



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
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WD3 1HU
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 @ChessValleyRC

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

SUNDAY THOUGHT

Today's First and Second Reading teach about Wisdom. In the Second Reading, Paul speaks of God's wisdom as being mysterious and often hidden from those who consider themselves wise. This is because pride can prevent us from listening to God. But because only God can see the future, only God really knows what is best for us.

The First Reading begins with a parallelism – a form of Hebrew poetry in two lines that convey the same message two different ways: "If you wish, you can keep the commandments; to behave faithfully is within your power". We are told that choosing to keep the commandments is a form of trust in God. When we choose to keep the commandments, we are admitting that God's wisdom is more trustworthy than our own.

God's wisdom often seems to be the opposite of what we are conditioned to think. For example, Jesus said that if you want to be great, you must put your neighbour first; if you want to win a conflict with your neighbour, you have to win them over with reconciliation. But the most counter-intuitive wisdom is what Jesus did on the cross – he achieved victory through self-sacrifice.

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:

Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me.
For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me,
for the sake of your name.

1st Reading:

Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20

Response to Psalm:

They are happy who follow God's law!

2nd Reading:

1 Corinthians 2:6-10

Gospel:

Matthew 5:17-37

Communion Antiphon:

They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord
gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.

Next Sunday's Readings

Leviticus 19:1-2. 17-18; 1 Corinthians 3:16-23; Matthew 5:38-48 (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 £409.56; Loose £241.20; S/Orders £647.01; **Total £1297.77**

Mill End: Envs: £290.00; Loose: £177.74; Standing Orders: £159.08 **Total: £626.82**

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

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

SUN 16TH FEBRUARY	10.00am 12.30pm	Coffee and Tea SVP Community Lunch - Hall	St John Fisher St John's School
MON 17TH FEBRUARY	10.30am - 12.30pm 8.00pm	Mum's Connect - Hall Choir Practice	St John the Evangelist St John the Evangelist
TUE 18TH FEBRUARY	7.30pm 7.30pm	Alpha - Invitation to pray- Church Alpha - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
WED 19TH FEBRUARY			
THU 20TH FEBRUARY	8.00pm	Life in the Spirit Prayer Group	Our Lady Help of Christians
FRI 21ST FEBRUARY	10.00am	Coffee after Mass for all - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
SAT 22ND 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 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
MONDAY 17 TH FEBRUARY	9.30am Isabel Vina RIP	9.30am Rainer Steinbach RIP	
TUESDAY 18 TH FEBRUARY	9.30am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish		9.30am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish
WEDNESDAY 19 TH FEBRUARY		9.30am Tom Guilfoyle RIP	
THURSDAY 20 TH FEBRUARY	9.30am Mgr Charles John Klyberg RIP		
FRIDAY 21 ST FEBRUARY	9.30am Jose Maria Hurtado RIP		9.30am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish
SATURDAY 22ND FEBRUARY <i>THE CHAIR OF ST PETER 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 23 RD FEBRUARY <i>SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am Anita Khurwal RIP (Anniv.) 11am Sheila Sharp RIP 6pm For the People of the Parish	10.30am For the People of the Parish	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 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

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 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 seven 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 1pm. Contact Annabel Brown on 07849678171 to find out more.

DIOCESAN NOTICES

WESTMINSTER DIOCESE JOB VACANCIES

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

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*

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.

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.

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

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

COFFEE AND TEA will be served after Mass this Sunday. All are very welcome to stay for a while.

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).

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		
15 & 16 Feb.	M Foggo	T Hartney	J McEwen	U Lean	J Hale	AM Farnsworth	Kate & Una	A McReynolds
22 & 23 Feb.	J Ingham	L Johnson	E O'Sullivan	J Hale	J Donohoe	E Price	Marguerite & Patsy	J Whelan