



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:

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Rickmansworth

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TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) – 21ST JUNE 2020

A MESSAGE FROM FR SHAUN

The Scriptures show that when God's chosen prophets and Apostles faithfully carry out their mission, they always encounter suffering. This is especially true of the prophet Jeremiah, who recounts his painful struggles in five sections, known as his "Confessions" of the book that bears his name. Today's First Readings is one of these "Confessions". But something remarkable happens in this passage: though Jeremiah begins by describing a dire situation, he shifts to an expression of confidence that God is with him and will see him through the crisis. What a powerful example for us in our own struggles, especially in these challenging times in which we live. Like Jeremiah, we can bring our struggles to the Lord with all the aspects of the misery, the pain and the confusion we experience – and then affirm our trust that God is with us and will deliver us.

In the Books of Psalms, we find many prayers that do precisely this. Known as the Psalms of Lament or Supplication, they make up nearly one third of the one hundred and fifty psalms. Today's responsorial psalm follows their pattern: description of personal distress, prayer for deliverance, confidence and thanksgiving for God's help.

Today's Gospel reading comes in the middle of a long instruction Jesus gives to his twelve disciples prior to sending them out on mission. He minces no words about the opposition they will endure. At the same time, he calls them to unshakeable: "Do not be afraid ... you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows." What a firm basis for hope Jesus offers us with his promise: "So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. May the Lord's words of promise be the basis of our courage and hope, whatever challenges we may face in faithfully responding to the mission that is ours.

I wish to express my thanks to everyone who has volunteered to help with either stewarding or cleaning of the church for our proposed times of opening of individual prayer. I am delighted to say that enough volunteers have come forward as Stewards and Cleaners to enable us to re-open for some times of individual prayer as previously planned:

(From Tuesday 23rd June)

Tuesday: 10am – 11am

Saturday: 10am – 11am

Sunday: 3pm - 4pm

We are very grateful to all of those parishioners from across the parishes who have volunteered to help and so made this schedule possible.

If you are planning to come to the church during one of the periods of individual prayer we would ask you to please keep the following points in mind:

- If you are displaying symptoms or have displayed symptoms of Covid19 (raised temperature, persistent cough, loss of taste or smell) or been in contact with someone who has displayed symptoms within the last 14 days you **should not** enter the church.
- If you are over 70, have a pre-existing health condition or have been shielding please consider very carefully whether now is the right time for you to take this step. We are taking all the precautions we can to ensure a COVID19 safe environment but we cannot completely eliminate all risk.
- Please enter the church only through the main porch entrance.
- Please exit the church only through the emergency exit in the Repository corridor.
- Hand sanitizer stations will be placed the entrance porch, at Our Lady's Altar and at the exit. Please gel your hands as you enter the porch, **AFTER** you have lit a candle, and again as you leave the church.
- There is a very limited capacity in the church at one time. Due to social distancing, only 9 pews are available. Each pew can only be occupied by one individual **OR** a couple from the same household **OR** a family group from the same household. When all pews are in use you may be asked to wait outside the church until a pew becomes available.
- If the church seems very busy (i.e. most or all of the available pews are in use we would ask you to please consider limiting your prayer time so that others may also have an opportunity to pray in church.
- Please do not use any benches or parts of the church which have been cordoned off.
- Candles can only be lit at the votive stands at Our Lady's Altar. Clear instructions about when and how to do this will be provided. Please do not bring your own candles.
- The hall toilets are **CLOSED** and there is no access to the hall. Please be conscious of this when planning your visit to the church.
- There will be a **ONE WAY** system in operation throughout the church. Please follow the arrows when entering and exiting the church.
- The church will be stewarded throughout the time it is open for individual prayer. Please follow any directions given to you by the stewards in order to help us keep the church a COVID19 safe environment
- We are completely reliant upon our stewards and cleaners for the regular re-opening of the church. Scheduled opening times may have to be cancelled at very short notice.

Whilst we are doing the best we can to ensure that our church is a safe environment, it cannot be done by us alone. The behaviour of you, our parishioners, is also crucial. We need to remind you to be vigilant about your actions so that all are safe and our church remains a safe place to pray.

As we take this important step in re-opening Our Lady's for individual prayer there may well be some initial teething issues as we adapt to this new situation and all that we are required to do to ensure a COVID19 safe environment. I thank you in advance for your patience and consideration.

With every prayer and blessing



Fr Shaun
Parish Priest

ONLINE BIBLE STUDY AND ONLINE BIBLE REFLECTION AND PRAYER

We have now completed our first season of Online Bible Study and Online Bible Reflection and Prayer. These have proved a great success, with between 60 and 70 parishioners attending the Monday Online Bible Study each week and between 40 and 50 attending the Online Bible Reflection and Prayer on Fridays. Many parishioners are finding these a great way to stay connected to their faith and to their parish community. A new series begins the week of Monday 29th June when we will be studying, reflecting on and praying with the Book of Psalms. Why not come and join us!

Online Bible Study programme – Monday evenings at 7.30pm (commencing Monday 29th June)

Each week we will study one of the Psalms and delve into its historical and biblical context, what it says about God, and what it has to say to us today about worship and life. No previous experience of bible study is necessary. Fr Shaun will lead this via 'Zoom', following up-to-date security measures. It will last about 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 (commencing Friday 3rd July)

In Session Two we will practice the beautiful and very ancient technique of praying with the scriptures known as *Lectio Divina*, using the same psalm 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)

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! A new Alpha series began on Tuesday 9th June, (8 - 9:15 pm). We use the internet platform "Zoom", It's not too late to join us.

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: mariamcrossland@hotmail.com

ALPHA - INVITATION TO PRAY

Alpha on line launched for our three Parishes on Tuesday 9th June and runs until 18th August. We are inviting all parishioners to join 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. We also 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.

OPENING TIMES FOR INDIVIDUAL PRAYER IN WATFORD DEANERY PARISHES

FROM SATURDAY 20th JUNE

Abbots Langley, St Saviour

Tuesday: 9.30am – 12 noon

Friday 4pm to 5.30pm

Saturday 9.30am to 12 noon

Sunday 10.45am – 2pm

Watford, Holy Rood

Saturday 10am -1pm

Sunday 10am-1pm

Tuesday 10am -12 noon

Thursday 1pm - 3pm

Friday 6pm-8pm

Bushey & Oxhey

Sacred Heart of Jesus & St. John the Evangelist

Tuesday: 10am to 12 noon & 5pm to 7.30pm

Croxley Green, St Bede

Saturday: 4.00pm to 5.00pm (from 4th July)

Carpenders Park, St Joseph's,

Friday: 11.30am to 12.30pm

Saturday: 2pm to 3pm

Garston, Our Lady and St Michael

Sunday: 9.30am to 11am

North Watford, St Helen

Every day - 9am to 12 noon and 3pm to 5pm

Rickmansworth, Our Lady Help of Christians (from 23rd June)

Tuesday: 10am – 11am

Saturday: 10am – 11am

Sunday: 3pm -4pm

Chorleywood, Chipperfield and Mill End parishes will not be re-opening for individual prayer.

Please check the website/online newsletter of the respective parish before travelling.

DO YOU NEED HELP?

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, 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

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.

PRAISE AND WORSHIP GATHERING – SUNDAY, 21ST JUNE AT 5PM VIA 'ZOOM'

You are warmly invited to join us on Sunday, 21st 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.

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.

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.

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 (12th Sunday of Ordinary Time)

Jeremiah 20:10-13; Romans 5:12-15; Matthew 10: 26-33 (Gospel)

Next Sunday's Readings (13th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

2 Kings 4:8-11. 14-16; Romans 6:3-4. 8-11; Matthew 10:37-42 (Gospel)

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

SATURDAY 20TH JUNE THE IMMACULATE HEART OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	Nila Hurtado RIP Alf Loose RIP
SUNDAY 21ST JUNE 12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	For the People of the Parish
MONDAY 22ND JUNE SS JOHN FISHER & THOMAS MORE	Alan Moss RIP
TUESDAY 23RD JUNE	A Private Intention
WEDNESDAY 24TH JUNE THE NATIVITY OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST	For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish
THURSDAY 25TH JUNE	For NHS Staff and Care workers
FRIDAY 26TH JUNE	For the bereaved
SATURDAY 27TH JUNE St JOHN SOUTHWORTH	For those persecuted because of their faith
SUNDAY 28TH JUNE SS PETER & PAUL	For the People of the Parish

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

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

* *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

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVpkRdnTdgTM99FYtSPmg0Q>