



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

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

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



@ChessValleyRC

SAFEGUARDING REPS.

Rickmansworth Parish

Caroline Mathie
rickmansworthsg1@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Carol Bartlett
rickmansworthsg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Mill End Parish

Matt McKiernan 01923 493747
millendsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Chorleywood Parish

Laura Turnbull 01923 897899
chorleywoodsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Diocesan Safeguarding

Coordinator 0207 798 9356

YOUTH MINISTRY

Belinda Calen - Alpha Youth:
rickmansworthalphayouth@rcdow.org.uk

Caitlin Scott - Confirmation:
rickmansworthconfirmation@rcdow.org.uk

Margaret Simon - Youth
Ministry Leadership Team:
rickmansworthyouth@rcdow.org.uk

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B) - 17TH JANUARY 2021

SUNDAY THOUGHT

Now that we are in Ordinary Time it might seem surprising to read from the Gospel of John. After all, we are in 'Year B' when we read primarily from Mark. Even so, we begin with the Gospel of John, the author of which is also known as 'The Theologian'. And the theology in this gospel can also be called Christology, for what he says about Jesus he says about God. The two are in a close dynamic relationship so that Jesus can say, 'The Father and I are one'. In today's gospel reading we have the calling of the first disciples, only one of whom is named, Andrew the brother of Simon Peter. The other disciple has traditionally been understood to be 'the beloved disciple' or 'the disciple whom Jesus loved', even though he is not named as such here. Only later, beginning with the Last Supper, do we have that name. But if this unnamed disciple from chapter 1 is the same as the beloved disciple from later chapters, then the 'eyewitness' (John 19:35) of the Fourth Gospel would have been present with Jesus from the beginning of his ministry.

Andrew and the unnamed disciple evangelise Simon, Andrew's brother, by saying they have found the Messiah. They bring Simon to Jesus. And before Simon can say a word, Jesus names him 'Cephas' (pronounced 'Kefhas'), the Aramaic term for 'Rock', translated into Greek as 'Petros', from which we get the name, 'Peter'. This story of Jesus naming Simon 'Peter' is much different than that in the other Gospels, where Jesus names him 'Peter' only after Simon confesses Jesus as the Messiah. The Gospel of John with its intense emphasis on Jesus does not allow the possibility of Simon's name change to be associated with his confession, or absolutely anything else Peter has done. In fact, this seems to be why the Gospel of John places this story in the first chapter, immediately after the call of the first disciples. Moreover, Andrew, rather than his brother Simon, is the one who says Jesus is the Messiah. Simon merely hears the news and comes to meet Jesus. In the Gospel of John, Jesus exercises authority not dependent upon human beings. In this case, we clearly see Johannine theology with its overriding emphasis on Jesus.

The gospel story about Peter reminds us that Jesus takes the initiative with us, his disciples. He sees who we truly are and calls us by name, even to the point of giving us a new name! Once we are known by Jesus, there is no need to 'perform' or 'meet targets'. We may rest in the knowledge that we are known by him. Like Simon Peter, we each have a destiny, a purpose, and a meaning. Like Andrew, we also have a mission, and that is to proclaim Jesus to others. Only by Andrew's proclamation did Simon learn about Jesus. And Andrew learned about Jesus only by John the Baptist's testimony.

In our own lives we recognise that we learned about Jesus from someone else, whether a parent, grandparent, teacher or friend. We too tell one another about Jesus. In this Christian faith is passed from one generation to the next. Evangelisation is a hallmark of Christian identity from the beginning, as we see in today's gospel. May we have the zeal for evangelisation that comes from the surety that we are known personally by Jesus.

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

MON 18TH JANUARY	1.00pm	Funeral - Fr Jim Duffy RIP	Our Lady Help of Christians
THUR 21ST JANUARY	7.30pm	<i>Kairos</i> information session (via Zoom)	
THUR 21ST JANUARY	8.00pm - 9.30pm	Online Prayer Group	

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

	Our Lady Help of Christians	St John the Evangelist	St John Fisher
SATURDAY 16 TH JANUARY	Ruth McGann (Ints.)		
SUNDAY 17 TH JANUARY <i>SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	10am May Kidd RIP 6pm Fr Jim Duffy RIP	10.30am For the People of the Parish	9am Malcolm Stacey RIP
MONDAY 18 TH JANUARY	1.00pm Funeral - Fr Jim Duffy RIP		
TUESDAY 19 TH JANUARY	Gail Eyre RIP		
WEDNESDAY 20 TH JANUARY	9.30am Verna Kendrick RIP		
THURS 21ST JANUARY <i>ST AGNES, VIRGIN & MARTYR</i>	Deirdre O'Connor (Ints.)		
FRIDAY 22 ND JANUARY	9.30am Joe Fallon (Ints.)		
SATURDAY 23 RD JANUARY	For the sick and housebound of the parish		
SUNDAY 24 TH JANUARY <i>THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	10am Thomas White RIP 6pm For the People of the Parish	10.30am Joseph Casey RIP (Anniv.)	9am Moyra O'Donnell RIP

Entrance Antiphon:	All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!
1st Reading:	1 Samuel 3:3-10. 19
Response to Psalm:	Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.
2nd Reading:	1 Corinthians 6:13-15. 17-20
Gospel:	John 1:35-42
Communion Antiphon:	You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.
Next Sunday's Readings:	Jonah 3:1-5. 10; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20 (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, Maureen Douglas, Josie Westhrop, Gillian Loose, Peter Knight and Bishop John MacWilliam

St John the Evangelist: Rita Murray, Michael Dixon, Alfredo Rock 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

THE FUNERAL OF FR JIM DUFFY RIP – MONDAY 18TH JANUARY 2021 AT 1.00PM

Most of you will by now have heard the very sad news of the death of Fr Jim Duffy on 28th December 2020. Fr Jim faithfully served and ministered as Parish Priest of Our Lady's, Rickmansworth for 26 years. He was also, for a short while, Priest-in-Charge at St John Fisher, Chorleywood. Fr Jim's funeral will take place at Our Lady's, Rickmansworth at **1.00pm on Monday 18th January**, followed by committal at Chilterns Crematorium, Amersham. All available places in the church for Jim's funeral have now been allocated. However, Fr Jim's funeral Mass will be livestreamed and an online recording of the livestream available for those unable to attend (virtually) at the time of the funeral. In the spring or early summer we will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving for Fr Jim's life and ministry. May he rest in peace.

MESSAGE FROM FR GRAHAM GILLMAN

Having reached my 75 year of age I am finally fully retiring and moving back to my roots and have now moved to Birkdale in Southport where my family comes from. I want to thank all the parishioners of the three parishes for the welcome and kindness shown to me over the 18 years that I have lived in Rickmansworth. I have always loved sharing my love of scripture and hope that I have helped you to understand the Gospel by bringing it alive in my sermons. In your kindness I hope you will keep me and Fr Shaun, Fr Damian and all priests in your prayers. *Fr Graham*

KAIROS – CONNECT, BELONG, GROW!

On Tuesday 23rd February 2021 we will be launching our new *Kairos* ministry. *Kairos* - a Greek word used often in the Bible, means *the favoured time ... the opportune time ... indeed, God's time*. *Kairos* will take place once a fortnight, on a Tuesday evening at 7.30pm and each session will last one hour and 15 minutes. The purpose of *Kairos* will be to help us all to **connect** with our brothers and sisters across the parishes; to increase our sense of **belonging** to a community of faith and help us to **grow** as we explore together the richness of the faith we profess and share. A typical *Kairos* evening will include the following elements: some informal social time in small groups, input on a religious theme or topic, discussion in small groups, time for communal prayer together. Given the online nature of *Kairos*, we are also planning to have (when the restrictions on social gathering have been lifted) a quarterly social evening, where we can come together physically and enjoy being in each other's company over food and drink. I hope that this new initiative is something which excites you, but I understand that you would probably like to know more about it before making any commitment. There is an online *Kairos* Information meeting on **Thursday 21st January at 7.30pm**. We would like to invite you to come along to hear more about our vision and plans for *Kairos*. The meeting will last no more than an hour, and will take place on Zoom. If you would like to attend, please email our *Kairos* Communications Team at kairos@rcdow.org.uk and you will be sent a Zoom invite. I encourage you to come along to this information meeting so that you can hear more about what we are planning and, of course, have the opportunity to ask questions. *Fr Shaun*

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE

The next Baptism Preparation Course will be held over two sessions via Zoom on Thursday 28th January (8pm to 9pm) and Thursday 4th February (8pm to 9pm). If you would like to attend, and have fulfilled the stipulated requirements and paperwork, then please contact Fr Damian and he will send the Zoom invite for the course.

UPDATED - IMPORTANT INFORMATION - MASS ATTENDANCE STICKERS AND CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE (CCP) OF 2022 SECONDARY TRANSFER AND NURSERY / RECEPTION 2022

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 or seeking a nursery or reception place in a catholic primary school 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 admissions. For the time being, all parents with a child who will be seeking a place in a Catholic Secondary school in 2022 or a nursery or reception place in a Catholic primary school (other than St John's, Mill End or St Anthony's, Watford which do not require a CCP) should email me at 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 admissions in the light of the prevailing restrictions caused by the pandemic. *Fr Shaun*

ALPHA ONLINE 2021

We have had a very blessed and successful experience of moving Alpha online this past 9 months, seeing God touching peoples lives in amazing ways, even on Zoom! Despite the lockdowns, our parishes' mission hasn't changed, we're still called to bring the good news of Jesus to those around us. So, in 2021 we want to release as many people as possible to run Alpha Online in individual small groups for their friends, family, neighbours and whoever else they know. This model of running individual Alpha small groups online makes organising and hosting Alpha Online much easier than having one large gathering on Zoom, which then has to be administered centrally and is much more taxing on the technology. It also releases Alpha small group hosts and helpers to be more creative in shaping their small group by inviting whoever they want to be guests in their own small group. Our vision is to have multiple Alpha Online groups running across the next year. Imagine all the people we could reach with lots of groups running in 2021! If you've experienced Alpha this past couple of years as a guest and God has impacted your life through it, we're calling on you in particular to step up and run a group for your friends and family. Training and support will be available to help you throughout and we aim to host trainings just before Easter, with a view to groups launching in late April/early May. However, the beauty of Alpha Online is that you can run it whenever you like! If you loved Alpha and you want to play your part in bringing the good news of Jesus to the people you know and love, run Alpha Online in 2021. To find out more email Mike Roche at mrmichaelroche78@gmail.com or give him a call on 07505307323. Of course, if any parishioners have still not tried Alpha but would like to give it a go as part of a New Year's resolution for 2021 please do contact Mike for more information as well. God bless you!

NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

An order for offertory envelopes needs to be placed soon. Due to COVID, most parishioners no longer use their offertory envelopes and have switched to standing orders. If you would still like a box of envelopes, please could you contact Kerry at the parish office before Monday 8th February. Thank you

A BRIEFING ON CAFOD'S WORK

Many of us have something of a soft spot for CAFOD, and for the work they do overseas for some of the poorest and most disadvantaged people on Earth. But they've developed a lot in recent years, and not many of us have a clear and up to date understanding of what they actually do nowadays, or all the ways in which we can help. It's much more than just making a donation at Fast Days twice a year. Our deanery CAFOD volunteer coordinator Fabian Hiscock will give a short briefing, open to parishioners as well as current CAFOD volunteers across the deanery, using Zoom. It will be on Shrove **Tuesday, 16th February**, at 7.30pm, for up to an hour. To join in, please e-mail Fabian direct on fhiscock@cafod.org.uk, and he'll respond with the link when CAFOD have set it up.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: Make a difference with CAFOD as a volunteer

CAFOD Westminster is looking for volunteers, who care about global poverty, to help us inspire others to act here, so we can tackle poverty and injustice across the developing world. Are you a people-person who would relish involving and encouraging others? Are you a good communicator who would enjoy speaking about our work in a Parish or School? Please get in touch with us on westminster@cafod.org.uk or 020 8449-6970 to find out more and book a place on one of our CAFOD online information sessions.

VINNIE PACKS

The St Vincent de Paul Society have assembled nearly 12,000 packs for the homeless and have distributed them throughout England and Wales. Each Vinnie Pack contains a thermal hat, thermal gloves two pairs of thermal socks, toothpaste, toothbrush, wet wipes, Pavement magazine, pen and information sheet and 5,000 of the packs have a reusable face mask included. The contents of each Vinnie Pack cost around £3.50 and donations to sponsor packs would be most welcome. Donations can be transferred to SVP Vinnie Packs, a/c 46088237 sort code 60-60-04 or cheques made out to SVP can be sent to Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London SW1P 9EZ. Any assistance is really appreciated.

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

HEATING THE CHURCH

Every parish currently has to make thoughtful decisions about how to heat their churches whilst at the same time ensuring good ventilation as a part of our COVID secure measures. However, we have a particular problem at St John's, Mill End, in that our heating system is a fan-blower system which recirculates the heated air throughout the church. We have, therefore, been advised by the Diocese to heat the church prior to opening the church and then turn the heating off once people begin to arrive. This will mean that the church will be not be "toastily" warm during Mass, though hopefully it will retain some of the heat. We encourage you to come to Mass prepared – i.e. lots of warm layers. If you are someone who feels the cold very strongly, you might wish to book a place at Mass at Our Lady's, rather than at St John's, at least when the winter is as its coldest.

ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

STAYING COVID-SECURE AT ST JOHN FISHER

With the rapid spread of the new variant of the coronavirus and the lockdown now in force, I asked our St John Fisher Covid19 taskforce to review the COVID secure measures we have in place. This is important given the particular circumstances of the St Fisher building and it's much smaller cubic footage, when compared to our sister parishes. As a result of this review, it has been agreed that it is necessary to increase the ventilation throughout the building by keeping the front and back doors and some windows open during the celebration of Mass. This is obviously not ideal during the cold winter months, but it is necessary to help keep the building COVID secure. If you are attending Mass at St John Fisher you are advised to wrap up warmly. I also remind you that there is currently no obligation to attend Sunday Mass, so if you have underlying health conditions or if you particularly feel the cold, you may wish to join in the celebration of Mass from Our Lady's, either by booking a place there or from your home via our livestream. Other mitigations will be put in place to help ensure everyone's safety. The taskforce will keep the situation under regular review. I am very grateful to the taskforce team for the thoughtful and prudent way in which they are dealing with these challenging issues.

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 £5,492.81 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.

CONTINUING TO CARE for the CARDINAL HUME CENTRE

Sadly I have to close the garage during Tier 4. As soon as that is relaxed, I will re-open for another complete month. In the meantime, you can do three things!

- (1) Did any of your presents not quite hit the mark!!! Please pass them on to me;
- (2) I am collecting odd bits of gold and silver (pieces of chains, solitary earrings, etc) to sell for scrap value;
- (3) the donation basket is still at the ready.

Please contact me at any time. Thank you, Mary 284975