



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@themessage-machine.com](mailto:anne@themessage-machine.com)

#### Mill End

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

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### SAFEGUARDING REPS.

#### Rickmansworth Parish

Caroline Mathie  
[rickmansworthsg1@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworthsg1@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

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:  
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## THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (YEAR B) - 10<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2021

### MESSAGE FROM FR SHAUN KAIROS *CONNECT, BELONG, GROW*

It is with much pleasure that I share with you news about something very exciting which we are planning for 2021. You may have heard Fr Damian and me talking about it in our homilies at Mass. It's called **Kairos** – a Greek word used often in the Bible, which means *the favoured time ... the opportune time ... indeed, God's time*. **Kairos** will be our new online ministry (via Zoom) and will launch on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February. It 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 and have questions. We would, therefore, like to invite you to one of the online **Kairos** information sessions on either **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> January at 11.00am** or **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January at 7.30pm** where you can hear more about our vision and plans for **Kairos**. The meeting will last no more than an hour.

Why not come along and find out a little more? No matter where you are in your faith journey, **Kairos** will have something for everyone. If you would like to attend please email our **Kairos** Communications Team at [kairos@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:kairos@rcdow.org.uk) and you will be sent Zoom invites. You can choose which one you would prefer to attend.

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord and, with it we celebrate our own baptism too. What does it mean to be baptised? Perhaps even more importantly, what does it mean to live our baptism? It means living and growing in a personal relationship with the Lord and with our brothers and sisters within the family of the Christian Church. It is about connecting with one another in our journey of faith, having a real sense of truly belonging to the community of faith and, above all, it means being open to the possibility of growing and maturing in our faith. I sincerely believe that **Kairos** has the potential to help us to connect, belong and grow and I encourage you all to join us on this journey.

With my prayers and warmest wishes

Fr Shaun Church  
Parish Priest

## FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

<b>THUR 14<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY</b>	8.00pm - 9.30pm	Online Prayer Group	
<b>SAT 16<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY</b>	11.00am	<i>Kairos</i> information session	

## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

	Our Lady Help of Christians	St John the Evangelist	St John Fisher
<b>SATURDAY</b> 9 <sup>TH</sup> JANUARY	Michael Egan (Ints.)		
<b>SUNDAY</b> 10 <sup>TH</sup> JANUARY <b>THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD</b>	<b>10am</b> Michael Caplice & Family (Ints.) <b>6pm</b> Anat Sungtong (Ints.)	<b>10.30am</b> For the People of the Parish	<b>9am</b> James Flynn RIP (Anniv.)
<b>MONDAY</b> 11 <sup>TH</sup> JANUARY	Chris Egan (Ints.)		
<b>TUESDAY</b> 12 <sup>TH</sup> JANUARY	Sharon Egan (Ints.)		
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 13 <sup>TH</sup> JANUARY	<b>9.30am</b> David Egan (Ints.)		
<b>THURSDAY</b> 14 <sup>TH</sup> JANUARY	Marcella Rushie RIP		
<b>FRIDAY</b> 15 <sup>TH</sup> JANUARY	<b>9.30am</b> Verna Kendrick RIP		
<b>SATURDAY</b> 16 <sup>TH</sup> JANUARY	Ruth McGann (Ints.)		
<b>SUNDAY</b> 17 <sup>TH</sup> JANUARY <b>SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	<b>10am</b> May Kidd RIP <b>6pm</b> Fr Jim Duffy RIP	<b>10.30am</b> For the People of the Parish	<b>9am</b> Malcolm Stacey RIP

**Entrance Antiphon:** After the Lord was baptized, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Isaiah 55:1-11

**Response to Psalm:** With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** 1 John 5:1-9

**Gospel:** Mark 1:7-11

**Communion Antiphon:** Behold the One of whom John said: I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.

**Next Sunday's Readings:** 1 Samuel 3:3-10. 19; 1 Corinthians 6:13-15. 17-20; John 1:35-42 (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 Westthrop, Gillian Loose, Peter Knight and Bishop John MacWilliam

**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

### FR JIM DUFFY RIP

Most of you will by now have heard the very sad news of the death of Fr Jim Duffy on 28<sup>th</sup> 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. His death will be greatly mourned by many, many parishioners across our parishes and beyond. Fr Jim's funeral will take place at Our Lady's, Rickmansworth at **1.00pm on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January**, followed by committal at Chilterns Crematorium, Amersham.

By law, we are limited to a maximum of 30 people at a funeral (excluding those who can reasonably be deemed to be "working"). Twenty places have been allocated to people invited specifically by Fr Jim's executors. This means we have a maximum of **ten** places available for other parishioners wishing to attend. I am sure you will appreciate that it is very difficult to allocate these places in a way that everyone will consider fair. I propose to use the online booking system on the *Events* tab of Our Lady's website. A small number of places will be released at each of the following timed intervals:

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021 – 11.00am**

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021 – 4.00pm**

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021 – 7.00pm**

IT WILL ONLY BE POSSIBLE TO BOOK FOR A MAXIMUM OF TWO PEOPLE, WHO MUST BE IN THE SAME HOUSEHOLD OR SOCIAL BUBBLE. The booking system will indicate whether you have been successful in booking your place(s).

Sadly, there will inevitably be many more people wishing to attend Fr Jim's funeral than we will be legally able to accommodate in the church. Fr Jim's funeral Mass will be livestreamed and we hope to make 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. *Fr Shaun*

### BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE

The next Baptism Preparation Course will be held over two sessions via Zoom on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January (8pm to 9pm) and Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

### 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 Shaun and Fr Damian are available for the celebration of the sacrament by individual appointment. The celebration would take place, outside of Mass time, either in the garden (weather permitting) or in an empty church. Any parishioners wishing to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation should contact Fr Shaun or Fr Damian to arrange a mutually convenient time.

### 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](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 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](mailto: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

### 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](mailto:westminster@cafod.org.uk) or 020 8449-6970 to find out more and book a place on one of our CAFOD online information sessions.

### COVID19 VACCINES

In September 2020 the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales issued a statement COVID-19 and Vaccination (24<sup>th</sup> September 2020). In the light of the recent breakthrough in vaccine development the Bishop's Conference has now issued a follow up statement. The development of a vaccine against COVID-19 presents an important breakthrough in protecting others as well as oneself from the virus; a virus which has not only caused a global pandemic and led to a huge loss of life but has also placed a great burden on healthcare workers and systems. Each of us has a duty to protect others from infection with its danger of serious illness, and for some, death. A vaccine is the most effective way to achieve this unless one decides to self-isolate. At present, debate concerns the use of the vaccines developed by Pfizer & BioNTech, Moderna, and Astra Zeneca. Some have questioned the use of the Astra Zeneca vaccine since it has been developed from cell-lines originating from the cells of an aborted foetus in 1983. The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith and the Pontifical Academy of Life have expressed the view that one may in good conscience and for a grave reason receive a vaccine sourced in this way, provided that there is a sufficient moral distance between the present administration of the vaccine and the original wrongful action. **In the COVID-19 pandemic, the Bishops' Conference has judged that this grave reason exists and that one does not sin by receiving the vaccine.** Both the Pfizer & BioNTech and Moderna vaccines have a different source since they are mRNA-based vaccines. On 2 December 2020, the Pfizer & BioNTech vaccine was approved for use in the UK. Each Catholic must educate his or her conscience on this matter and decide what to do, also bearing in mind that a vaccine must be safe, effective, and universally available, especially to the poor of the world. Catholics may in good conscience receive any of these vaccines for the good of others and themselves. In good conscience, one may refuse a particular vaccine but continues to have a duty to protect others from infection.

## 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 its 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. Wishing you all a blessed New Year. Mary 284975