



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
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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
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Mill End

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SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR A) - 8TH MARCH 2020

SUNDAY THOUGHT

The readings for the Second Sunday of Lent encourage us to trust God and to listen to his Son. The First Reading presents the call of Abram (Abraham) in the Book of Genesis. Recorded during the period of Israel's monarchy in the tenth-century BC, this story spoke to those times: Israel had become a great nation united under a single monarchy and single king, David. The people of Israel were blessed with land and descendants that had elevated Israel to a status unknown in their previous thousand years of existence. From this place, Israel saw Abraham as their great patriarch – the first to trust God to be the guide for his people.

The Gospel reading tells of the Transfiguration of Jesus. For Matthew's Jewish community, the setting on a high mountain, the presence of Moses, the overshadowing cloud, and Jesus' transfigured face and clothes would have conjured up images, from the Book of Exodus, of Moses receiving the law on Mount Sinai. They would have heard Jesus' Transfiguration in the context of their own traditional sacred stories. But in the Transfiguration account, Matthew aims for more than preserving the details that would be familiar to his community. Matthew is teaching that God is doing something new: God's definitive revelation now lies with his beloved Son. Just as God told Abram to trust him, God now calls the three disciples (Peter, James and John) to trust the words of his beloved Son: "Listen to him".

These readings teach us how to be open to God's grace: we must trust God to be our guide and listen to the words of his beloved Son. As our Lenten journey continues, we can turn to the words Jesus spoke to the disciples, 'Stand up, do not be afraid.'

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:

Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

1st Reading:

Genesis 12:1-4

Response to Psalm:

May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

2nd Reading:

2 Timothy 1:8-10

Gospel:

Matthew 17:1-9

Communion Antiphon:

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

Next Sunday's Readings

Exodus 17:3-7; Romans 5:1-2. 5-8; John 4:5-42 (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 £485.13; Loose £346.98; S/Orders £647.01; **Total £1479.12**

Mill End: Envs: £262.95; Loose: £170.95; Standing Orders: £215.23; **Total: £649.13**

Chorleywood: The Offertory collection for the month of February - **£2371.97**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

SUN 8TH MARCH	9.15am 12.45pm	First Communion Class - Hall Baptisms	St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
MON 9TH MARCH	10.30am - 12.30pm 5.30pm 7.30pm 8.00pm	Mum's Connect - Hall First Communion Class - Hall RCIA Choir Practice	St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist
TUE 10TH MARCH	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 11TH MARCH			
THU 12TH MARCH	2.15pm for 2.30pm 7.00pm 8.00pm	Quiet Space SVP Meeting Life in the Spirit Prayer Group	St Peter's, Mill End St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
FRI 13TH MARCH	10.00am 7.30pm	Coffee after Mass for all - Hall Lenten Stations of the Cross	Our Lady Help of Christians St John Fisher
SAT 14TH MARCH	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 MARCH	10.00am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish	6pm (Vigil) John & Mary Gibbs RIP	6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parish
SUNDAY 8 TH MARCH <i>SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT</i>	8.30am For the People of the Parish 11am Peggy Randles RIP 6pm Margaret Taylor RIP	10.30am Mary Viner RIP	9am Don Williamson RIP
MONDAY 9 TH MARCH	9.30am Tadhg O'Shea RIP	9.30am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish	
TUESDAY 10 TH MARCH	9.30am In Thanksgiving		9.30am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish
WEDNESDAY 11 TH MARCH		9.30am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish	
THURSDAY 12 TH MARCH	9.30am Bernard Eason RIP		
FRIDAY 13 TH MARCH	9.30am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish		9.30am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish
SATURDAY 14 TH MARCH	10.00am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish	6pm (Vigil) Private Intention	6pm (Vigil) Don Williamson RIP
SUNDAY 15 TH MARCH <i>THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT</i>	8.30am Mary Phillips RIP 11am Mary Robinson RIP 6pm Lina & Grimaldo Torrini RIP	10.30am P J Conway RIP (Anniv.)	9am Don Williamson 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 and Ann Penn

NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

CORONAVIRUS

We are currently taking the following precautions in our three parishes:

- **For Prayer Partners and at the Sign of Peace** – rather than shaking hands we ask that the congregation acknowledge each other and exchange names/the Sign of Peace with a small bow or nod of the head rather than a handshake.
- **Communion** - until further notice communion will be on the hand only. **No** communion will be given on the tongue. Anyone with cold or flu symptoms is asked **not** to receive communion from the chalice. Please do not attempt to dip (intinct) the Host into the chalice as this is not a permitted way to receive the Precious Blood. No one is obliged to receive from the chalice if they currently feel uncomfortable doing so.
- The Holy Water stoops in each parish will be removed until further notice.

As is the case in general society, everyone should ensure they maintain good hand hygiene, especially at Mass and parish gatherings. Thank you for your understanding in these important matters. The Diocese has created a page on all parish microsites (i.e. our parish websites) with the current advice on coronavirus. This page will be updated centrally as new information is received. You will find this information on the page titled **Advice on Coronavirus (COVID 19)**.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETINGS

The minutes and supporting reports for the Annual Parish Meetings of the three parishes are now available on the respective parish websites.

LENTEN STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The praying of Lenten Stations of the Cross will once again circulate around the three parishes as follows:

Friday 13th March and 3rd April – St John Fisher, Chorleywood – 7.30pm

Friday 20th March and 10th April (Good Friday) – Our Lady's, Rickmansworth – 7.30pm

Friday 27th March – St John's, Mill End – 7.30pm

The devotions will be led by parishioners. We hope that many parishioners from across the three parishes will come and join us for this important aspect of our Lenten spirituality.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY – Collection this weekend

CAFOD works with poor communities overseas on our behalf, helping them to tackle poverty and injustice. Last Friday was Family Fast Day, please return your CAFOD envelope this weekend, with your donation and contribute to the second collection which will take place at all Masses. Thank you so much for your continued support and generosity. For further information see www.cafod.org.uk

CARDINAL'S LENTEN APPEAL 2020

Cardinal Nichols thanks you for your generous support for the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal. 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. 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.

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 28 March** at 2.00pm at the Presbytery.

SVP COFFEE MORNING - FRIDAY 20TH MARCH. 10.00AM.

Our Three Parishes, Chess Valley St. Vincent de Paul Society will be holding a coffee morning on Friday 20th March after 9.30 mass in Our Lady's small hall. There will be home-made cakes and more. Everyone is warmly invited to join us for a cuppa, some chat and an opportunity to find out more about the work of the SVP in our area.

SVP COMMUNITY LUNCH

The next SVP Community Lunch is on Sunday 15th March 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.

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 on a Tuesday 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*

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.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

PARISH CORE GROUP (PCG) MEETING

There will be a meeting of the Our Lady's PCG on **Saturday 21st March**, 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.

MONEY MATTERS

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

TRAIDCRAFT STALL / COFFEE IN HALL AFTER 11AM MASS

There will be tea and coffee and a Traidcraft Stall after the 11am Mass this Sunday to mark the end of Fairtrade Fortnight – you may even get served by a Fairtrade banana or ice-cream! Fair trade seeks to transform the lives of poor producers in the developing world by enabling them to use their skills and resources to trade their way out of poverty. Please come and support us!

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.

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

RED APF/MISSIO BOXES

Please will you bring your boxes to church by Sunday 24th March for the March collection. Thank you, *Geraldine*

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.

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).

RED MISSIO/APF BOXES

Hello all box holders. Please could you bring your boxes to church by next weekend. We know loose cash is getting scarce as we all use our cards. If you could possibly spare a little bank note that would be so welcome. Our missionaries still do rely on our help. Thank you very much, *Mary* 284975.

ROTAS	Saturday 6.00pm Mass			Sunday 9.00am Mass			Sunday Counters	Laundry
	Welcomer	Reader	MoC	Welcomer	Reader	Communion		
7 & 8 March	E O'Sullivan	S Hoy	M Latimer	A Opie	M Calvert	L Turnbull	Carolyn & Francis	V Terrill
14&15 March	M Bychawski	A Roberts	C Johnson	J Whelan	A Opie	J Hale	Peter & Kate	C Steet

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.