually the movement spread throughout the world and to the UK as well, where the first service was held in Scotland in 1930. Now it is a truly international and ecumenical world day of prayer with about 170 countries participating. Every year the focus is on a different country and the service is written by the women of that country and then translated into over 60 languages and 1000 dialects. In the Rickmansworth area the service rotates among the different participating churches and is a great opportunity for meeting and praying with fellow believers. This year we are celebrating the WDP on **Friday 6th March at 2.00pm** at one of our own parishes - St John the Evangelist, Mill End. The time to be confirmed. This year's service has been written by the women of Zimbabwe. We extend a warm invitation to all parishioners – men, women and children – to join us. Some children from St John's School will also be taking part in the service. *Geraldine and Cristina*.

SVP COMMUNITY LUNCH

The next SVP Community Lunch is on **Sunday 16th February** 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.

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 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.

VINNIE PACKS

The SVP are distributing **11,500 Vinnie Packs** containing cold weather essentials to the homeless this winter. Please could you consider sponsoring packs at a suggested donation of £3.50 per pack? Donations can be sent to **Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London SW1P 9EZ** with cheques made out to SVP or by bank transfer to NatWest **sort code 60-60-04, account no. 4608 8237**. Thank you so much for your support.

CAP – CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY

The following course will run at Mill End Baptist Church, Field Way, Rickmansworth, WD3 7EJ. This course is 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 Thursday 20th February 1.00pm. Contact Annabel Brown on 07849678171 to find out more.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

FINANCE OPERATIONS AND PREMISES (FOP) COMMITTEE

After some six years of service on the Parish Finance Committee, Alex Kenny has decided that it is time for him to step down from this role. On behalf of myself and the whole parish, I wish to express grateful thanks to Alex for the huge contribution that he has made to the work of the Finance Committee over that time and particularly for the way that he has assisted and supported Kerry Van Rensburg, our Parish Administrator, in the preparation of the Annual Financial Return (AFR) to the Diocese. I am delighted to say that Carol Bartlett has accepted my invitation to join the FOP Committee and take over Alex's work on the AFR. *Fr Shaun*

COFFEE AFTER 8.30AM MASS

Please join us in the hall for a catch up and make new parish friends at our coffee morning after Mass this Sunday.

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 Henry Egbu at hegbu3@gmail.com. Thank you.

Creche Toy Appeal - thank you to all who very generously donated their spare/unwanted toys, there was a fantastic response and we now have more than enough toys for the children.

REMINDER

The books on display in the porch have been donated and are for people to take and read. If you find them helpful please keep them or pass them on.

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

FINANCE OPERATIONS AND PREMISES (FOP) COMMITTEE

There will be a meeting of St John's FOP committee on **Tuesday 11th February**. 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

CHILDREN IN THE PORCH

For both safe-guarding and health and safety reasons it is very important that children are not left unattended in the porch area. If your child needs to be in the porch please remain with them at all times. We have discovered that children have been pushing papers through the vents of the fan heater in the porch. This is clearly a fire hazard. We would be grateful to any parents with children in the porch to please keep a close eye on them so that this does not happen in the future.

HALL BOOKINGS

Please contact Kerry at the parish office if you would like to book the hall.

ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

FINANCE OPERATIONS AND PREMISES (FOP) COMMITTEE

There will be a meeting of St John Fisher's FOP committee on **Monday 10th February**. 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

A NIGHT AT THE OPERA

Parishioners who attended the screening of La Boheme had a very enjoyable evening. Meeting for drinks and a chat in the bar beforehand and enjoying the excellent performance and music. The beauty of screening is that everyone felt they had 'front of house' seats! Thank you to all those who attended. A big thank you also to our Social Events Committee for organising this lovely event.

FIRE WARDEN TRAINING

Safety is our key responsibility as a Parish community, particularly to ensure the church is evacuated quickly and safely in case of fire. For this reason, a simple two Fire Warden system will be introduced for Saturday and Sunday Masses and festivals/solemnities when the church is full. A copy of the Fire Warden notes is on the noticeboard. It is not an onerous duty as action is only required in the unlikely event of a fire, one warden responsible for evacuating people at the front and the second for evacuating those at the back. A rota is not needed as wardens volunteer on arrival for each service. If you are willing to consider acting as a fire warden, please contact Alan Opie (Alan.opie@live.co.uk).

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - CHORLEYWOOD WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE - 2.00PM ON FRIDAY 6TH MARCH

This year's service will be held at the Free Church in Hillside Road. It has been put together by the women of Zimbabwe on the theme "Rise! Take Your Mat and Walk". All are most welcome and there will be refreshments afterwards.

ROTAS	Saturday 6.00pm Mass			Sunday 9.00am Mass			Sunday Counters	Laundry
	Welcomer	Reader	MoC	Welcomer	Reader	Communion		
8 & 9 Feb.	C Pierce	M Foggo	C Johnson	M Mackie	L Munro	J Hale	Peter & Carolyn	C Steet
15 & 16 Feb.	M Foggo	T Hartney	J McEwen	U Lean	J Hale	AM Farnsworth	Kate & Una	A McReynolds

DIOCESAN NOTICES

WESTMINSTER DIOCESE JOB VACANCIES

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