



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
geraldine.page21@gmail.com

Address for all correspondence:
5 Park Road, Rickmansworth
WD3 1HU
Telephone: 01923 773387

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) – 6TH SEPTEMBER 2020

SUNDAY THOUGHT

Peacemaker and reconciler – how often do we see ourselves in that role or act in that capacity? Yet this is the message and work we have been given, the “responsibility” we have for one another.

The directive given on this matter in today’s Gospel concerns a brother (or sister) in the Church. The Church is the new people of God, called by and gathered around Jesus.

The “how” of exercising this work of conversion and reconciliation is set forth in the first lines of the Gospel reading and tempered by the Second Reading, which reminds us that love of neighbour must be the basis of any work of reconciliation.

Today’s Scriptures call us to self-examination, for we are both sinners in need of our own conversion and called to be “prophets” and reconcilers for one another.

Let us listen to God’s voice whenever and through whomever God speaks, and harden not our hearts.

Last weekend we launched the livestreaming of Mass from Our Lady’s. From the many emails we have received this past week, we know how much this means to so many of you. As I have said before, I believe that our ability to livestreaming Mass will play an important part in keeping us united as a community of three parishes in the (very likely) challenging circumstances of autumn and winter.

I am delighted to say that, thanks to the generosity of so many of you, we have been able to cover the full cost of the installation of the livestreaming equipment, without having to dip into existing parish funds, at a time when they are obviously under some pressure. In fact, we exceeded our target of £6,000, raising over of £8,000! The monies donated over and above the installation costs will be ‘ring-fenced’ and allocated to the payment of the monthly streaming and system maintenance fees.

Your incredible generosity is so very much appreciated. Thank you!

Warmest wishes

Fr Shaun Church
Parish Priest

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

SATURDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER	Charlotte Neto RIP
SUNDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER 23 RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	10 am: People of the parish 6 pm: Joseph Neto RIP
MONDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER	Wilson Neto RIP
TUESDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	Jane Neto RIP
WEDNESDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER	Cecilia Neto RIP
THURSDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER	Genova D'Cruz RIP
FRIDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER	Abraham Neto RIP
SATURDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER	For our First Holy Communion Children
SUNDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER 24 TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9 am [St John Fisher] – For People of the Parish 10 am [Our Lady's] – Lucy McDermott RIP 10.30 am [St John the Evangelist] – For the People of the Parish 6 pm [Our Lady's] – Sr Margaret Buckley RIP

This Sunday's Readings

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

Next Sunday's Readings (24th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Ecclesiasticus 27:30 – 28.7; Romans 14: 7-9, Matthew 18: 21-35

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.

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 Masses at Our Lady's (**10 am and 6 pm**), and all the private weekday Masses (**9:30 am, Monday – Saturday**). (Saturdays 12th, 19th and 26th September will be First Communion Masses at 10 am.

SUNDAY PRAISE AND WORSHIP GATHERING – SUNDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER

You are warmly invited to join us on Sunday 13th September, for a short Praise and Worship gathering a 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 12th September so that 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. I look forward to seeing you then

SR MARGARET BUCKELY RIP

It is with sadness we share with you the news of the death of Sr Margaret Buckley at the end of August. Until the sisters moved away, Sr Margaret had been one of the community of the Daughters of Jesus resident at Blakenhall Convent in Nightingale Road. We pray for the repose of her soul and offer our condolences to her community, family and friends.

FIRST COMMUNION MASSES

On the weekends of 12th/13, 19th/20th and 26th/27th September, we will be celebrating the First Communion Masses delayed from May 2020. Due to social distancing restrictions it will not be possible for anyone to attend, unless they have been directly invited by the First Communion families. However, people are free to participate via livestream at the following link: <https://www.churchservices.tv/rickmansworth>. Please pray for our First Communion children and their families at this special time.

MEMORIAL MASS FOR GORDON STARCK RIP

There will be a Memorial Mass for Gordon Starck at Our Lady's on Wednesday 9th September at 11.00am, followed by the committal of Gordon's ashes in our Garden of Rest. 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>.

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.

CHRISM MASS – MONDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER 2020

One of the many regular annual events prevented by the pandemic was the Chrism Mass at Westminster Cathedral, normally celebrated on the Tuesday of Holy Week. This Mass, at which the holy oils are blessed by the Cardinal, has now been rescheduled for Monday 14th September at 11.30. As Dean of Watford, Fr Shaun will be concelebrating at this Mass. Parishioners are warmly invited to share in this beautiful celebration via livestreaming at <https://www.churchservices.tv/westminster>.

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).

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

The assessment of whether a CCP can be issued will be made in the following way:

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. Fr Shaun will be available to sign CCPs at the following times in the parish hall:

Monday 5th October: 5 pm – 6 pm

Wednesday 10th October: 6 pm – 7 pm

Saturday 10th October: 11 am to 12 noon

You will need to book a specific (5 minute) appointment time by calling Kerry, our Parish Administrator, on 01923 773387 Ext 2, between 9.30am and 3.00pm Monday to Friday. Only one parent (no children) should attend the appointment. Please arrive 5 minutes before your appointment time and remember to bring your sticker card with you.

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. *Fr Shaun.*

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2021

Due to the pandemic, the preparation for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion for 2021 will not commence until **January 2021**. Registration will take place in November 2020. Details of the programme have yet to be finalized, but is almost certain that the format will be remote sessions (via Zoom) for the children and parent(s) together. More details will be available at the time of registration in November.

OUR LADY'S NEWS

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. 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.

ST JOHN FISHER NEWS

MUSIC AT ST JOHN FISHER

Since 2006 the music at St John Fisher has been very ably led by Patricia O'Sullivan, as both organist and choir director. Patricia has decided that it is now the right time for her to move away and pursue other avenues. Patricia has given so generously to the parish through her ministry of music leadership and made an impact upon the musical life of the parish which will be a lasting legacy. Under Patricia's leadership the standard of music at St John Fisher has been exceptionally high at all times, but I think especially of the wonderful celebrations of Christmas and Holy Week, where Patricia's leadership, talent, enthusiasm and energy enabled such powerful and beautiful musical contributions to the praise and worship of God. Patricia will be much missed by the choir and her many friends in the parish. I am sure that you will all want to join with me in thanking Patricia for the very important contribution that she has made to the parish, especially through the development of its musical tradition. We wish Patricia every happiness and blessing as she moves on to explore new avenues.

Fr Shaun

THE BOOKING OF MASSES

We are looking forward to reopening for Mass next Sunday. There are just a few things we need to draw your attention to:

- As numbers will be limited, we will be operating an online booking system. This will go live on Monday 7th September on the Parish Website. If you are attending as part of a family group or social "bubble" please ensure to make clear on your booking as that will allow us to allocate seating appropriately and maximise the numbers that can attend.
- Please be aware that, in order to maintain a 2m social distance, it will not be possible to kneel during Mass.
- 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.**
- **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.

You may already be aware that we had a break-in at the church about a week ago. Although we don't believe anything of significance was stolen, there was some damage. The biggest problem is that the intruder tried to gain access through the rear patio doors and whilst unsuccessful the damage is such that we are currently unable to open the doors. As this is both a fire exit and a source of ventilation if we are unable to get it repaired in time this may prevent us reopening. We are very hopeful that we will have at least a temporary solution in time, but it is only right to flag up this possibility now rather than nearer the time.

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST NEWS

THE BOOKING OF MASSES

Sunday Mass recommences at St John's at 10.30am on Sunday 13th September. Places are limited and so you are invited to book online via the **EVENTS** page of St John's website from the Monday of each week (from Monday 7th September. 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 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. 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.