



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

Address for all correspondence:
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WD3 1HU
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 @ChessValleyRC

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) - 16TH FEBRUARY 2020

SUNDAY THOUGHT

‘An eye for an eye’ may sound like a barbaric form of justice, but it was ahead of its time. While most ancient cultures had laws that favoured the wealthy, Hebrew law limited the punishment to ‘a tooth for a tooth’ (and no more), regardless of one’s social status. Jesus took this concept one step further. Rather than limiting retaliation, he wanted to eliminate it altogether.

Jesus looked beyond the letter of the law to the spirit of the law. The Pharisees were using the letter of the law to find loopholes that allowed them to justify their lifestyles. Today, many people think the concept of the ‘spirit of the law’ means a loose application of the law. But for Jesus, obeying the spirit of the law often meant a stricter application. It meant obeying the intention of the law. In this case, Jesus’ priority is reconciliation, not retaliation.

From today’s Gospel reading come several familiar expressions: ‘turn the other cheek’, ‘the shirt off your back’ and ‘go the extra mile’. All of them concern going beyond mere equity toward a justice that gives more than it receives – even to the point of responding to an attack with an offer of friendship. Jesus wants us to stop the cycle of confrontation and turn it round with generosity.

When Jesus tells us to love our enemies, he’s not talking about an intangible emotion. Love is a verb – an action word – and to love your enemy means to respond with loving action. When Jesus tells us to be perfect, he’s telling us to show unconditional generosity in any conflict, even to those who are ungrateful, just as our heavenly Father would.

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 Lord, I trust in your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

1st Reading:

Leviticus 19:1-2. 17-18

Response to Psalm:

The Lord is compassion and love.

2nd Reading:

1 Corinthians 3:16-23

Gospel:

Matthew 5:38-48

Communion Antiphon:

I will recount all your wonders, I will rejoice in you and be glad, and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.

Next Sunday’s Readings

Genesis 2:7-9. 3:1-7; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11 (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 £269.91; Loose £292.39; S/Orders £647.01; **Total £1209.31**

Mill End: Envs: £321.10; Loose: £123.51; Standing Orders: £159.08 **Total: £603.69**

Chorleywood: The Offertory collection for the month of January - **£2592.88**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

SUN 23RD FEBRUARY	11.30am 3.00pm	Sunday Brunch - Hall Annual Parish Meeting	St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
MON 24TH 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 25TH FEBRUARY	10.00am 7.30pm 7.30pm	SVP Meeting Alpha - Invitation to pray- Church Alpha - Hall	St John Fisher Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
WED 26TH FEBRUARY			
THU 27TH FEBRUARY	8.00pm	Life in the Spirit Prayer Group	Our Lady Help of Christians
FRI 28TH FEBRUARY	10.00am 11.30am	Coffee after Mass for all - Hall Funeral - Mary Phillips RIP	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
SAT 29TH 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 22ND FEBRUARY <i>THE CHAIR OF ST PETER</i> <i>THE APOSTLE</i>	10.00am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish	6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish	6pm (Vigil) Irene Foggo RIP (Anniv.)
SUNDAY 23RD FEBRUARY <i>SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am Anna Khurwal RIP (Anniv.) 11am Sheila Sharp RIP 6pm For the People of the Parish	10.30am Jim Ruddy RIP	9am For the People of the Parish
MONDAY 24TH FEBRUARY	9.30am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish	9.30am Mary Kerins (Ints.)	
TUESDAY 25TH FEBRUARY	9.30am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish		9.30am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish
WED 26TH FEBRUARY <i>ASH WEDNESDAY</i>	9.30am For the People of the Parish 8.00pm For the People of the Parish	9.30am For the People of the Parish	8.00pm For the People of the Parish
THURSDAY 27TH FEBRUARY	9.30am Mgr Charles John Klyberg RIP		
FRIDAY 28TH FEBRUARY	9.30am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish		9.30am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish
SATURDAY 29TH FEBRUARY	10.00am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish	6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish	6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
SUNDAY 1ST MARCH <i>FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT</i>	8.30am Jacqueline Grove RIP (Anniv.) 11am Mary Robinson RIP 6pm For the People of the Parish	10.30am Paddy Lewin RIP	9am Peter Price RIP

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, Anne Trenchard, Vicky Williams, Paul Kennett

NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

CARDINAL'S LENTEN APPEAL 2020

Cardinal Nichols thanks you for your generous support for the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal. Your donations help fund initiatives in parishes, schools and charities in three mission areas. 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. The Church's Service in Society: putting our faith into action by serving poor, lonely and marginalised people. This year, the Cardinal is asking us to think about families who are struggling to put food on the table, even though they may be in work. Sadly, poverty is deepening across our Diocese and more people are turning to foodbanks for help. For children who get free meals at school, the holidays can be a time of hunger because the family budget doesn't stretch to cover three meals a day. One initiative the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal supports is school holiday clubs, where children can have fun, and prepare and eat a healthy meal during the school holidays. Please take a donation leaflet as you leave Mass today. These can be returned any time during Lent and placed in the collection basket at Mass.

MARY PHILLIPS RIP

The funeral of Mary Phillips will take place at Our Lady Help of Christians at **11.30am on Friday 28th February**, followed by committal at Breakspear Crematorium. We commend her to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for her family at this sad and difficult time.

DON WILLIAMSON RIP

The funeral of Don Williamson will take place at Our Lady Help of Christians at **11.00am on Friday 6th March**, followed by burial at Chorleywood Lawn Cemetery. We commend him to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for his family at this sad and difficult time.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the solemn season of Lent, is on 26th February. Masses (with the imposition of ashes) across the three parishes will be as follows: 9.30am at St John the Evangelist; 9.30am and 8.00pm at Our Lady Help of Christians, 8.00pm at St John Fisher.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETINGS (APMs)

The APMs will take place as follows:

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.

LENTEN BOOKLETS

Walk with Me Booklets (£1 per booklet) and A Word for Lent (£3 per booklet) are now available.

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 six 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. Refreshments will be served in the hall afterwards. *Geraldine and Cristina.*

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.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

THE AFTERPARTY

The Afterparty resumes on **Sunday 1st March** after the 6.00pm Mass so starts at about 7.00pm, in the parish hall just behind Our Lady's church. There will be tea and hot chocolate waiting for you, as well as ping pong and table football. Everyone is warmly invited to come along.

CRÈCHE

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.

200 CLUB - congratulations to C Edwards £33, C Williamson £24.75, S Godfrey £16.50 and A Parker £8.25

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

MONEY MATTERS

Copies of the "Money Matters" summary of the 2019 Annual Financial Report to the Diocese are available in the porch. Parishioners are invited to take a copy home with them.

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.

SUNDAY BRUNCH AT ST JOHN'S

Sunday Brunch at St John's (with bacon and sausage rolls) will take place on **Sunday 23rd February** 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

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).

SCRAP METAL FOR AFRICAN ORPHANAGE

We will shortly be selling our latest batch of scrap metal and silver foil etc. If you have any please contact Mary Latimer 284975 to arrange collection. Many thanks.

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		
22 & 23 Feb.	J Ingham	L Johnson	E O'Sullivan	J Hale	J Donohoe	E Price	Marguerite & Patsy	J Whelan
29/02 & 1/03	A Roberts	C Johnson	P Goble	M Fields	H McGrath	F Holly	Yasmin & Una	S Tarrant

DIOCESAN NOTICES

EU SETTLED STATUS

All EU, EEA and Swiss citizens living in the UK are required by the government to apply through its Settlement Scheme to continue living, working and accessing services here. The deadline for applications is 30 June 2021. Details and links to the application process can be found at: gov.uk/eusettledstatus Please bring this to the attention of friends, family members and fellow parishioners who may need to apply. Information on assistance for those who may have difficulty applying is available at: gov.uk/help-eu-settlement-scheme The Catholic Church in England and Wales stands in solidarity with all European citizens who have made their homes here. They are a valued part of our parishes, schools and communities.

WESTMINSTER DIOCESE JOB VACANCIES

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