

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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Assistant Priest:

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TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME $(YEAR A) - 30^{TH} AUGUST 2020$

A MESSAGE FROM FR DAMIAN

Just a moment ago in Matthew's Gospel, Peter acclaimed Jesus as the Christ, the son of the living God. Jesus affirmed this faith by saying that he was no longer to be called Simon, but Peter. The name/word Peter in Greek is *Kēphâs*, which means 'rock' or like a nickname, 'Rocky'. Jesus is saying with this faith Peter is a rock. Peter must have felt so special compared to the other apostles.

A few seconds later in this passage, Jesus says that Peter is a *scandalon*. This means a stumbling block, a rock that doesn't help him or others to be strong in the face of challenges, but a rock that causes Jesus, and potential followers to stumble over. It seems that having a rock-like faith is good not only when you can affirm Jesus' identity as the Christ, the son of the living God; but also when you can affirm his purpose to love God and neighbour, in the face of suffering, and even to death.

In your pursuit for holiness, to love God and neighbour, what is causing you suffering? Is your understanding of Jesus a rock for you in this suffering, or an obstacle? Is Jesus with you in your suffering, giving you strength to move forward? Or are you scandalised that God would allow suffering, and that He is apparently absent?

At Mass, Jesus accepts your suffering, and false ideas about God's apparent absence, in the form of bread and wine. He feels your suffering and your felt absence of God. He died on the cross, and he felt the Father's absence too! He persevered in love, for the salvation of the world. In return, at Mass, he gives you his flesh and blood that has been resurrected to a new and higher form of life, with power to love in the face of suffering. Standing on this rock of faith, you will never be a *scandalon*, a stumbling block. You will be a rock for others, to love generously even in these difficult times.

The work of installing the livestreaming equipment at Our Lady's has now finished! Details of how to access the livestream Mass are in this newsletter and on our website. I am delighted to say that we have also reached our target of raising the £6,000 cost of the installation of the livestreaming equipment. I wish to express my sincere thanks to all of those who have so generously contributed to this project.

With every prayer and blessing

Fr Damian Ryan Assistant Parish Priest

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK	
SATURDAY 29 th August	Magdalene Waller RIP
SUNDAY 30 th August 22 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.00am: Sadie Loughlin RIP (Anniversary) 6.00pm: Morreno Torrini RIP
Monday 31 st August	Carmen Buhagiar RIP
TUESDAY 1 ST SEPTEMBER	Roshini Alles RIP (Anniversary)
WEDNESDAY 2 ND SEPTEMBER	Nick Broome RIP (Anniversary)
THURSDAY 3 RD SEPTEMBER ST. GREGORY THE GREAT	John D'Cruz RIP
FRIDAY 4 TH SEPTEMBER	D'Cruz family (Intentions)
SATURDAY 5 TH SEPTEMBER	Charlotte Neto RIP
SUNDAY 6 th September	10 am: People of the parish 6 pm: Joseph Netto RIP

This Sunday's Readings

Jeremiah 20: 7-9; Romans 12: 1-2; Matthew 16: 21-27 Next Sunday's Readings (23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Ezekiel 33: 7-9; Romans 13: 8-10; Matthew 18:15-20

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, Maureen Douglas, Josie Westhrop, and Gillian Loose.

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, Ann Penn, and Paddy Goble.

THE BOOKING OF MASSES

Currently we are celebrating Sunday Masses at Our Lady's at 10am and 6.00pm (Sunday evening). Places are limited and so you are invited to book online via the **EVENTS** page of Our Lady's website. Please note that you are booking **A PEW** not individual seats. Please read the instructions on the booking page carefully and provide all the information requested. If you successfully book a pew we ask that, out of courtesy to others, you do not book again until late in the week. If places are available at either Mass from Thursday onwards you are welcome to book again, even if you have attended in the past few weeks. If you know of a parishioner who does not have internet access but wishes to attend a Mass, please do let us know so that we can arrange this. So that the stewards can seat you safely we ask that you please arrive **no earlier than 20 minutes and no later than 5 minutes before the time the Mass is due to start. Government Advisory:** Certain groups of people may be at increased risk of severe disease from COVID19, including people aged 70 or older, regardless of medical conditions. Individuals who fall within this group are advised to stay at home as much as possible and, if they do go out, to take particular care to minimise contact with others outside of their household. **It is now mandatory to wear a face covering in places of worship**. We kindly ask you to please bring a face covering with you.

LIVESTREAM MASSES

If you are unable to come to Mass for health reasons, or because you could not book a place, please, join us for Mass by livestreaming. It is very simple to do. Simply go to https://www.churchservices.tv/rickmansworth Starting this Sunday 30th August 2020, you can join us for the public Sunday Mases at Our Lady's (10 am and 6 pm), and all the private weekday Masses (9:30 am, Monday – Saturday).

THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

The Rites of Initiation of Adults, usually celebrated at the Easter Vigil will be celebrated on Friday 18th September. Please pray for those preparing for Baptism, Reception into the Church and Confirmation: Georgina Board (Baptism and Confirmation); Caroline Doran (Reception and Confirmation), Yasmin Lakin (Confirmation) and Nitza Chikerema (Confirmation).

ROY LANGDALE RIP

It is with much sadness that we share the news of the death of Roy Langdale. Roy's funeral will take place at Our Lady's on Tuesday 1st September at 11.00am, followed by committal at Chilterns Crematorium. Under current Government restrictions funeral are limited to a maximum of 30 people and so places will be very limited. It is planned that the Mass be livestreamed. If you wish to attend Roy's funeral (and you have not been directly invited by Roy's family), please email Fr Damian at damianryan@rcdow.org.uk so that he can advise whether any places are available. Alternatively, please, go to https://www.churchservices.tv/rickmansworth to participate by livestream. We offer our deepest condolences to Roy's family at this sad and very difficult time.

MAGDALENE WALLER RIP

It is with much sadness that we share the news of the death of Magdalene Waller. Magdalene's funeral will take place at Our Lady's, on 11th September at 11.00am, followed by burial at Woodcock Hill Cemetery. Due to social distancing restrictions it will not be possible for parishioners to attend, unless they have been directly invited by the family. However, people are free to participate via livestream at the following link: https://www.churchservices.tv/rickmansworth. We offer our deepest condolences to Magdalene's family at this sad and difficult time.

SUNDAY PRAISE AND WORSHIP GATHERINGS

Just a quick note to advise the Praise and Worship gatherings (on Zoom) will start back up again in September. When we do start back up, it would be a great support to have some volunteers who would be willing to help by reading. If you would be interested, please email me (cepione@hotmail.co.uk). Look forward to seeing you all again then! Katy

OUR LADY'S 200 CLUB

Congratulations to our winners:

April Draw – Collette Bridge Madden (£33), Heather Kean (£24.75), Sean Godfrey (£16.50) and Christopher Knight (£8.25)

May Draw Martin Brady (£33), Anita Khurwal (£24.75), Mark Kirwan (£16.50) and Josie Westhrop (£8.25) **June Draw** Christopher Knight (£33), Theresa Jubber (£24.75), Colette Williamson (£16.50) and Pauline Starck (£8.25)

July Draw Josie Westhrop (£33), Michael Bridge Madden (£24.75), Liz Waddington (£16.50) and Anne Dodson (£8.25)

VACANCY – MENTAL HEALTH PRACTITIONER - CHURCHES IN CROXLEY GREEN

Churches in Croxley Green CIO are looking to appoint a Mental Health Practitioner to work for approximately 5 hours a week, alongside the **Parish Nurse**, local ministers and existing health professionals to bring holistic care to the people of Croxley Green. This unique role for a Mental Health Nurse or similar Para-medical practitioner will integrate concern for both the spiritual and mental well-being of the people of Croxley Green. It will complement but not replace the work of local mental health providers. Further information and a recruitment pack can be found on the Croxley Parish Nurse website: https://www.croxleyparishnurse.org/

CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE - ACADEMIC YEAR 2021/22 - UPDATED INFORMATION

I have decided that no further stickers will be given out for those applying for a place in a Catholic School for the academic year 2021/22. The assessment of whether a CCP can be issued will now be made in the following ways: **Secondary Transfer**: Only the Sundays from the **beginning of October 2019 until and including Sunday 15th March 2020** will be assessed. Further, given the unprecedented nature of the situation, I will be reducing the requirement from 70% attendance to 65% attendance. This will mean that you will need **16** out of a possible **24** stickers in order for a CCP to be issued. In September 2020, I will set out the arrangements for the signing of CCPs in October 2020.

Nursery/Reception (this does not include St John's school, Mill End, where a CCP is no longer a requirement): Only the Sundays from the beginning of December 2019 until and including Sunday 15th March 2020 will be assessed. Again, the requirement of 70% attendance will be reduced to 65% attendance. This will mean that you will need 10 out of a possible 15 stickers in order for a CCP to be issued. In November 2020, I will set out arrangements for the signing of CCPs in November 2020.

ST JOHN FISHER NEWS

REOPENING OF THE CHURCH FOR MASS

We're nearly there! Our risk assessment has been completed and we have a last meeting and check at the Church early next week. All tasks are either in progress or completed and we expect everything to be in place in good time for our first Mass at 9am on September 13th. Maureen Foggo is putting together a rota for Readers so please contact her if you feel able to support in this way. Please check next week's newsletter for details on how to book in for Services. We look forward to seeing you soon.

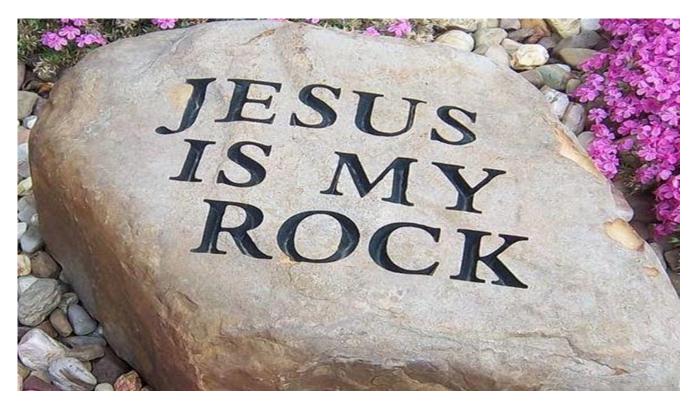
BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

We extend the warmest birthday greetings to Pat Finucane, who celebrates her 97th birthday on Saturday 29th August. We wish Pat a happy and joyful day!

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST NEWS

RE-OPENING OF THE CHURCH FOR MASS

The celebration of Sunday Mass at St John the Evangelist will recommence on Sunday 13th September. Initially we plan to hold one Mass each week at 10.30am. A risk assessment of the church has been carried out and between now and 13th September we will be working to make sure that all our arrangements adhere to 2m social distancing measures and other COVID-safe requirements. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to help with stewarding. If you would like to help in this area please email Geraldine Page at geraldine.page21@gmail.com.



Taken from: https://i.pinimg.com/originals/37/86/71/378671a3624c718f45de375057d843fd.jpg [Accessed 26/8/2020]