



St John The Evangelist  
Berry Lane, Rickmansworth, WD3 7HG



Our Lady Help of Christians  
5 Park Road, Rickmansworth, WD3 1HU



St John Fisher  
Hill Cottage, Shire Lane, Chorleywood, WD3 5NH

<https://www.churchservices.tv/rickmansworth>

## ENCOUNTERING JESUS, SERVING OTHERS

### SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

**Parish Priest:**

Fr Shaun Church  
[shaunchurch@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:shaunchurch@rcdow.org.uk)

**Assistant Priest:**

Fr Damian Ryan  
[damianryan@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:damianryan@rcdow.org.uk)

**Parish Administrator:**

Kerry Van Rensburg  
[rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk)

**Rickmansworth**

Paul Forrest  
[pga\\_forrest@btinternet.com](mailto:pga_forrest@btinternet.com)

**Chorleywood**

Anne Lorrimer-Roberts  
[anne@themessagemachine.com](mailto:anne@themessagemachine.com)

**Mill End**

Geraldine Page  
[geraldine.page21@gmail.com](mailto:geraldine.page21@gmail.com)

Address for all correspondence:

5 Park Road, Rickmansworth  
WD3 1HU

Telephone: 01923 773387



@ChessValleyRC

### SAFEGUARDING REPS.

**Rickmansworth Parish**

Caroline Mathie  
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Carol Bartlett  
[rickmansworthsg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworthsg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

**Mill End Parish**

Matt McKiernan 01923 493747  
[millendsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:millendsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

**Chorleywood Parish**

Laura Turnbull 01923 897899  
[chorleywoodsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:chorleywoodsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

**Diocesan Safeguarding**

**Coordinator** 0207 798 9356

### YOUTH MINISTRY

Belinda Calen - Alpha Youth:  
[rickmansworthalphayouth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworthalphayouth@rcdow.org.uk)

Caitlin Scott - Confirmation:  
[rickmansworthconfirmation@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworthconfirmation@rcdow.org.uk)

Margaret Simon - Youth  
Ministry Leadership Team:

[rickmansworthyouth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworthyouth@rcdow.org.uk)

## THIRTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 8<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2020 - REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

### SUNDAY THOUGHT

Most of us know what it is like to lose a loved one. In 1Thessalonians, St Paul is writing to a church that has recently buried some dear friends. But this letter was written only two decades from the time of Jesus' ministry, and the believers in Thessalonica may have assumed that Jesus was going to return before any of the died. When some people did die, they wondered if those people would miss out on the resurrection. Of course Paul explained that they would not miss out, and that those who remained could look forward to being reunited with them in heaven. So when loved ones pass away, we grieve, but we grieve with hope – the hope of seeing them again.

In the parable of the ten bridesmaids, Jesus tells the story of a group of bridesmaids who are waiting for the groom to return so the wedding celebration can take place. These "waiting parables" are about the "church age," the time we live in now, when we wait for the groom, Christ, to return for his bride, the Church.

In both readings we are confronted with the reality that what we hope for is not yet realized. We wait, but we wait in hope, because we believe we will be united with Christ and reunited with our loved ones. Jesus's message for us while we wait is to remain spiritually alert and ready to meet him, since we don't want to be like the foolish bridesmaids. When the groom arrived, he said, "I do not know you!"

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So, once again, we find ourselves in a period of lockdown during which we are unable to gather together for public worship. This is an especially sad and challenging outcome when we have worked so hard to make our places of worship COVID secure environments and when there is no evidence that places of worship are hotspots for infection. Nevertheless, we are where we are. As good citizens we are each called to follow the new government regulations and guidelines for the common good and with the hope that, by doing so, the lockdown can be kept to the minimum possible duration.

In one regard our three parishes are now in a stronger position than we were in the previous lockdown in the spring. We now have the ability to livestream the celebration of Mass, which we will continue to do each day. I encourage you in this time when you can't physically attend Mass to join us via livestream, especially for the celebration of Sunday Mass.

The Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and the COVID taskforces of our three parishes are working with me to draw up plans for our celebration of Christmas Masses, in the hope that the lockdown restrictions will be lifted in early December. It goes without saying that our celebration of Christmas in our parishes this year is going to scaled down in both terms of the numbers able to attend Mass and in the way in which we celebrate. Nevertheless, Fr Damian and I are determined to make our celebration of the Christmas Masses as joyful as the prevailing circumstances allow.

Lockdown brings with it many challenges. Many people will feel a renewed sense of anxiety, isolation and loneliness. I encourage you to look after each other as brothers and sisters in the Lord, especially those who are most vulnerable at this time. A friendly voice at the end of phone or a warm smile on a Zoom call can go a long way at a time like this!

With assurance of my prayers for you all

Fr Shaun  
Parish Priest

## FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

<b>MON 9<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b>	7.30pm	Online Bible Study - The Bible Course	
<b>WED 11<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b>	10am - 11am	Individual Prayer - Church	Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>FRI 13<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b>	10am - 11am	Individual Prayer - Church	Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>SAT 14<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b>	10am - 11am	Individual Prayer - Church	Our Lady Help of Christians

## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

<b>SATURDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b>	Holy Souls
<b>SUNDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b> <b>32<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	<b>10am</b> Alexander Buhagiar RIP (Anniv.) Robert Burdin RIP (Anniv.)
<b>MONDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b> <b>THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA</b>	Gregory McEwen RIP (Anniv.) Holy Souls
<b>TUESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b> <b>ST LEO THE GREAT, POPE &amp; DOCTOR</b>	Deceased Clergy of the Deanery Holy Souls
<b>WEDNESDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b> <b>ST MARTIN OF TOURS, BISHOP</b>	Holy Souls
<b>THURSDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b> <b>ST JOSAPHAT, BISHOP &amp; MARTYR</b>	O'Grady Family (Ints.) Holy Souls
<b>FRIDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b>	Holy Souls
<b>SATURDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b>	Robert Gibson RIP Holy Souls
<b>SUNDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b> <b>33<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	<b>10am</b> Ann Mulholland RIP (Anniv.) Private Intention

<b>Entrance Antiphon:</b>	Let my prayer come into your presence. Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b>	Wisdom 6:12-16
<b>Response to Psalm:</b>	For you my soul is thirsting, O God, my God.
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b>	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
<b>Gospel:</b>	Matthew 25:1-13
<b>Communion Antiphon:</b>	The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose, near restful waters he leads me.
<b>Next Sunday's Readings:</b>	Proverbs 31:10-13. 19-20. 30-31; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6, Matthew 25:14-30 (Gospel)

### 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, Maureen Douglas, Josie Westhrop, and Gillian Loose.

**St John the Evangelist:** Rita Murray, Michael Dixon, Alfredo Rock, Joan Hart and James Clark.

**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, Paddy Goble and Pam Fitzpatrick.

## NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

### MASS INTENTIONS

With the onset of another period of lockdown, the number of Masses celebrated has been reduced to one Mass livestreamed from Our Lady's each day. A consequence of this is that we will unfortunately not be able to fulfil all of the Mass intentions on the days previously advised. Each priest is allowed to offer only one intention per Mass. On days when both Fr Damian and I are celebrating Mass together (every day except Wednesdays and Fridays) we will each offer Mass for a different intention. During November we have a commitment to offer Mass for the Holy Souls, so it might take us a while to catch-up with delayed intentions. As a result it is possible that Mass intentions may not always be able to be offered on the date previously advised. Please keep an eye on the Mass Intentions schedule on the online Newsletter to see when Masses are being offered. We apologise for any inconvenience caused but hope that you will understand the challenges we face in the current lockdown period. *Fr Shaun*

### TIMES FOR INDIVIDUAL PRAYER

Although we are currently not able to have public acts of worship (other than funerals) in church, we are permitted to open the church for times of individual prayer. Therefore, commencing on 11th November 2020, Our Lady's will be open from 10.00am to 11.00am each Wednesday, Friday and Saturday during this lockdown period (except on days when there is a funeral taking place). During these times for individual prayer the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed on the altar. I express my thanks to those parishioners who have volunteered to act as stewards during these times. Without their generous commitment to service these opportunities for individual prayer in church would not be possible.

### NOVEMBER – MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

November is the month of the Holy Souls, when we pray for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed, especially remembering our departed family members, loved ones and friends. At most weekday Masses throughout November (excepting anniversary Masses) the Mass intention will be for the Holy Souls. As usual, we encourage you to write a list with the names of your departed loved ones to be included in this general intention. Due to the pandemic, this year we invite you to download and print the Holy Souls sheet from the special **Holy Souls** page on each parish website. Once completed, please email it to [rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk). We will then print your list and add it the Holy Souls box which will stand in front of the Our Lady's altar throughout November. If you would like to make an offering in connection with your Holy Souls list, you can use the **Donate to your Parish** tab where you can make a bank transfer directly to the parish. Please reference your offering as **Holy Souls**.

### THE SICK AND RETIRED PRIESTS APPEAL

Please give generously and help ensure our sick and older priests are financially supported, having given us a lifetime of dedicated service. They have baptised us, welcomed us into the church, and offered comfort and prayer at times of sorrow. Now we have a chance to give back and ensure they have peace of mind during their senior years, when they may be facing failing health and declining mobility. There will be no physical collection at Mass this year but you can donate online at [www.rcdow.org.uk/donations](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/donations). Thank you in advance for your kindness.

### FIRST COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2021

Registration is now open for the 2021 First Communion programme. Full details of eligibility, how to register and how the programme will be delivered can be found on the three parish websites on the **First Communion 2021** page. If you have a child eligible for First Communion in 2021 please carefully read the relevant information on the website, complete the downloadable Registration Form and email it to us at [rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk) by no later than **30<sup>th</sup> November 2020**. Please be aware that, due to the global pandemic, the 2021 First Communion Programme will be delivered entirely online via **ZOOM**.

### CONFIRMATION 2021

For those in the parishes in Year 9 and above wishing to apply to enter into the process of receiving the sacrament of Confirmation in 2021, please, go the parish websites and click on the 'Confirmation 2021' tab, or go to the following link: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/rickmansworth/confirmation-2021-draft/>

The deadline for applying is **Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November**. All the details needed to apply are on the webpage. There will be a parent and candidate induction on **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2021**. The programme will be online using the platform 'Zoom'. The first formal session will be **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021**. The date/s for the Confirmation Mass/es will be given when we know if/when the Bishop is able to come. If you have any questions about this, please, contact Fr Damian.

### CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE (CCP) - Nursery/Reception - Academic Year 2021/22

The assessment of whether a CCP for a Nursery/Reception place at a Catholic Primary School for the academic year 2021/22 can be issued will be made in the following way: Only the Sundays from the beginning of December 2019 until and including Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020 will be assessed. 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. If you are only applying for place at St John's School, Mill End and/or St Anthony's School, Watford, you do not need a CCP, as these schools have removed the need for a CCP from their admissions criteria. Fr Shaun will be available to sign CCPs on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November from 11.00am to 11.30am. 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. Please wear a face covering. Thank you.

### THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

Although it isn't currently possible for the priests to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the confessional, both Fr Damian and I are available for the celebration of the sacrament by individual appointment. Any parishioners wishing to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation should contact either Fr Damian or me to arrange a mutually convenient time.

## NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

### **PRAISE AND WORSHIP GATHERING – 4.00pm on Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> November via ‘Zoom’**

You are warmly invited to join us on Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> November, for a short Praise and Worship gathering at 4.00pm. 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 are 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](mailto:cepione@hotmail.co.uk) ) before Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November, 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.

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION - MASS ATTENDANCE STICKERS AND CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE (CCP) OF 2022 SECONDARY TRANSFER**

With the Sunday Mass Obligation currently suspended and the ability of families to attend Mass in the parish each Sunday being very restricted due to social distancing measures, it is currently not possible to provide Mass attendance cards and stickers to families with a child making secondary transfer in 2022. There currently seems to be a level of uncertainty about if, and on what criteria, priests are going to be asked to complete CCPs for 2022 Secondary admissions. For the time being, all parents with a child who will be seeking a place in a Catholic Secondary school in 2022 should email me at [shaunchurch@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:shaunchurch@rcdow.org.uk), providing the following information:

- Name of the child (first name and surname)
- Parents/Guardians names (first name and surname)
- Address at which you reside
- Telephone contact details

I will retain this information and keep a careful eye on Diocesan guidance with regard to the issuing of CCPs for 2022 transfer in the light of the prevailing restrictions caused by the pandemic. *Fr Shaun*

### **WATFORD GENERAL HOSPITAL – EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION**

The Chaplaincy Team at Watford General Hospital are looking for new Extraordinary Ministers of Communion to support Catholic patients in Watford General Hospital by bringing Holy Communion during the weekends. Can you serve the Lord in this way? You must be under 60 years old and in good health. The Chaplaincy team will provide you with full training and support. Time commitment for this ministry would be between one and two hours per visit. Please prayerfully consider this invitation to a very special ministry and speak with Fr Shaun or Fr Damian who will contact the Catholic chaplain at the hospital with your details. All applicants must have the approval and support of their parish priests to be considered for this ministry.

## OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

### **PARISH SAFEGUARDING**

The safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults in our parish is of the highest priority. For many years Dave Pione has conscientiously fulfilled the role of Parish Safeguarding Representative (PSR) for Our Lady's. Dave has now stepped down from this role and on behalf of the whole parish, I wish to express to Dave our sincere thanks for the diligence and care with which he has so generously fulfilled the critically important role of PSR for Our Lady's. I am delighted to be able to share with you the news that Carol Bartlett and Caroline Mathie have jointly agreed take over this role from Dave. They have now completed their safeguarding training with the Diocesan Safeguarding Office and are now operating as our PSRs. I express my thanks to both of them for agreeing to take up the role of PSR at Our Lady's. Details of how to contact Carol or Caroline on parish safeguarding issues can now be found on the front of the Newsletter and on the Safeguarding page of the parish website. *Fr Shaun*

### **GIFT AID**

We would like to thank all our parishioners who have signed up to Gift Aid. With your help and generosity we have received £13,785.61 from the government for the tax year 2019/2020. It is never too late to join. If you are a tax payer and currently make your donations either by Standing Order or weekly donation envelopes please complete a Gift Aid declaration which is available from the parish office. You can also backdate your Gift Aid by completing the relevant section on the form.

### **200 CLUB - October Draw**

Congratulations to Josie Westhrop (£32); Mark Kirwan (£24); Michael Bridge Madden (£16) and Colette Williamson (£8)

## ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

### **NOT THE SJF CHARITY CHRISTMAS FAIR**

Thank you so much everybody for your brilliant support so far. We will probably have 20 prizes in our raffle!! Marguerite has sold all her Christmas cakes and I have sold all my hyacinths and have ordered some extras. ***During the new lockdown:*** please ring me to order raffle tickets. You can pay by cheque or cash and either post or put it into my letter box. I can also take you on a virtual tour of my garage for you to order plants or bid on the Silent Auction. Marguerite is still taking orders for her delicious smaller cakes: lemon drizzle etc, and we also will be selling sheets of home baked focaccia bread at £2 per sheet. Please ring Marguerite on 282780 with your orders and me on 284975 for anything garage related. This is all to help the Cardinal Hume Centre, such a worthy cause. Kindest wishes, Mary 284975