



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

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THE MOST HOLY TRINITY (YEAR A) – 7th JUNE 2020

A MESSAGE FROM FR SHAUN

The First Reading for this Trinity Sunday, from the Book of Exodus, presents two important aspects of our Triune God: mercy and fidelity. Today's reading is best understood in the context of Exodus Chapter 32, Israel's sin of infidelity in making the "golden calf" to replace God. In anger, Moses breaks the stone tablets upon which the Ten Commandments were written. When Israel atones for this sin, Moses receives from God a new set of stone tablets of the Ten Commandments. In response, Moses bows down in worship to God, who forgives his people for their idolatry. In being given a second chance at receiving the Ten Commandments, Moses recognises God's mercy and fidelity to a sinful and "stiff-necked" people.

For nearly twelve-hundred years, from Moses to the Christ, Israel had God's Law, written in stone, by which the people of Israel could measure themselves in relation to God and to each other. In today's Gospel reading we learn that God fulfils his covenantal promise to Israel, no longer in stone, but now in the flesh and blood of his Son. It is not only God's mercy and fidelity to Israel that brings forth the Word made flesh; it is God's love: "For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son."

In the Second Reading, from 2 Corinthians, we hear one of the clearest expressions of the Trinity in the New Testament: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all." Written within twenty years after the Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus, Paul already saw the principal functions of the Trinity as grace, love and fellowship.

When questioned about the Trinity our instinct is perhaps to answer 'It's a mystery. We can't understand it'. While that is true, it doesn't mean we don't think about it. A mystery of faith is in some ways similar to the mystery of the universe. We plumb its depths. We look at it from different angles. We ask questions. We discuss. We debate. In the process we find that we have not exhausted the topic; rather it has exhausted us. So we return to it later and learning more with each engagement. Dismissing any consideration of the Trinity solely because it is a mystery does us a disservice as rational yet faith-filled Christians. Many theologians have sought to express various aspects of this ministry through the centuries, and many more will continue to do so into the future

Part of our living the mystery is to know that we will never fully comprehend or understand all of what it means for God to be a Trinity. In the same way, we will never fully comprehend or understand the entirety of the universe. But we can approach each mystery with humility and a sense of wonder and respect. Jesus is the God incarnate. He called God Father, and promised to send the Spirit who would remind his disciples about Jesus. Each of us has been baptised into the life of the Trinity and will continue to let that meaning


unfold each day of our ongoing lives.

As I write this, we are still waiting to hear from the government when it might be possible to re-open churches for individual prayer. As I wrote in the Newsletter last week, we are still some way off the time when we will be able to gather again for the public celebration of Mass. In the meantime we look forward to the day, hopefully relatively soon, when we can re-open Our Lady's for some times of individual prayer. As I explained previously, there is much to do even in preparation for this limited step. Next week the clergy of the Watford deanery will be meeting via 'Zoom' to discuss how we can work in a coordinated way to ensure, if possible, that at least one or two churches in the deanery are open each day for a period of individual prayer.

We will not be able to take the step of opening any church for individual prayer until after the government and the diocese have given us permission to do so. We will then be required to undertake a thorough risk-assessment, make sure that all health and safety and hygiene processes are in place, and have teams of volunteer stewards and cleaners ready to go. These things will take time, and so I ask for your patience, consideration and support as we cautiously move forward in a way that means we are doing everything we can to make it as safe as possible for people to spend some time in church for individual prayer.

On this Sunday of the Most Holy Trinity we place all our trust and hope in the God who has revealed himself to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit; praying that we may be filled with the grace, courage and strength to meet and overcome the challenges before us.

With every prayer and blessing



Fr Shaun
Parish Priest

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

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SATURDAY 6TH JUNE	Peter Kelly RIP Peter Shanney (Ints)
SUNDAY 7TH JUNE <i>THE MOST HOLY TRINITY</i>	For the People of the Parish Ramiro Montesdeoca RIP (Anniv)
MONDAY 8TH JUNE	Yvonne Plourde RIP Gordon Starck RIP
TUESDAY 9TH JUNE	Tony Rollinson (Ints)
WEDNESDAY 10TH JUNE	Viktor Boehler RIP
THURSDAY 11TH JUNE ST BARNABAS	Julie Rice (Ints)
FRIDAY 12TH JUNE	Anne Roche RIP
SATURDAY 13TH JUNE ST ANTHONY OF PADUA	Peter Kelly RIP
SUNDAY 14TH JUNE <i>CORPUS CHRISTI</i>	For the People of the Parish Albert Keen RIP

SUPPORTING OUR PARISH

Even though we are currently unable to publically gather to celebrate Mass, your financial support for our parishes is still very much needed. If you currently make your offering to the parish via planned giving envelopes or by loose plate, and if your personal circumstances allow, we invite you to consider giving to your parish by standing order. If you would like to switch to making your offering via standing order, please send an email to rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk and a standing order form will be sent to you by email. You would then just need to complete the form and return it to your bank. If you are unable to set up a standing order or would prefer not to, there is also the possibility to financially support the parish via the **Donate to our Parish** tab on our parish websites. Thank you for your continuing support.

Mark Blayney, Carolyn Opie & Sandra Miller

Chairs of the Finance Operations and Premises Committees of the Three Parishes

FEELING DISCONNECTED?

Are you feeling disconnected from parish life? Do you miss your community, and priests? We are missing you! Please, join us, and your parish community, in our new **online parish bible study programme and prayer (Lectio Divina) group**. The programme runs in two sessions each week. We invite you to attend both Sessions each week, but even if you can only attend one or the other, we hope that you will find it helpful in this time when we cannot gather physically as a Church community.

Online Bible Study programme – Monday evenings at 7.30pm

Session One each week we will take a look at short passage of scripture (from the Acts of the Apostles) and delve into its historical and biblical context, how it would have been understood by the Early Church, what it says about God, and what it has to say to us today. No previous experience of bible study is necessary. Fr Shaun will lead this via 'Zoom', following up-to-date security measures. It will last between 45 minutes to an hour. Please, contact Fr Shaun as soon as possible if you would like to attend (shaunchurch@rcdow.org.uk).

Online Bible Reflection and Prayer – Friday evenings at 7.30pm

In Session Two we will practice the beautiful and very ancient technique of praying with the scriptures known as **Lectio Divina**, using the same passage already looked at in Session one. No previous experience of bible prayer is necessary. Fr Damian will lead this also via 'Zoom', following up-to-date security measures. Similarly, it will last between 45 minutes and an hour. If you are interested, please, contact Fr Damian (damianryan@rcdow.org.uk)

DO YOU NEED HELP? CAN YOU HELP?

Thank you to all the parishioners who have given generous offers of help to those in need in our local communities. These offers are being coordinated by our lay Senior Leadership Team (SLT) members. If you are willing to help in any way, please do contact the SLT member for your parish. Even more importantly, if you need any kind of practical help, for instance help with shopping etc or would just appreciate someone calling you for a chat and/or to pray with you on the phone from time to time (whatever your age or family circumstances), please do let us know, via the SLT member for your respective parish:

Our Lady's Rickmansworth – Paul Forrest – 07585 661573 - pga.forrest@btinternet.com

St John Fisher, Chorleywood – Anne Lorrimer-Roberts – 07887 682943 - anne@themessagemachine.com

St John the Evangelist, Mill End – Geraldine Page – 07725 748490 - geraldine.page21@gmail.com

TRY ALPHA ONLINE WITH US!

Alpha is a space where everyone – wherever you are in terms of your beliefs and faith (or not) – can explore the big questions of life, faith and meaning in a relaxed, non-judgemental, and fun way. People can say whatever they want. Alpha online is from the comfort of your own home and takes up less than an hour and half per week! We are starting a new Alpha series from Tuesday 9th June, 8 - 9:15 pm. It will use the internet platform "Zoom", which is very easy to use. Please, register here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/alpha-online-at-chess-valley-rc-parishes-tickets-104322962790> Feel free to invite as many friends as possible, near or far! If you want to know a bit more about Alpha, check out the parish Facebook and Instagram pages where you'll see some great videos from parishioners sharing a bit about their experience. You can also share these with anyone you'd like to invite to Alpha! If you have any questions, please, contact Maria Crossland: mariacrossland@hotmail.com

ALPHA - INVITATION TO PRAY

Alpha on line will be launched for our three Parishes on Tuesday 9th June and run until 18th August. We are inviting all parishioners to join some of the Alpha Intercessory Prayer Team to either pray from home or to join the online Zoom platform over eleven Tuesdays from 8.00-9.15pm 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 as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen

Thank you, the Alpha Service Team.

PRAISE AND WORSHIP GATHERING – SUNDAY, 7TH JUNE AT 5PM VIA ‘ZOOM’

You are warmly invited to join us on Sunday, 7th June, for a short Praise and Worship gathering at 5pm. We will be using Zoom to sing a few uplifting hymns, listen to a short prayer and a reading or reflection, as well as catch up with fellow Parishioners. Please do not worry if you have not used Zoom before, it is very simple to set up, and pick up and we will be happy to walk you through the process ahead of time and on the day. If you would like to attend, please email Katy Pione (cepione@hotmail.co.uk) before Saturday 6th June so she can send you a link with the meeting invitation on it, as well as the song words. Please feel free to invite anyone who might like to attend! Look forward to seeing you then.

COFFEE MORNING - 9.45 -10.45 ON WEDNESDAYS DURING LOCK DOWN

You are warmly invited to Zoom and join us for a friendly get together over coffee/ tea. As you probably know on Zoom only one person at a time can speak. I therefore thought it an idea to have a loose structure to the hour. Please bring something to share maybe a funny/ sad story, a poem, review of a film / book etc. that has touched you or simply a bit about how you are coping with the lock down. There is no obligation to share so please do not hold you back from zooming along. Please contact Anne Jaxa-Chamiec on 07810805900 or at anne.jaxachamiec@btinternet.com for a ‘Zoom’ invite. Thank you, Anne.

FACEBOOK PAGE

There is a new Facebook page for the three parishes. The name is ‘Chess Valley Parishes’ – we couldn’t fit the full three names into the title! We hope to post weekly videos of scripture readings and reflections, and other things you may find useful. The link is: <https://www.facebook.com/Chess-Valley-Parishes-102042071465161/>
Please, follow us to keep connected, and share with friends.

WE HAVE JOINED INSTAGRAM!

Come follow the parish on our new Instagram page where we want to engage with you as parishioners, as well as those outside our parish! On a weekly basis you will see us posting the weekly readings, video reflections, a Fun Friday mini quiz (because let's face it, we all love a bit of bible trivia!) and posting plenty of other content which we would love to share with you. Our Instagram handle is @chessvalleyparishes so come and follow us (and invite your family and friends to as well) - we look forward to seeing you there, chatting with you in the comments and bringing our community together during this challenging time!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MILL END COMMUNITY CENTRE

The hard working volunteers of the Mill End Community Centre have been honoured with the Queens Award for Voluntary Service, the highest award a voluntary group can receive in the UK. They run the very popular weekly Community Café; weekly Job Club for job seekers; help with administration and legal advice and assist with ground keeping. We offer our congratulations to all the team at the Mill End Community Centre and thank them for all that they do to help and support the local community.

INVITATION TO PRAY

You are warmly invited to join us every Thursday evening to pray together and have a time of fellowship. Whether you are part of the Parish Community or not we would love you to come along to our online prayer group. The evening will consist of a time for singing, reading and quiet reflection, sharing and intercessory prayer. You are welcome to join in as you feel you would like. Prayer meetings will start at 8.00pm every Thursday and finish at 9.30pm

If you would like to join us simply email the following address and we will add you to the invitation.

kenny.family@ntlworld.com. We are using a platform called 'Zoom' which is very 'user friendly' and we can support you with this if necessary. We look forward to hearing from you.

CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE - STICKERS

Parents who will be seeking a Certificate of Catholic Practice for September 2021 Catholic Secondary Transfer or a September 2021 place at a Catholic Nursery or in Reception year may be concerned about what will happen with regard to our sticker system during the suspension of the public celebration of Mass. **Please do not be anxious about this.** Each Sunday during the period of the suspension of the public celebration of Mass will be removed from our assessment of Sunday Mass attendance. We will only take account of the Sundays when Sunday Mass has been publically celebrated. This will mean that the suspension of Sunday Mass will have no effect upon the issuing of Certificates of Catholic Practice.

CAFOD – UNITE AGAINST CORONAVIRUS

As we cope with coronavirus in the UK, we think of our sisters and brothers in developing countries who are facing this pandemic with fragile health systems, some of which have almost no intensive care beds or ventilators. Food prices have already risen with borders closing the poorest are losing their jobs and income with wholesale shutdowns. Furthermore, inadequate healthcare, lack of access to washing facilities and limited ability to social distance will result in loss of life on an intolerable scale. The likely impact will be devastating. We are one global family. In order to continue protecting and improving the lives of those in poor communities, your prayers, gifts and voices are needed now more than ever. Please visit cafod.org.uk/coronavirus to find out ways you can give, act and pray in response to this crisis.

This Sunday's Readings

Exodus 34:4-6. 8-9; 2 Cor. 13:11-13; John 3:16-18 (Gospel)

Next Sunday's Readings (Corpus Christi)

Deut. 8:2-3. 14-15; 1 Cor. 10: 16-17; John 6: 51-58 (Gospel)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISHES

Our Lady Help of Christians: David Cook, 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, 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

MASS ONLINE

MAKING AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,

I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of altar.

I love you above all things

and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul.

Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,

come spiritually into my soul

so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever. Amen.

The following churches are live streamed and can be visited online at any time using the relevant website address.

Sunday Mass

6.00pm (Sat.)	St Luke, Pinner	www.churchservices.tv/pinner
6.00pm (Sat.)	St Teresa of the Child Jesus, Borehamwood	www.churchservices.tv/borehamwood
6.30pm (Sat.)	Our Lady of Lourdes, New Southgate	www.churchservices.tv/newsouthgate
7.45am	St Monica, Palmers Green	www.churchservices.tv/palmersgreen
9.00am	St Joseph and English Martyrs, Bishops Stortford	www.churchservices.tv/bishopsstortford
10.00am	St Teresa of the Child Jesus, Borehamwood	www.churchservices.tv/borehamwood
10.00am	Our Lady of Lourdes, New Southgate	www.churchservices.tv/newsouthgate
10.30am	Holy Apostles, Pimlico	www.churchservices.tv/pimlico
10.30am	St James, Spanish Place	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_QES_fHotyQ0tA0pH8dTsg
11.00am	St Luke, Pinner	www.churchservices.tv/pinner
11.00am	Our Lady and St Vincent, Potters Bar	www.churchservices.tv/pottersbar
11.30am	St Mary, Hampstead	www.churchservices.tv/hampstead
12 noon	St Anselm and St Cecilia, Lincoln's Inn Fields	www.churchservices.tv/lincolnsinnfields
12.30pm	Holy Apostles, Pimlico (Spanish Mass)	www.churchservices.tv/pimlico
3.30pm	St Monica, Palmers Green (Polish Mass)	www.churchservices.tv/palmersgreen
6.30pm	St Thomas More, Swiss Cottage	www.churchservices.tv/swisscottage

Weekday Mass

Monday to Friday:

7.00am	St Thomas More, Swiss Cottage	www.churchservices.tv/swisscottage
9.15am	St Teresa of the Child Jesus, Borehamwood	www.churchservices.tv/borehamwood
9.30am	St Monica, Palmers Green	www.churchservices.tv/palmersgreen
10.00am	St Luke, Pinner	www.churchservices.tv/pinner
10.00am	Our Lady and St Vincent, Potters Bar	www.churchservices.tv/pottersbar
10.00am	Our Lady of Lourdes, New Southgate	www.churchservices.tv/newsouthgate
12.30pm*	St Anselm and St Cecilia, Lincoln's Inn Fields	www.churchservices.tv/lincolnsinnfields
6.00pm	St Anselm and St Cecilia, Lincoln's Inn Fields	www.churchservices.tv/lincolnsinnfields

* *Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays only*

Saturday:

10.00am	St Thomas More, Swiss Cottage	www.churchservices.tv/swisscottage
10.00am	Our Lady of Lourdes, New Southgate	www.churchservices.tv/newsouthgate

St Edward the Confessor, Golders Green – recorded daily. Viewable at any time after up-load